

# Paige *and* Alexis





# Hello,

We are Paige and Lexi. (and Merritt too!)

We want to sincerely thank you and express gratitude for getting to know us and our family. It is important to us that you know how much respect we have for you as you are deciding what is best for you and your child. We cannot begin to imagine how you are feeling right now, and we hope with whatever you choose, you feel confident it is the right decision for you and your baby. Please know that we want to honor and support you through this journey, and we trust that you'll make the best decision for you and your baby.

We hope that by sharing a bit about us, you can picture what life might look like for your child if you choose to place them with us. In the following pages you'll learn a little bit about us- who we are, what we like to do, where we live, how we met, and why we chose adoption. What we want you to know is that our family is our home. We love spending time together whether that be traveling, cooking, or snuggling up next to a fire. Days are full of laughs, love, and memories made. We hope you feel the deep sense of love that is our family in the following pages.



# Our Story



We are both originally from Michigan, and we met in college in 2014 while we were both studying engineering at Michigan State University. We started dating in late 2015 after our friendship grew deeper. We graduated in 2016 and made the big decision to move 450 miles and three states away to Iowa for Paige's work. We met new friends, started new jobs and loved experiencing a new place!

After two years we knew that life together was our favorite place to be. In September of 2018 we got engaged! The following year, we made the next big life decision to leave the comfort of our Iowa life we had built and move to Indiana, again for Paige's work. This is where we bought our first home, started our family, and where we currently live. In 2020 we got married in Alexis's hometown -an island in Michigan- on a beautiful fall day, with a handful of our closest friends and family.







# Why Adoption?

Both of us, ahead of our relationship together, had a strong desire to one day be parents and build a family. Once we had built our foundation together and had the stability we knew we wanted ahead of starting a family, we did! Of all of our options for growing our family, adoption was the journey that felt truest to our family. Adoption has a special place in our heart having gone through the process with our daughter. Her story, and now our story, has shown us the power and purpose of adoption. It has changed our family, our daughter, and her birth families lives and has made us feel more confident that this journey is absolutely how we want to continue to grow our family. There are many times where we pause for a moment and express pure joy that we get to share our life with our daughter and imagine giving her a sibling.





“Together is our favorite place to be.”



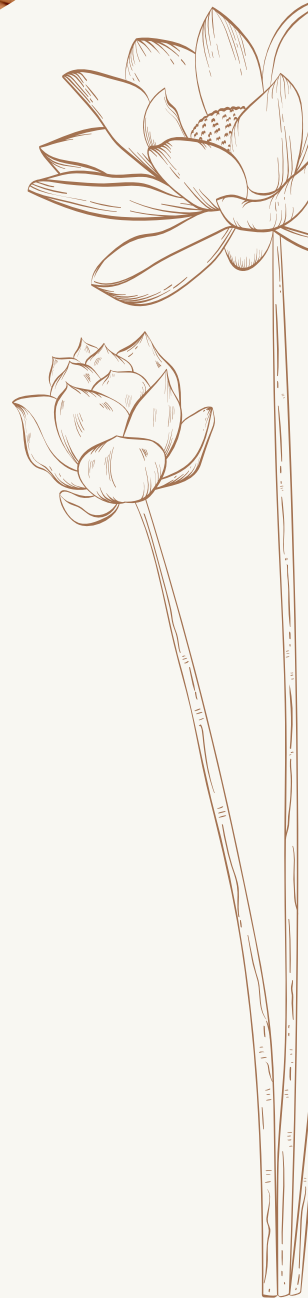
# Paige

is outgoing, dedicated,  
and empathetic



I am a wife and a working mom. I am a fixer of things with a degree in engineering. From working in manufacturing, to tackling home projects making our home continue to work for us, I like a good challenge. I am passionate about spending time with family and friends and cherishing connected moments. On most days you can find me in the kitchen creating meals and memories. I like to stay active and some of my favorite activities are being outdoors in beautiful places hiking and camping with my family.

*"Paige makes sure our family is set up for success. From always making sure the fridge is stocked with good, healthy food to making sure things are planned and ready for us to enjoy. She has a lot of energy and uses it to play games with the Merritt like hide and seek and chase her around the house. Paige is the only person who can get out Merritt's true belly laughs! Seeing her parent Merritt has made me fall even more in love with her."* -Lexi







# Alexis

is compassionate,  
creative, and homey

I am a wife, mom, and teacher. I have a degree in engineering, but when we moved to Indiana I realized my true passion is teaching and went back to school to get my Masters in education. I now teach kindergarten and absolutely LOVE my job and the work I get to do with little ones. I love sharing my passion for learning with Merritt by playing with her and watching her learn. I am a homebody and enjoy relaxing at home, gardening, crafting and reading. As much as I like being home, I'm also always up for a good adventure whether that be a hike somewhere new, or camping!

*"Alexis has a tremendous amount of patience. She cares deeply about her family, friends and kindergarteners. She brings color and imagination into daily life and loves morning cuddles in a soft blanket, nighttime stories and movies with hot chocolate and popcorn, and fun craft times! Alexis is a go to for hugs and snuggles and Merritt's first choice for snuggles."* -Paige





# Meet our daughter, *Merritt!*



Merritt is a spunky little girl. She's just over a year old and she is such a joy to be around. She is a little extrovert warming up to new people quickly. She loves to play with her animals and toys and she enjoys a good adventure. Her favorite activities are cuddling her animals, playing chase with her moms and going for a good walk around the house or neighborhood. She loves her cousins and the other kids at daycare and her excitement for adventure makes us think that she'll love bonding with a little brother or sister!





