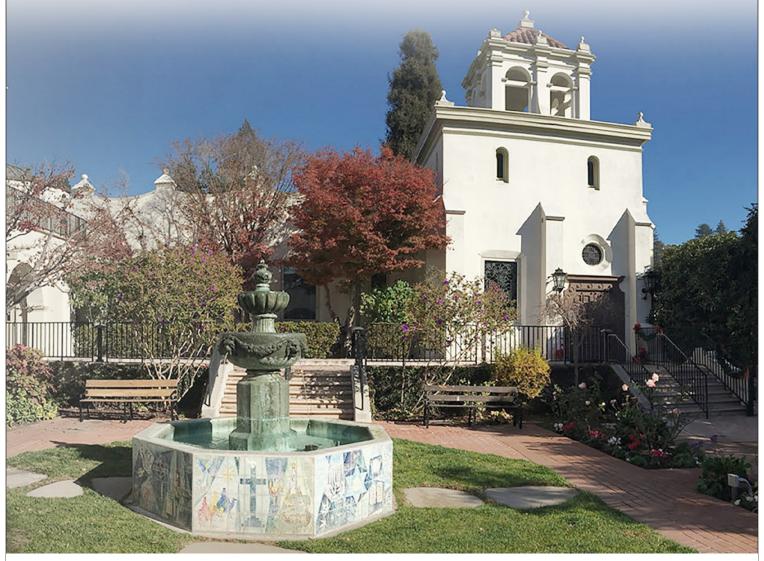
## SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2024

Steve Schibsted preaches sermon series, Why Church? Celebration for Scott Kail's 20 years at Piedmont Church follows.

# PIEDMONT COMMUNITY CHURCH Jorships



**WELCOME** 

No matter your age, race, economic status, religious background, gender or sexual orientation, you are welcome here.

VISIT ONLINE AT PIEDMONTCHURCH.ORG

Piedmont Community Church 400 Highland Avenue Piedmont, California 94611 (510) 547-5700

## Praise, my soul, the King of heaven



#### ORDER OF WORSHIP

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

Dr. Steve Schibsted

#### **Prelude**

\*Church Bell (\*The congregation is invited to stand)

#### \*Call to Worship

Liturgist: This is a day to rejoice in the presence of our loving God! **People:** May our eyes and ears be clear to see and hear.

Liturgist: This is a day of meaning and hope.

People: May our minds be open to receive it.

Liturgist: Today is a day of growth.

People: May we open ourselves wholeheartedly to

transformation in the Spirit.

Liturgist: Let us worship the God of joy and meaning, and hope and growth!

\*Hymn Praise, my soul, the King of heaven Lauda anima

#### **Prayer of Confession**

Julie McDonald

Merciful God, we long to grow to spiritual maturity. We desire to live as disciples who can be entrusted with the full measure of the gospel. Yet, we confess that we often avoid such growth. We would rather remain comfortable than embrace the pain of change. We pretend that complacency and maintaining the status quo is something other than a slow death. So, forgive us, Lord. Renew within us the desire and commitment to be fully alive to you, to ourselves and to one another as faithful and mature followers of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

#### **Choral Response and Words of Assurance**

**Words of Christian Greeting** 

Stewardship Moment

Tom Parry, Finance

**Prayers Of The People** 

Dr. Don Ashburn

#### Lord's Prayer

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 for ever. Amen.

#### Anthem

## Teach me thy song, O Lord Becca Burrington, soprano Stephen Main, piano

Craig Courtney (born 1948)

Teach me thy song, O Lord, that song which graced creation's dawn, and bid the firmament unfurl; that bathed the newborn world in uncreated light – that song so bright. Teach me thy song, O Lord.

Teach me thy song, O Lord, that song which burst thy Servant's heart to beat of blows upon the cross; his pain and bitterest loss and death that should be mine – his song was thine. Teach me thy song, O Lord.

Teach me thy song, O Lord, that song which swirls to wreathe thy throne, and bears the prayers of all thine own; to thee and thee alone by saints and angels raised thy name to praise. Teach me thy song, O Lord.

–Joel Nagy

#### **Scripture Text**

Philipians 2: 12-13

Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence - continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

Sermon

"WHY CHURCH?"
Work it Out
Rev. Dr. Steve Schibsted

Offertory

Benedictus Christa Pfeiffer, soprano Chancel Choir Stephen Main, organ Ralph Vaughan Williams

(1872-1958)

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he hath visited and redeemed his people. And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us, in the house of his servant David; as he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began. That we should be saved from our enemies and from the hands of all that hate us.

To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers; and to remember his holy covenant. To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham; that he would give us: that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.

And thou, child, shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest; for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation unto his people, for the remission of their sins. Through the tender mercy of our God, whereby the Dayspring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

—Luke 1:68-79, and Gloria

\*Doxology (Hymnal, p. 572)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#### \*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Julie McDonald

Generous God, you have withheld no good gift from us. You graciously pour out your love, mercy, faithfulness, joy and peace. Thank you for giving us all that truly matters. In humble gratitude, we offer back the fruits of our labor. But, more importantly, we offer you our selves. Help us to grow in faith and in generosity. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

#### \*Commission and Benediction

Dr. Schibsted

Reception for Scott Kail immediately follows worship.

