

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

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost 10:30 AM

Jesus Asks... "Where are they? Is there no one to condemn you?"

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 *Supplication* by Schreiner

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We live in the world that God has made. We are its stewards and its inhabitants. And yet, we do not know all that there is to know.

P: Where were we when God laid the earth's foundations?

L: My plans are not your plans, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

P: How will we know God's plans? How will we know God's ways?

L: We are told by Jesus to have faith like a child, and like children we learn by asking questions.

P: How will we know what questions to ask?

L: Jesus asked questions throughout the gospels. While he himself already knew the answers we can wrestle with the questions of Jesus and we can learn from our wrestling.

P: What question can we ask today?

L: Today we ponder Jesus' question...

P: Where are they? Is there no one to condemn you?

***OPENING HYMN NO. 512** (black hymnal) *Sovereign and Transforming Grace*

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

***CLOSING HYMN NO. 547** (black hymnal) *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

***BENEDICTION & COMMISSIONING OF THE YOUTH & CHAPERONES**

***POSTLUDE** *Voluntary on Holy, Holy, Holy* by Dykes

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 Cliff Chronister's birthday by Anne Henry.

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

One vase of altar flowers has been placed in honor Mary Jane Snyder's birthday by Dan & Nancy Kinard.

Thank you to Lyn Schleeter for performing today's special music.

Worship Tech: Bonnie Dull

Welcome Team: John, Robin, Carly & Emily Schriver

Sound Tech: John Schriver

Video Tech: Elaine Bevivino

Nursery: Elaina & Marco Angelone

WOW Kids: Dani Kardisco & Alan Neff

The red rose bud has been placed upon the altar in honor of Jack William Bicher's birth and his baptism today by his church family.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

*TIME OF CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Good and Gracious God we admit that sometimes it is difficult for us to follow your call. We admit that we would rather live our lives of faith in sure and straight forward ways. We confess that it is hard for us to ask the questions necessary for us to grow in our discipleship to you. Forgive us God. Continue to challenge us by asking of us the questions that we are afraid to ask ourselves. Deal with us in patience and love as we learn to discern your ways for us. Comfort us as we wrestle with the uncertainty of our faith. Comfort us as we wrestle with the uncertainty that questions bring. Almighty God, extend your grace to us, so that our seeking and our questioning will bring us closer to you. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 473 (black hymnal, v. 1 & 3) *Blessed Assurance*

ALL SING: Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of the Spirit, washed in Christ's blood. (2x) This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blessed; watching and waiting, looking above, filled with God's goodness, lost in Christ's love. (2x) This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

BAPTISM *Jack William Bicher*

Parents: Braden & Vanessa Bicher
God Parents: Clint Wetzel & Jordan Bicher

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 times and places in confessing our faith in the triune 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.

PRAYER

HYMN NO. 325 (black hymnal)

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

SCRIPTURE John 8: 1-11

MESSAGE *"Where are they? Is there no one to condemn you?"*

SPECIAL MUSIC (sung by Lynwood Schleeter) *The Last Chord* by Sullivan

COMMISSIONING OF THE SEARCH TEAM (see insert)

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.

OFFERTORY

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Jesus Said with Be Not Afraid* arr. Tate

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE NO. 785 (black hymnal) *We Give You But Your Own*

ALL SING: We give you but your own, what e'er the gift may be; all that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

Litany for Commissioning

Mt. Zion UCC's Pastoral Search Team

This morning, we commission the Mt. Zion Search Team. The Mt. Zion Search Team was created through a process of nominations from the congregation and discernment from the Self Study Team and Church Council. Red Arnold, Elaine Bevivino, George DeMers, Tori Everhart, Carol Hartman and Rick Hogentogler have graciously accepted the call to serve in this capacity.

L: There are different gifts.

P: But it is the same Spirit who gives them.

L: Each one is given a gift by the Spirit.

P: To be used for the common good.

L: Red, Elaine, George, Tori, Carol, and Rick have committed themselves to a significant leadership task on behalf of our congregation. In recognition of the importance of their work, we pause to express our gratitude and to remind ourselves that they do not undertake this task alone; they will be guided by the power and presence of the Holy Spirit, the prayerful support of the members of this church, and the assistance of the United Church of Christ through the York Association and the Penn Central Conference.

