

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ

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Rev. Danielle E. Neff, Pastor

Pastor Jeff Kardisco, Designated Pastor

Ms. Kristen Adams, Children & Youth Ministry Intern

Mr. Denny Daugherty, Adult Choir Director & Tech Director

Mr. Travis Pinci, Organist, Accompanist & Children's Music Coordinator

Mrs. Jeanne M. Bowman, Secretary

Seventh Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

A Day for the Women

If you are a guest, thank you for worshiping with us today. We invite you to take a moment to complete a visitor's card located in the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate when it is passed. We also invite you to sign your name in our guest book located in the back entrance of the sanctuary. We pray God's blessing upon you.

For today's service, we will be using the black hymnal.

GATHERING . . .

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Rainbows and Dewdrops

by Combs

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP AND PRAISE . . .

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

L: God said, "Let us make humanity in our image to resemble us so that they may take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, all the earth, and all the crawling things on earth."

P: Male and female God created them.

L: God created humanity.

P: Male and female God created them.

L: In the divine image God created them.

ALL: Male and female God created them. Let us worship God as our Creator, Mother and Father to us all.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 11** (v. 1, 2 & 6 black hymnal)

Bring Many Names

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

***TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

L: O Divine Lover, Your life pulses in each of our hearts and your love permeates each of our lives.

ALL: We, your daughters and sons, praise you.

L: Your care sustains us in each moment and your compassion guides us in each situation.

ALL: We, your daughters and sons, praise you.

L: When we fall, you lift us, when we fail you restore us, when we are wounded, you nurse us, when we grieve, you weep with us.

ALL: We, your daughters and sons, praise you.

L: But, we have failed to love as you do ...

ALL: We have abused our bodies and those of others, we have filled our minds with selfish dreams and violent plans, we have made our hearts cold and empty of compassion, we have forgotten our spirits and distorted your image within us. As a mother disciplines her children, we ask you to discipline us; as a mother forgives the sons and daughters who hurt her, we ask you to forgive us; as a mother calls her children to be reconciled with their siblings, we ask you to lead us to reconciliation with one another. In Christ's name, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 409 (v. 1 black hymnal)

I Heard my Mother Say

ALL SING: I heard my mother say, I heard my mother say, I heard my mother say, "Give me Jesus." Give me Jesus, give me Jesus, you may have all this world, give me Jesus.

GOD'S WORD IS PROCLAIMED . . .

(10:30 AM) **CHILDREN'S CHOIR**

*Jesus Loves the Little Children
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*

by Root
Caribbean Traditional Song

(10:30 AM) **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

SCRIPTURE John 4: 7-29, 39
MESSAGE

HYMN³ (see insert) *God of the Women*

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

(10:30 AM) **ANTHEM** (by the Saints) *Sing to the Lord With Joy* by Carter

WE RESPOND IN GRATITUDE . . .

OFFERTORY

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *May Flowers* by Combs

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE NO. 778 (to the tune of no. 780, black hymnal)

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

ALL SING: Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise God, all creatures here below; praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE ARE SENT FORTH TO BE CHRIST'S DISCIPLES . . .

***CLOSING HYMN NO. 467** (black hymnal) *Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Be of Good Courage* by Telemann

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

We welcome infants and children in our worship! For your comfort, we also have a children's corner in the back of the sanctuary where your child can relax and play and you can still participate in the worship experience. We also have nursery care downstairs during our 10:30 AM worship service. Please see a member of the welcoming team for assistance!

We offer a hearing assistance system called *Listen Technologies*. If you would like to use a receiver, please check with the volunteers at the sound booth at the rear of the sanctuary.

The bulletins are presented in honor and memory of all of our mothers on this special day.

One vase of altar flowers has been placed in honor of Emily Schriver. Happy Birthday! With love, Mom, Dad & Carly.

One vase of altar flowers has been placed in honor of our loving mother by David and Kristen Bailey.

Thank you to the Saints & the Children's Choir for performing during the 10:30 AM service today.

Thank you to our Eastertide Worship Planning Team for planning worship today. The Eastertide team is made up of: Pastor Jeff, Debbie Butcher, Ivy & Norman Leach and Guy Wenck.

8:00 AM Worship Tech: Jim Shiffer

8:00 AM Welcome Team: Logan & Tama Allison, Mary Jane Snyder, Tim Snyder

10:30 AM Acolyte: Maddie Gyenes

10:30 AM Welcoming Team: Scott & Bonnie Gyenes, Bill & Bonnie Murphy

¹ The Call to Worship was adapted from Genesis 1: 26-27

² The Prayer of Confession was derived from: <http://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/03prayer-of-confession-womens-day.html>, written by John van de Laar.

