

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ
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Rev. Danielle E. Neff, Pastor
Pastor Jeff Kardisco, Designated Pastor
Mr. Denny Daugherty, Adult Choir Director & Tech Director
Mr. Travis Pinci, Organist, Accompanist & Children's Music Coordinator
Mrs. Jeanne M. Bowman, Secretary

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

(10:30 AM) **PRESENTATION OF BIBLES**

If you are a guest, thank you for worshipping 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 (played by Hannah McCracken) *Musette* Composer Anonymous
Ecossaise by Hummel

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come! Come, all you who are seeking God. Come! Enter into this place of protection and comfort and discover that God is seeking us!

P: We rejoice to have God find us here, as we come seeking God!

L: Come! Come in and experience God's joy when we come together.

ALL: Here in this sanctuary we worship, and meet God!

(10:30 AM) **PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO THIRD GRADERS AND INCOMING CONFIRMANDS**

*Third Graders: Maddie Gyenes, Sophie Gyenes, Will Kiefer, Andrew J. Maletz,
Emmet Andrew Morcos, Zachary A. Shiffer, Delaney Grace Shindler*

Incoming Confirmands: Holt Dallam, Emily Merritt, Jordyn Myers, Gianna Vacante

***OPENING HYMN NO. 1** (black hymnal) *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

***TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: O Most Patient God, we recognize how much we need you for life itself. But how often have we behaved as if we did not know or even care about you? How often have we become the ones who do not carry out justice? How often have we tried to dominate others even as you stand with them? How often have we participated in the desolation of your creation by our treatment of the heavens, the earth and its waters? Forgive us for these times when we have lost our way. Know, All Loving God, that we want to be among those whom you seek. Shower your mercy upon us. Find us, and lead us safely home to faithfulness. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 547 (black hymnal, v. 1 & 3) *Amazing Grace*

ALL SING: Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come; 'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

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

SCRIPTURE Luke 15:1-10

MESSAGE

HYMN NO. 99 (black hymnal) *Abide With Me*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

SPECIAL MUSIC (sung by Dani Kardisco) *Safe Within Your Arms* by Hayes

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

***TIME OF REMEMBRANCE FOR 9/11**

L: God; so much violence, so much pain, so much heartache. May our remembrances of this day instill within us a horror of war, and help us stand against the atrocities caused by terrorism.

P: As we grieve with those who still mourn, and share memories with those who cannot forget, may we be stirred by your love and compassion for all.

L: As we remember those who bravely responded, and gave their lives to save others, may we draw strength from their selfless sacrifice.

P: As we stand with strangers who became neighbors that day, sharing and caring for people they did not know, we give thanks for their generosity and hospitality. May it remind us of the call to be good Samaritans, reaching out across race and culture to other victims of violence.

L: So many in our world have lost loved ones to terrorism and war, so many have been displaced from their homes and their countries, may their plight fill us with a longing for peace.

P: Let us seek understanding and reconciliation, and let us not turn from your Kingdom's ways. Above all, O God, may we remember your faithfulness and learn to trust in your unfailing love. Amen.

HYMN NO. 571 (black hymnal)

O God of Love, O God of Peace

OFFERTORY

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Offertory on Cincinnati

by Kendall

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE 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 OF DEDICATION

***CLOSING HYMN NO. 18 (black hymnal)**

Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Celebration on Truro

by Broughton

*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.

One vase of altar flowers has been placed in honor of everyone who is celebrating a birthday during the month of September by Jim & Sue Shiffer.

One vase of altar flowers has been placed in honor of all of the children receiving bibles today; may God continue to bless them as they walk on their journey of faith, by Jim & Sue Shiffer.

The bulletins are presented in honor of the marriage of Heather & David Strine on September 3rd by Don & Diane Strine.

Thank you to Hannah McCracken for performing our prelude selections today.

Thank you to Dani Kardisco for performing our special music today.

Thank you to Anne Henry for serving as our guest organist today.