(see reverse)

COVENANT OF THE SEARCH TEAM

COVENANT OF THE CONGREGATION

L: Church family of Mt. Zion United Church of Christ, let us join together in affirming our commitment to this search team and the process that they will undertake.

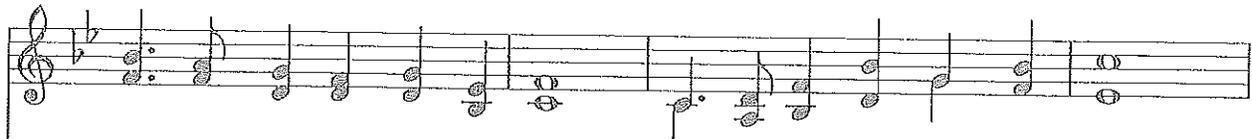
ALL: We pledge, as a gathered community of faith, to be patient with you and to respect your need to be confidential in your task. We recognize that the work of our search team is a difficult assignment and will take much effort. We pray for you and offer our support and words of encouragement throughout this time. These things we promise in the hope and belief that you will be obedient to the guidance of the Spirit as you seek an additional pastor to minister with us.

CLOSING PRAYER

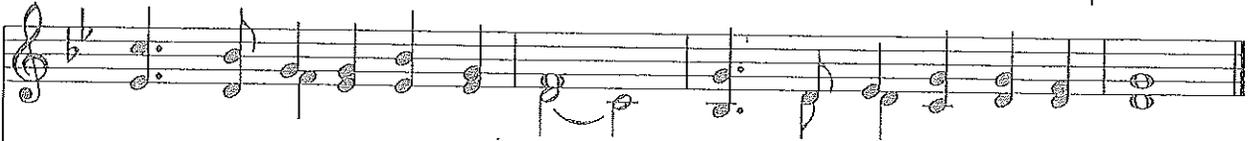
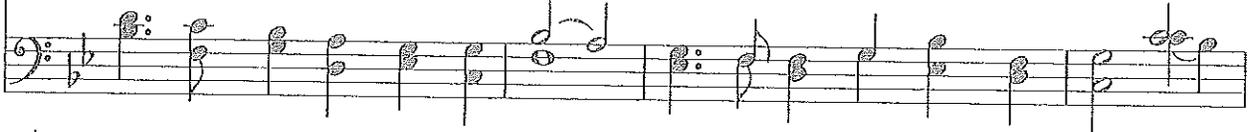
Sovereign and Transforming Grace

512

Frederick H. Hedge, 1829; alt.



- 1 Sov-ereign and trans-form-ing Grace, we in-voke your quick-ening power;
2 Ho - ly and cre - a - tive Light, we in-voke your kin - dling ray;
3 To the anx-ious soul im - part hope, all oth - er hopes a - bove;
4 Work in all; in all re - new, day by day, the life di - vine;



Reign the spir - it of this place, bless the pur - pose of this hour.
Dawn up - on our spir - it's night, as the dark - ness turns to day.
Stir the dull and hard - ened heart with a long - ing and a love.
All our wills to you sub - due, all our hearts to you in - cline.



Frederick Henry Hedge, a professor and Unitarian minister, was perhaps best known for his translations of German hymns. He was also a hymnwriter, and contributed this text to Hymns for the Church of Christ, a Unitarian hymnal, which he co-edited in 1853.

Tune: MANTON 7.7.7.
Jane Marshall, 1992
Alternate tune: MERCY

Acts 17:30-31; Rev. 7:9-14

Fanny Crosby, 1873; alt.



1 Bless-ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a
 2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light! Vi - sions of
 3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, I in my



fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
 rap - ture now burst on my sight; An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a -
 Sav - ior am hap - py and blessed; Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -



God, born of the Spir - it, washed in Christ's blood.
 bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
 bove, filled with God's good - ness, lost in Christ's love.