³ Tune: Traditional Irish melody ("Be Thou My Vision") ([MIDI](#)) Text: Copyright © 1998 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Copied from [Gifts of Love: New Hymns for Today's Worship](#) by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (Geneva Press, 2000).

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

Bring Many Names

Brian Wren, 1989

Gen. 1:27

Unison

1 Bring man-y names, beau-ti-ful and good, cel-e-brate, in
2 Strong moth-er God, work-ing night and day, plan-ning all the
3 Warm fa-ther God, hug-ging ev-ery child, feel-ing all the
4 Old, ach-ing God, grey with end-less care, calm-ly pierc-ing

par-a-ble and sto-ry, ho-li-ness in glo-ry, liv-ing, lov-ing God.
won-ders of cre-a-tion, set-ting each e-qua-tion, gen-i-us at play:
strains of hu-man liv-ing, car-ing and for-giv-ing till we're rec-on-ciled:
e-vil's new dis-guis-es, glad of good sur-pris-es, wis-er than de-spair:

Hail and Ho-san-na! bring man-y names! great, liv-ing God!
Hail and Ho-san-na, strong moth-er God!
Hail and Ho-san-na, warm fa-ther God!
Hail and Ho-san-na, old, ach-ing God!

5 Young, grow-ing God, ea-ger,
on the move,
say-ing no to false-hood and
un-kind-ness,
cry-ing out for jus-tice,
giv-ing all you have:
Hail and Ho-san-na,
young, grow-ing God!

6 Great, liv-ing God, nev-er ful-ly known,
joy-ful dark-ness far be-yond our see-ing,
clos-er yet than breath-ing,
ev-er-last-ing home:
Hail and Ho-san-na,
great, liv-ing God!

The author states that aspects of the divine are revealed in our maleness, femaleness, youth, and age in a moving, growing matrix of life in God. The tune Westchase was composed especially for this text.

Tune: WESTCHASE 9.10.11.9.
Carlton Young, 1989

I Heard My Mother Say

African-American traditional

1 I heard my moth-er say, I heard my moth-er say,
 2 At mid-night was my cry, at mid-night was my cry,
 3 Oh, when I come to die, oh, when I come to die,
 4 In the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I rise,

I heard my moth-er say, "Give me Je - sus."
 at mid - night was my cry, "Give me Je - sus."
 oh, when I come to die, give me Je - sus.
 in the morn - ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.

Refrain

Give me Je - sus, give me Je - sus, you may

have all this world, give me Je - sus.

This spiritual is better known as "Give Me Jesus." The musical arrangement was created for The New Century Hymnal by Joyce Finch Johnson, organist and professor of music at Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia.

Tune: GIVE ME JESUS 6.6.10. with refrain
African-American traditional
 Harm. Joyce Finch Johnson, 1992

God of the Women

(To the tune of "Be Thou My Vision")

God of the women who answered your call,
Trusting your promises, giving their all,
Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth —
Give us their courage to live in your truth.

God of the women who walked Jesus' Way,
Giving their resources, learning to pray,
Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more —
May we give freely as they did before.

God of the women long put to the test,
Left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,
Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" —
In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.

God of the women who ran from the tomb,
Prayed with the others in that upper room,
Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day —
May we so gladly proclaim you today.

O God of Phoebe and ministers all,
May we be joyful in answering your call.
Give us the strength of your Spirit so near
That we may share in your ministry here.

Tune: Traditional Irish melody ("Be Thou My Vision") (MIDI) Text:
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Gen. 1:1-5; Matt. 26:26-29;
Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:15-20

Jean Junzen, 1991
Based on the writings of Julian of Norwich

1 Moth - er - ing God, you gave me birth in the bright
2 Moth - er - ing Christ, you took my form, of - fer - ing
3 Moth - er - ing Spir - it, nur - turing One, in arms of

morn - ing of this world. Cre - a - tor,
me your food of light, Grain . . . of
pa - tience hold me close, So that in

Source of ev - ery breath, you are my rain, my wind, my
life, and grape of love, your ver - y bod - y for my
faith I root and grow un - til I flower, un - til I

sun; you are my rain, my wind, my sun.
peace; your ver - y bod - y for my peace.
know; un - til I flower, un - til I know.