8 AM Worship Tech: Jim Shiffer

8 AM Welcome Team: Barry & Nancy Schwartz, Mary Jane Snyder, Tim Snyder

10:30 AM Welcome Team: Coordinated by Steph Beyer

10:30 AM Sound Tech: Ron Miles

10:30 AM Nursery: Coordinated by Kathy Sweeney

WOW Kids: Coordinated by Kathy Sweeney

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

1

Walter C. Smith, 1867; alt.

1 Tim. 1:17; Ps. 36:6

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 Your life is life - giv - ing— to both great and small;
 4 So per - fect your glo - ry, so bril - liant your light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 not want - ing, not wast - ing, but rul - ing in might;
 in all life you're liv - ing, the true life of all;
 your an - gels a - dore you, all veil - ing their sight;

Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 Your jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove,
 We blos - som and flour - ish as leaves and as flowers,
 All praise we now ren - der as your an - gels do:

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, your great name we praise.
 your clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish— but naught dims your powers.
 in awe at the splen - dor of light hid - ing you.

Walter C. Smith, minister of the Free Church of Scotland and later moderator of the Assembly, wrote poetry as a retreat from work and to say what could not be fully expressed in the pulpit.


Tune: ST. DENIO 11.11.11.11.
 Adapt. from a Welsh ballad in John Roberts' Caniadaeth y Cysegr, 1839

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

Luke 24:29; 1 Cor. 15:55

Henry F. Lyte, 1847; alt.

1 A - bide with me; fast falls the e - ven - tide;
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
 3 I need your pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;
 4 I fear no foe, with you at hand to bless;
 5 Hold now your cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;

The shad - ows deep - en, Lord, with me a - bide;
 Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
 I need your grace to foil the tempt - er's power.
 Ills have no weight and tears no bit - ter - ness;
 Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies;

When oth - er help - ers fail, and com - forts flee,
 Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
 Give me your love my guide and stay to be.
 Where is death's sting? where, grave, your vic - to - ry?
 Heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;

Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
 O Christ who chang - es not, a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.
 I tri - umph still if you a - bide with me.
 In life, in death, O Christ, a - bide with me.

Following the final sermon of his career, Henry F. Lyte handed a copy of this recently written hymn to a relative. He died two months later. The tune by W. H. Monk has contributed greatly to the popularity of the hymn.

Tune: EVENTIDE 10.10.10.10.
 William H. Monk, 1861

*Isa. 2:2-4**Henry W. Baker, 1861; alt.*

1 O God of love, O God of peace, make wars through-out the
 2 Re - mem-ber, God, your works of old, the won - ders that our
 3 Whom shall we trust, O God, but you? For you are con - stant,

world to cease; The wrath of hu - man wrong re - strain:
 peo - ple told; Heal ev - ery mal - ice, harm, and pain:
 strong, and true. None ev - er called on you in vain:

Give peace, O God, give peace a - gain!

Both words and music of this hymn were composed by Henry W. Baker. A priest of the Church of England, Baker was the first committee chair for Hymns Ancient and Modern, which sold sixty million copies in fifty years.

Tune: HESPERUS L.M.
 (QUEBEC)
 Henry W. Baker, 1854

Text: Thomas Ken, 1674; alt.

Music: Louis Bourgeois, 1551

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here be-low;

Praise God a-bove, you heaven-ly host: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

Exod. 13:21; 16:4; 17:6; Ps. 105:39-44; Rev. 22:1-2

William Williams, 1745

St. 1, transl. Peter Williams, 1771; alt.

St. 2-3, transl. William Williams, 1772; alt.

1 Guide me, O my great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, where the heal - ing
 3 When I reach the Riv - er Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but you are might - y;
 wa - ters flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with your power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 land me safe on heav - en's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.
 ev - er be my strength and shield, ev - er be my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er sing to you, I will ev - er sing to you.

John Hughes, a railroad official by trade, composed this tune for the 1907 anniversary of Capel Rhondda, Pontypridd, Wales. Cwm Rhondda refers to the "low valley" area surrounding the urban district of Rhondda in southern Wales.

Tune: CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.

John Hughes, 1907

Alternate setting: ZION