Refrain



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long;



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

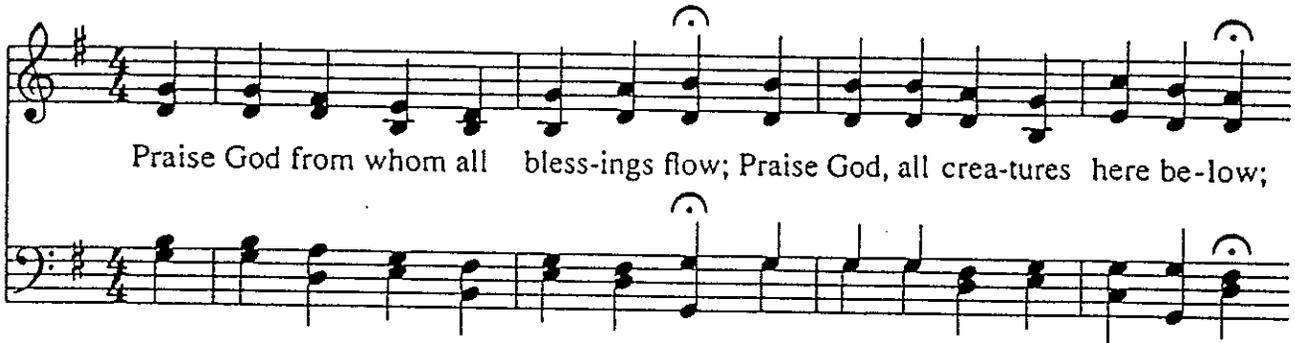


After hearing Phoebe Knapp play this tune on the piano, Fanny Crosby composed the poem on the spot. In her almost 95 years, Crosby wrote more than 8,500 gospel hymns and songs.

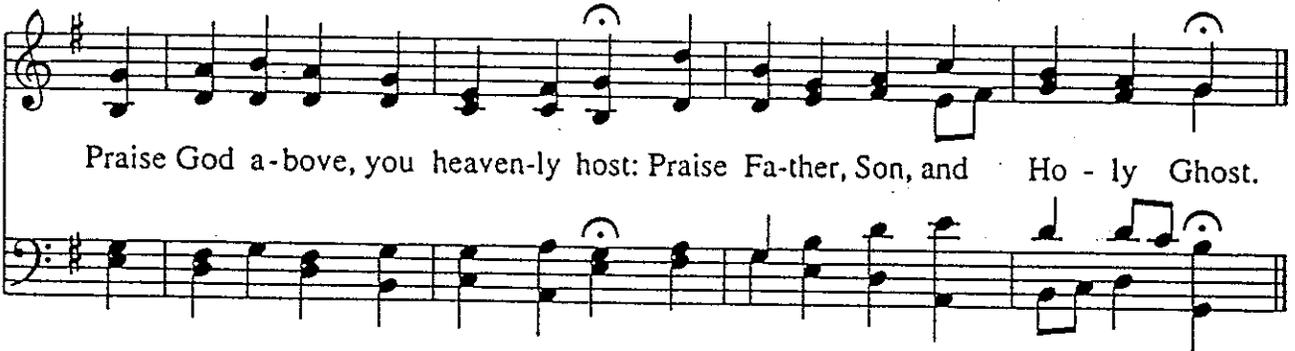
Tune: ASSURANCE Irr.
 Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873

Text: Thomas Ken, 1674; alt.

Music: Louis Bourgeois, 1551



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.

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

325

Ronald S. Cole-Turner, 1981

1 Child of bless-ing, child of prom-ise, bap - tized with the Spir-it's sign;
 2 Child of love, our love's ex-pres-sion, love's cre - a - tion, loved in - deed!
 3 Child of joy, our dear-est trea-sure, God's you are, from God you came.
 4 Child of God your lov - ing Par - ent, learn to know whose child you are.

With this wa - ter God has sealed you un - to love and grace di - vine.
 Fresh from God, re - fresh our spir - its, in - to joy and laugh - ter lead.
 Back to God we hum-bly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.
 Grow to laugh and sing and wor - ship, trust and love God more than all.

Ronald Cole-Turner, a teacher of theology, is an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ. He is an award-winning author on the interface of science and religion.

Tune: STUTTGART 8.7.8.7.
Attrib. to Christian F. Witt (1660-1716), in Psalmodia Sacra, Gotha, 1715

Text: William W. How, 1864; alt.