## **CHURCH STAFF**

**Dr. Steve Schibsted**, Senior Pastor Sschibsted@PiedmontChurch.org

**Dr. Don Ashburn**, Associate Pastor Don@PiedmontChurch.org

**Dr. Stephen Main**, Music Minister Steve@PiedmontChurch.org

**Rev. Scott Kail**, Youth Pastor Scott@PiedmontChurch.org

**Rev. Dottie Hutch**, Visitation Dottie@PiedmontChurch.org

**Toni Fischer**, Business Manager Toni@PiedmontChurch.org

**Kerry Persichitte**, NextGen Director Kerry@PiedmontChurch.org

**Michael Barber**, Communications Michael@PiedmontChurch.org

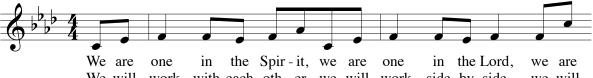
**Jay Foreman**, Asst. Property Mgr. Jay@PiedmontChurch.org

**Mariana Navarrete**, Operations Coordinator Mariana@PiedmontChurch.org

**Leslie Quantz**, Children's Ministries Leslie@PiedmontChurch.org

**Carol Leslie**, Events Coordinator EventsWow@aol.com

## We are one in the Spirit



We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side, we will We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand, we will







know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our love, yes they'll



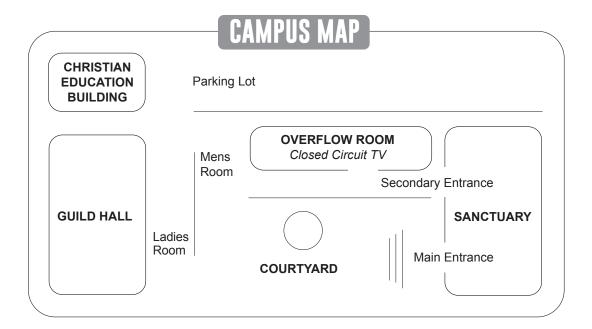
know we are Chris-tians by our love

### WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are delighted and grateful that you have come to worship here this morning. Please silence your cell phones and wearable devices.

Our greeters and Deacons will be available during the coffee hour to answer questions you may have about the church.

The Clara Barton Room (outside Sanctuary to the right) has closed circuit viewing of the service for parents with infants and young children. Please ask an usher for assistance if needed.



#### VISITORS

We especially welcome those of you who are visitors. If you would like more information about Piedmont Community Church, please visit our website at PiedmontChurch.org

Worship in the Sanctuary takes place at 10am with organ, hymns, prayer and preaching. This service lasts about one hour.

Our NextGen program for children and youth is provided at the same hour. We have devices for those who are hard of hearing. Please see an usher.

Communion is open to anyone who is called to receive the body and blood of Christ at the Lord's Table. It is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month. If you have questions about the Lord's Supper, or about anything else at Piedmont Church, please contact one of the pastors.

Baptisms for infants, youth and adults usually take place during worship. A meeting between the parents and the minister is required. Contact the church office at (510) 547-5700



Celebrate Scott Kail's 20 years of service today in the Courtyard immediately following worship.



#### **DINNER & SERVICE**

You are invited to dinner before our Ash Wednesday service on February 14 at 6pm in Guild Hall. Worship follows at 7pm. Cost is \$15 for adults, \$5 for children under 12 in advance. Register in the Courtyard after worship.



#### **LIFE GROUPS BEGIN FEBRUARY 22**

Life Groups are small groups that gather weekly on Thursday evenings from February 22 through March 21. We start with a simple dinner at 6:15pm in Guild Hall. Then, we get together in groups meeting in various rooms at the church at 7pm for sharing, support and study. All are invited whether you've attended in the past or not. Sign up after worship. Contact Don Ashburn at Don@PiedmontChurch.org



#### **FEBRUARY CLASS**

Starting Sunday, February 4, Dr. Kate Rankin will lead a 4-week class on "Trusting God More..." 11:15am to 12:15pm in the Kettlewell Room. Contact Don@PiedmontChurch.org

## venmo

#### **ONLINE GIVING**

For your convenience, we now accept Venmo mobile for making donations using your phone.

We are **@PiedmontChurch** 



#### **COMMITMENT SUNDAY IS FEBRUARY 11**

On Sunday, February 11, we will have an opportunity to make our financial commitment for 2024 as part of Commitment Sunday, whether participating in worship in person or online. We ask that you prayerfully consider your financial commitment to Piedmont Community Church for the coming year.



#### **PICKLEBALL SUNDAYS**

We play on Sundays from 1-3pm in the indoor gym, second floor of the Christian Education Building. All are welcome. Equipment is provided and no experience is required.

Contact Maureen Recker maureenrecker@gmail.com

# **'THE MESSENGER'**

GET ALL THE NEWS from Piedmont Community
Church delivered to your email inbox every Tuesday.
Sign up with Michael@PiedmontChurch.org or visit our website and click 'MESSENGER'

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