# This is home!



Our home is warm, cozy, and full of love. We live in a great neighborhood with tree-lined streets and sidewalks that are great for evening strolls to the park down the street. We are in a smaller city in Indiana that is within an hour from three larger cities with a lot to do. This allows us to live a relaxed, down-to-earth life with the ability to go and explore.

Our home was built in 1930 and has a lot of great character. We've done a lot of small home improvement projects for fun, the most recent being a screened in porch that goes along with our hammock deck and firepit area. We take a lot of pride in how homey our house is. We cherish our gardens and backyard oasis that we've created. Our home is perfect for everything from hot chocolate by the fire on a cold winter day in our matching pjs, to board games and puzzles, to family gatherings and cookie making in our spacious 4 bedroom, 2 living room space.





# Our fur babies

We have two dogs (Cedar and Aspen) and an indoor/outdoor cat (Colby Jack). We enjoy running around our fenced-in backyard with them and playing tug of war in our living room just as much as we love all snuggling on the couch by a nice fire. They have done fantastic with Merritt loving on her as much as she loves on them. They are patient with her and enjoy our family walks through our neighborhood! Our dogs travel with us quite a bit when we travel to see our parents. It's not uncommon for us to pack up the car with all of us and head on an adventure!





# In this family we...

- support one another with love and empathy*
- celebrate our origins and birth culture*
- laugh and have fun*
- push one another to be our best self*
- make the most of our time together*
- we snuggle*
- we explore*





# Our support system

We have lived in multiple places, and we've picked up many friends along the way. We have several friends from growing up that we love to spend time with, along with friends we've gained from each new place we've lived in. Our local community is mostly built from the great people we've met through work. We've been welcomed with open arms and feel that we have a great community that love and support us and our family from both close and far. We've grown accustomed to intentional trips that we've shared with friends and family. Our community has showered our family with a lot of love and support and we've absolutely cherished making memories with them especially as our family has grown!





# Our extended family exudes love



**Paiges Family:** Paige grew up as an only child with both her parents. Her grandmother lived with them for ten years while they cared for her, and it was in that family unit that Paige saw firsthand the power of a loving and caring family. Her parents retired to Tennessee, and they built their dream home. They were so excited for grandkids that they built extra guest rooms to accommodate! They've absolutely spoiled Merritt with love and have made several trips to Indiana to both babysit, and share time with their only grandchild. They are excited to gain more grandbabies to spoil and love!





**Alexis' Family:** Alexis grew up with a larger family. Her mom and dad lived separately, and each had a loving family surrounding them. Her mom is one of eight, and all of them have children. Most of them lived around the same area as Alexis growing up, and they used to take yearly trips to Disney.

Holidays with them, to this day, are full of lots of people, love, and family traditions like singing Christmas carols after Thanksgiving dinner.

Her mom now lives close to Paige's parents in Tennessee and it's not uncommon for holidays to be spent with all of them in Tennessee or for all of them to travel together to Indiana! Alexis's dad remarried, and she gained siblings and now nieces and a nephew too! We absolutely love spending time with our nieces and nephew! Both sides of Alexis's family have welcomed Merritt with open arms and are excited for future grandkids!







# Our adventures

We've traveled the world together, and that has not stopped as we've grown our family. We took a special trip to Europe after graduation and our honeymoon was two weeks spent in Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. Typically, we take several trips a year. Some of our favorite places are northern Michigan, Colorado, Tennessee, any national park and anywhere we can be together. Our parents live in Tennessee and Michigan so we take several trips annually to each. We recently bought a camper that we are excited will better accommodate our growing family as we travel!





# Our promises to you and your child...

**We promise** your child will be adored and cherished.

**We promise** to be safe, stable and always show unconditional love.

**We promise to** give your child the ability to become who they are meant to become in a fully supportive environment.

**We promise to** take every opportunity to make sure your child understands they are loved by us, family and friends, and most importantly, YOU.

**We promise to** hold space for you and us to collectively work together as we navigate what's best for you and your baby.

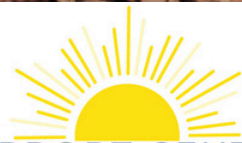
If you choose us to parent your child, they, along with our daughter Merritt, will be the center of our lives. We can commit to at least one annual in-person visit, where we would come to you, along with virtual communication on a monthly basis. This could include calls and FaceTime, texts/photos, or a combination of all. We believe fostering a connection would be beneficial for both you and your child, but we also realize that the emotions that it might hold could be complex. Please know that we respect this, and therefore would want to work with you to determine what level of openness would be most comfortable for you. We can't begin to understand how incredibly difficult this decision must be, and we are deeply grateful for the opportunity to be considered as part of your child's journey.

*Daige & Alexis*





# Adoption



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[www.adoptionsupportcenter.com](http://www.adoptionsupportcenter.com)  
[info@adoptionsupportcenter.com](mailto:info@adoptionsupportcenter.com)  
317.255.5916