Music: Cantica Laudis, Lowell Mason and G. J. Webb, 1850

First system of musical notation. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody in the treble clef consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "We give you but your own, what - e'er the gift may be;"

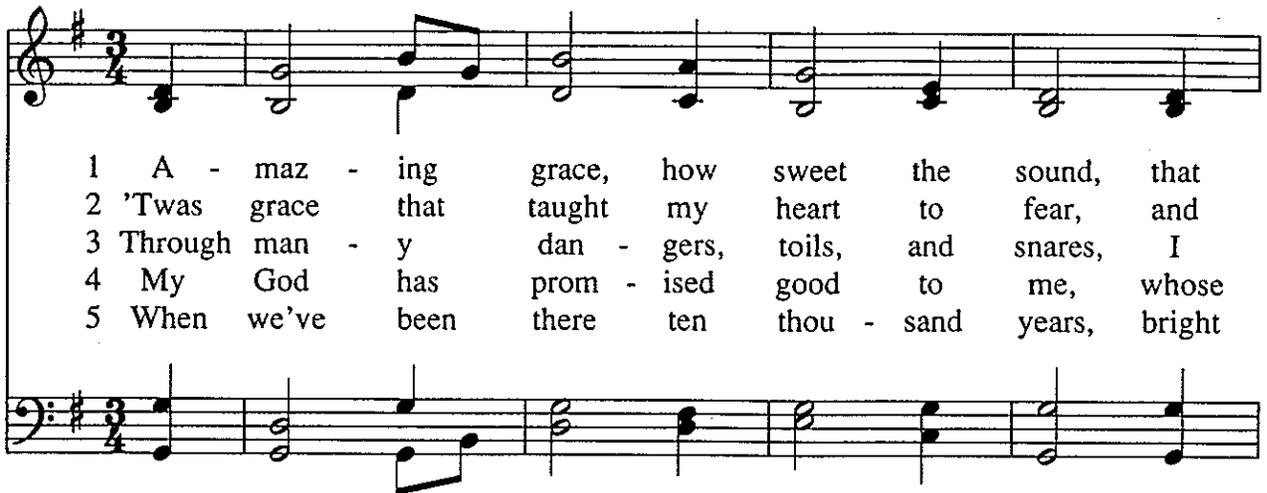
Second system of musical notation. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody in the treble clef continues with quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "All that we have is yours a - lone, we give it grate-ful - ly."

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

547

St. 1-4, John Newton, 1779; alt.

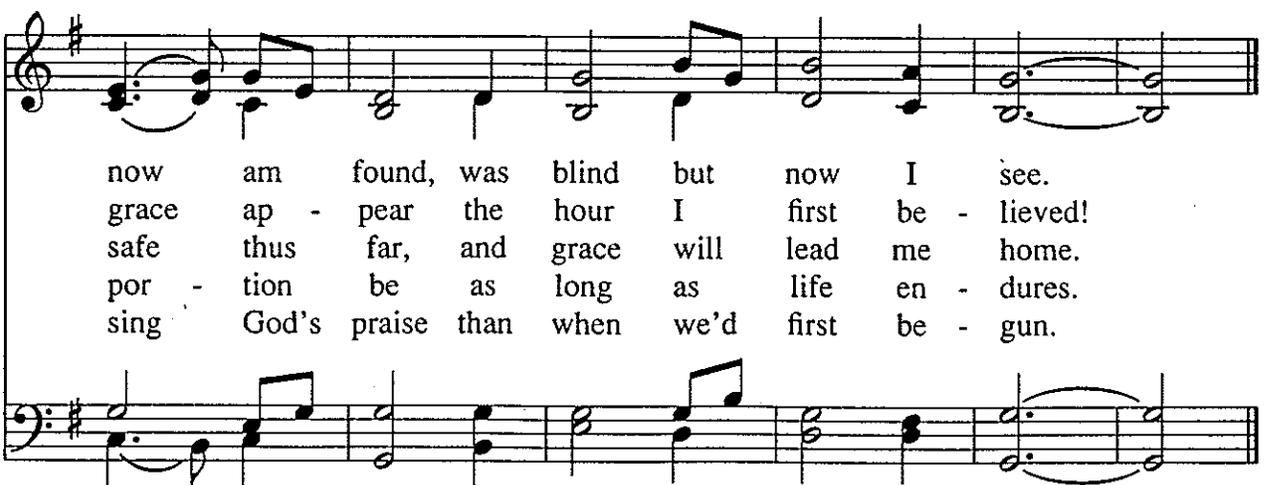
St. 5, A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790



1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
4 My God has prom - ised good to me, whose
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; How pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'Tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; God will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, was blind but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

John Newton's autobiographical hymn reflects his conversion from his earlier existence as a slave trader. While serving as curate in the English village of Olney, Newton met William Cowper, and together they published Olney Hymns, which included this hymn.

Tune: AMAZING GRACE C.M.
(NEW BRITAIN)
Columbia Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829
Arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1900