

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

Third Sunday After Pentecost

10:30 AM

An Altar in the World: Living with Purpose

*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.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Simple Gifts

arr. Berry

CALL TO WORSHIP¹ & OPENING PRAYER

L: Lead a life worthy of your calling.

P: We cannot do this alone, we dare not try this alone, so we gather as God's people.

L: Lead a life filled with the gifts of your calling, gifts to be used with service and humility.

P: We come to build up Christ's Body, in humility and gentleness, with patience and love.

L: Lead a life which reflects your calling, that life of peace grounded in the Spirit.

P: We rejoice in our oneness in Christ; we would share the grace offered to us.

L: Lead a life worthy of the kingdom work to which you have been called.

P: We gather as God's family, knowing we will be guided by our Shepherd.

L: Let us pray:

P: Gentle God: we have traveled through many waters to reach this place, but share one baptism; we arrive from different backgrounds and traditions, yet share one faith; we are, each of us, unique and precious to you and are members of the body of Christ. We have different dreams and doubts, yet our hearts beat with one hope; we are graced with different gifts, so we may offer them in service to you, O God.

L: God in Community, Holy in One, equip us for this time of worship and for the work of ministry, as we pray together with one voice, as Jesus has taught us, saying,

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

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.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 524** (black hymnal)

This Little Light

***TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Lord, how we must try your patience! We often doubt, when we should place our faith in your abiding presence. We think that we have to have all the answers, and judge others who fail to live up to our expectations. We think that we are the one thing that matters most in life. So we place ourselves at the center of our own universe. Forgive us when we show how shallow our faith is. Help us to really understand the miraculous ways in which you have already worked in our lives and will continue to work as we journey in faith. Bring to us the Light of Joy, and let it flood through our whole beings, that we may be transformed into people of joyful service and faith. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE² (see p. 5, sing two times)

ALL SING: Surely, it is God who saves me, I will trust in Him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my strong-hold and my sure defense, and he will be my savior.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

LITURGY OF BAPTISM

Graci Faye Butler

Family: Jessica, Christopher, and Blake Butler

Godmother: Savannah McCauley

L: We worship a God whose love flows through water.

P: Love, like a rain shower, awakens the sleeping seed within the soul, encouraging it to blossom.

L: We worship a God whose love flows through water.

P: Love, like a wading pool, inspires the delight of children, jumping, splashing each other with joy.

L: We worship a God whose love flows through water.

P: Love, like a hot shower after a long day's work, cleanses us, reawakens us.

L: We worship a God whose love flows through water.

P: Love, like little drops, drips from fingertips to forehead. Through baptism the family of faith welcomes a new child of God.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

QUESTIONS OF THE PARTICIPANTS

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

L: Let us unite with the church in all time and places in confessing our faith in the triune to God. Do you believe in God?

P: I believe in God.

L: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

P: I believe in Jesus Christ.

L: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

P: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

PRAYER

ACT OF BAPTISM

DOXOLOGY 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, above you heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER

HYMN NO. 325 (black hymnal) *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

SCRIPTURE 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11

MESSAGE *Living with Purpose*

HYMN NO. 539 (black hymnal) *Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SPECIAL MUSIC (played by Victoria Visceglia) *Image* by Bozza

OFFERTORY

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *They'll Know We Are Christians with Blest Be the Tie* arr. Tornquist

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE NO. 506 (black hymnal, verses 1 & 3)

ALL SING: By whatever name we call you Fashioner of spheres, you are grander, so much wiser than our minds perceive. Labels limit understanding, God, you have no peers. So, we question-- changing, growing-- wanting to believe.

In whatever gifts we offer, All inclusive One, you accept your own creation, fragments we return. Not as owners but as stewards is our giving done. In true wonder we receive the love we cannot earn.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

L: The Spirit of God be with you all.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts;

P: We lift them to God.

L: Give thanks to our God!

P: All our thanks, all our praise!

COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Loving God, Source of all, we thank and praise you with our lips and our lives, that, having created us and all things through your Word, you welcome our prayer and praise... With all that is, seen and unseen, and with all the faithful of every time and place, we join in praise and thanksgiving:

ALL: Holy, holy, holy God, power of life and love! Heaven and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna through the ages! Blessed is the One who comes to bring you justice to earth!

REMEMBERING JESUS AT THE TABLE

L: Let us remember together the vision of God's reign shown to us in Jesus at the table:

P: he shared food with followers and friends,

L: with saints and sinners,

P: with crowds of thousands on the hillside,

L: and a few friends in an upper room.

ALL: On the night before he died, he had supper with his companions.

L: He took a loaf of bread, and after giving thanks, he broke it, and gave it to them, saying:

ALL: "Take, eat. Do this in remembrance of me."

One: Then, he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he passed it among them, saying:

ALL: "Drink this. Do this in remembrance of me."

One: Through this loaf and cup, Jesus lives within us.

ALL: In word and deed, Jesus lives among us.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

(The outer ring of cups contain grape juice, the inner rings contain wine.)

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

ALL: For the bread we have eaten, for the wine we have tasted, for the life we have received, we thank you God. Grant that what we have done and have been given here, may put its mark on us, that it may remain always in our hearts. Grant that we may grow in Christian love and understanding, and that ours may be lives of faithful action, in Christ's name. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN NO. 562** (black hymnal)

Take My Gifts

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

My Heart Ever Faithful

by Bach

*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 of Logan Allison's 27th birthday by Mom & Dad.

One vase of altar flowers has been placed in memory of Gene Snyder by his wife Joann and family.

One vase of altar flowers has been placed in honor of Jeff Sleeper's birthday by Danika, Drew, Holt & Hayden Dallam.

Thank you to Victoria Visceglia for performing today's special music.

Worship Tech: John Schriver

Welcome Team: David, Kristen, Shaelynn & Cole Bailey

Communion Servers: David Bailey, Mason DeMers, Tori Everhart, David Strine

Camera Tech: Elaine Bevivino

¹ The call to worship is adapted from: <https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2015/07/liturgy-wcommunion-for-august-2-2015.html>

² *The First Song of Isaiah*, words from The Book of Common Prayer, Canticle 9 (Isa. 12: 2-6), music by Jack Noble White, ©1977 H.W. Grey Co. c/o Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp., admin. by Warner Brothers Publications, printed with permission under CCLI license #3220582.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.