





# Festival of Carols and Lights December 11

Join us for a fun Advent celebration for the entire congregation and community of all ages! There will be a worship service featuring our youth choirs, followed by a live Nativity, festive food and music, a Holiday Market with a variety of artisans, and surprises. Everyone is invited to come live out the Christmas story on December 11 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and celebrate in the spirit of the season.



# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Service

# **GATHERING**

# THE CARILLON

**OPENING VOLUNTARY** 

Savior of the Nations, Come, BWV 659

J.S. Bach

\* Please rise in body or spirit at the ringing of the tower bell.

#### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

The Clopton Family (9:00 a.m.)
The Kiefer Family (11:00 a.m.)

On this second Sunday of Advent,

We remember the words of the prophet Isaiah:

"A voice cries out in the wilderness,

Prepare the way of the Lord.

Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,

and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,

and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all the people shall see it together,

for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

\* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Hyfrydol

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Kelsey Sorge

Creator God, your prophet calls out, "Prepare the way of the Lord."

We confess that we have not listened.

We avoid uncomfortable news, and by-pass uncomfortable people.

In only talking to those who agree with us

We miss opportunities to grow in our understanding of others.

Speak to us anew in your surprising ways,

And open our hearts to hear, that we might be ready

For the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Kelsey Sorge

As 1 Peter says, "In God's great mercy, we have been born anew to a living hope. We have been born anew,

not of perishable seed but of imperishable,

like newborn babies."

Believe and share the Good News!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN 88

Veni Emmanuel

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

(Refrain Only)

**OUR FAITH IN ACTION** 

Adopt-a-Family

Jim Keeling

**ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS** (11:00 a.m.)

Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald & Rev. Edwin Estevez

Benjamin L. Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Michael Arnold, Rocky Huddleston, Ana LaRouche

WORD WITH THE CHILDREN (9:00 a.m.)

Rev. Kelsey Sorge

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

Following the Word with the Children, children and youth ages 4 through grade 8 will be dismissed for Sunday School.

\* **HYMN 102** Savior of the Nations, Come Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland

**WORD** 

**SCRIPTURE READING** Luke 3:1-6 (New Testament, page 60)

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON Listen Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald

**THANKSGIVING** 

\* HYMN 96 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry Winchester New

(Stanzas 1 and 2)

CALL TO OFFERING Rev. Edwin Estevez

Our giving is an offering to God. All offerings, whether made in the worship service or outside of it, are part of our worship of God and are used to support the Kirk's ministry.

**ANTHEM** How Lovely are the Messengers Felix Mendelssohn

How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace! To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words,

Throughout all the lands their glad tidings. (Romans 5:15, 16)

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION Rev. Edwin Estevez

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald & Rev. Edwin Estevez

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**SANCTUS** (Hymn 562)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

Franz Schubert

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER (11:00 a.m.)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors,

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,

for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.

Amen.

#### THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

# CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN 564 Amen

Franz Schubert

# SHARING IN THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

This morning the congregation is served in procession. Please remain seated until you are prompted by an usher to be served. For those unable to process forward, stay seated and a server will bring the sacrament to you.

Gluten-free bread is available in the center of the bread trays. Empty glasses are placed in the baskets provided near the communion servers.

We receive the bread with "Amen" after the server says, "This is the body of Christ."

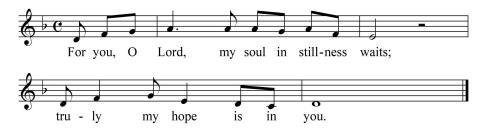
We receive the cup with "Thanks be to God" after the server says, "This is the cup of the new covenant"

# **COMMUNION MUSIC**

# For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits

Marty Haugen

*The congregation is invited to join in signing the refrain:* 



### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

In your body broken and in your blood shed for all of us, Lord, we have tasted and seen that you are good. In this meal, we have experienced again your deep love for your world. May the sweet taste of this meal strengthen us for living for you and remind us that we are called to live according to your will and to love as you love. Help us to yearn for your coming again, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

# **SENDING**

\* RECESSIONAL HYMN 100

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

Star of the County Down

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** (Seated)

Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald

CHORAL RESPONSE

Berthier

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong; take heart.

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY** 

Organ Sonata in D minor, Op. 65 No. 6

Felix Mendelssohn

I. Choral-Andante sostenuto-Allegro molto

## Worship/Music Notes

The opening voluntary is a chorale prelude based on the tune Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, found in our hymnal as "Savior of the Nations, Come" (Hymn 102). It is one of the most beautiful settings of this Advent hymn, by the great J.S. Bach. The choir anthem today is from Felix Mendelssohn's oratorio "St. Paul" (Paulus in German). The work was first performed in 1836 and has remained a popular and oftenperformed work. Mendelssohn (1809-1847) was a German composer, pianist, organist and conductor who was largely responsible for reviving interest in the works of J.S. Bach, since they were largely unknown and infrequently performed after Bach's death in 1750.

Today we welcome our new Assistant Organist, Zoe Lei, who will accompany the choir and play today's closing voluntary.

Have a favorite hymn? Send your ideas to Marilyn Biery at mbiery@kirkinthehills.org

**Stephen Ministers** are available for personal, confidential prayer in Melrose Chapel (to the left, when facing forward in the sanctuary) immediately following service each Sunday. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer please contact Nancy Lau at 248-835-6691.



Tour Kirk in the Hills each Sunday! Those interested in a brief tour are asked to meet in the Baptistry, to the right of the Chancel, after the 11:00 a.m. service. See an usher for direction or further details.

Join us for coffee and fellowship in Heritage Hall after the 9:00 a.m. worship service!

### **About Cover Art**

The art on all the Advent bulletin covers was created by James Fissel. A graduate of Moody Bible Institute, he served as Minister of Music at several churches that also included leading programs in drama and visual arts. While battling Parkinson's disease, he became a successful and prolific painter utilizing a unique style of dots and orbs. This week's art is titled *All of Nature Sings*. How do you relate this art to Advent this week?

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The music department is looking for instrumentalists (youth and adults) to offer their gifts of music during worship. If you would like to play your instrument, please contact Merideth Estevez (mestevez@kirkinthehills.org) or Marilyn Biery mbiery@kirkinthehills.org.

The Choir is looking for new members, especially tenors and altos. To learn more about the Chancel Choir, contact Marilyn Biery.

### Today's Musicians

Zoe Kai Wai Lei, Assistant Organist



Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald • Interim Senior Pastor
Rev. Edwin Estevez • Associate Pastor for Mission
Rev. Kelsey Sorge • Associate Pastor for Youth
Rev. Dr. Keith Provost • Parish Associate for Pastoral Care
Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi • Parish Associate

Rev. Dr. Norman Pritchard • Pastor Emeritus



Membership Stephanie Sheak ssheak@kirkinthehills.org



**Serve**Julie Walker
jwalker@kirkinthehills.org



Congregational Care
Rev. Edwin Estevez
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Choirs and Music Events

Marilyn Biery

mbiery@kirkinthehills.org



Baptisms, Memorials, Weddings Jennifer Morris jmorris@kirkinthehills.org



**Small Groups** Jennifer Morris jmorris@kirkinthehills.org



**Give** Jayne Zellers jzellers@kirkinthehills.org



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Church Leadership Bob Heuer/Clerk of Session kithclerk@kirkinthehills.org



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