

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ
1054 Ridgewood Road, York, Pennsylvania 17406
Telephone: 717-755-6117
E-mail: mtzionuccyorkpa@comcast.net
Website: www.mtzionucc.org

Rev. Danielle E. Neff, Senior 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

Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

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

(8:00 AM) **PRELUDE** *You Are Mine* by Haas
(10:30 AM) **PRELUDE** (sung by Gillian Cunningham)
Do Life Big by Harper, Garcia & McKeehan

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

L: We gather in awe

P: standing in the presence of the One who crafted the stars, the mountains, the seas.

L: We gather in faith,

P: trusting that the One who has held little children holds our lives in the heart of God.

L: We gather in need,

P: seeking the One who longs for justice to grace each and every person in creation.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 493** (black hymnal)

O Jesus, I Have Promised

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

***TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

ALL: Lord of mercy, forgive us when we make excuses for our lack of faith. We let our selfishness and apathy get in the way of illumination and peace. We find ways to duck out of our opportunities for service and witness, claiming that we are too small or too ill-equipped to be effective witnesses to Jesus Christ. How foolish we can be! All of our lives God has been present to us, whether or not we knew it. God's love is always surrounding us. Yet we have not taken the time to recognize it. We whine and complain about the misfortunes that have befallen us and wonder where God is. We want immediate release from our struggles. And when release comes, we again move off in our own realms of self-centeredness. Help us, O Lord. Stop us from being so faithless. Open our hearts with your forgiving spirits that we, having been healed and forgiven, may actually be effective witnesses to your love and compassion. For we ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE³ (see insert)

The First Song of Isaiah

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.

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

(10:30 AM) **HYMN**⁴ (v. 2 & 3, see insert)

God Claims You

ALL SING: Child of promise, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too. We your family love you so, we vow to help your faith to grow. Child of promise, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too. We are here to say this day that we will help you on your way. Child of promise, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.

SCRIPTURE Habakkuk 1:1-14, 2:1-4

MESSAGE

HYMN NO. 485 (black hymnal)

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

(10:30 AM) **PRAISE BAND**

*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.

OFFERTORY

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Rest Now in Me with There is a Balm in Gilead* arr. Tate

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE NO. 370 (black hymnal, v. 1 & 4)

What Gift Can We Bring?

ALL SING: What gift can we bring, what present, what token? What words can convey it, the joy of this day? When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing, what song can we offer in honor and praise?

This gift we now bring, this present, this token, these words can convey it, the joy of this day! When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing, this song we now offer in honor and praise!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***CLOSING HYMN NO. 423** (black hymnal) *Great is Your Faithfulness*

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Rondeau

by Moret

*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 memory of Harriet Kiessling (Elaine's mother) by Perry, Elaine and Joey Bevivino.

Both vases of altar flowers are presented in honor of Lynwood Schleeter's 92nd birthday by Barb Krier.

Thank you to the October Worship Planning Team for planning today's service. The team members are: Becky Hester, Mary Jane Snyder, Tim Snyder and Pastor Dani.

8 AM Acolyte: Holt Dallam

8 AM Sound Tech: Tom Mulligan

8 AM Video Tech: Denny Daugherty

8 AM Welcome Team: Deb & Terry Barnes, Barry & Nancy Schwartz

8 AM Worship Tech: Mary Jane Snyder

10:30 AM Acolyte: Maddie Gyenes

10:30 AM Camera Tech: Jim Firestone

10:30 AM Sound Tech: Ron Miles

10:30 AM Video Tech: Elaine Bevivino

10:30 AM Welcome Team: Byron & Dawn Almoney, Rob & Beth Cunningham

10:30 AM Worship Tech: Jim Shiffer

10:30 AM Nursery & WOW Kids: Coordinated by Kathy Sweeney

¹ <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2013/10/proper-26ordinary-31pentecost-24trinity.html>

² <http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4362/worship-connection-october-30-2016>

³ The Faith We Sing-No. 2030, *The First Song of Isaiah*, ©1977 H.W. Grey Co. c/o Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp., admin. by Warner Brothers Publications. CCLI License #3220582

⁴ The Faith We Sing-No. 2249, *God Claims You*, ©1981 Stanley M. Farr. CCLI License #3220582.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

O Jesus, I Have Promised

493

John E. Bode, 1868; alt.

Luke 9:57; John 14:1-4

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
2 O let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,
3 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you

re - main for - ev - er near me, my Sav - ior and my Friend:
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will!
that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be, too;

I shall not fear life's strug - gles if you are by my side,
O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol!
And, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;

nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
O speak, and make me lis - ten, O guar - dian of my soul!
O give me grace to fol - low my Sav - ior and my Friend!

John Ernest Bode wrote these words when his daughter and two sons were confirmed. Although the Oxford scholar and rector wrote books of hymns, this is the only one to achieve lasting fame.

Tune: ANGEL'S STORY 7.6.7.6.D.
A. H. Mann, 1883
Alternate tune: MUNICH

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

485

George Matheson, 1882; alt.

Rom. 8:38-39; John 8:12

1 O Love that will not let me go,
2 O Light that fol - lows all my way,
3 O Joy that seeks me through my pain,
4 O Cross that rais - es up my head,

I rest my wea - ry soul in you;
to you I yield my flick - ering flame;
to you I can - not close my heart;
from you I dare not seek to flee;

I give you back the life I owe, that
Re - new my spir - it's fee - ble ray, that
I trace the rain - bow through the rain, and
Life's glo - ries with - er and are dead, but

in your o - cean depths its flow may swell with ar - dor true.
from your bril - liant sun - lit day it may new bright - ness claim.
know the prom - ise is not vain that you will ne'er de - part.
from the ground there blos - soms red, life that shall end - less be.

Although he was nearly blind, George Matheson studied for the Church of Scotland ministry, assisted by his sisters, who learned Latin, Greek, and Hebrew to help him. Matheson wrote this hymn in five minutes on June 6, 1882, at his parsonage.

Tune: ST. MARGARET 8.8.8.8.6.
Albert L. Peace, 1885

What Gift Can We Bring?

370

Jane Marshall, 1980

1 Sam. 9:7; 1 Cor. 3:8-9; 1 John 4:13-16

Unison

1 What gift can we bring, what pres - ent, what to - ken?
 2 Give thanks for the past, for those who had vi - sion,
 3 Give thanks for to - mor - row, full of sur - pris - es,
 4 This gift we now bring, this pres - ent, this to - ken,

What words can con - vey it, the joy of this day?
 who plant - ed and wa - tered so dreams could come true.
 for know - ing what - ev - er to - mor - row may bring,
 these words can con - vey it, the joy of this day!

When grate - ful we come, re - mem - bering, re - joic - ing,
 Give thanks for the now, for stud - y, for wor - ship,
 The Word is our prom - ise al - ways, for - ev - er,
 When grate - ful we come, re - mem - bering, re - joic - ing,

what song can we of - fer in hon - or and praise?
 for mis - sion that bids us turn prayer in - to deed.
 we rest in God's keep - ing and live in God's love.
 this song we now of - fer in hon - or and praise!

Jane Marshall received the first "Woman of Achievement" award at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, where she teaches. She wrote this hymn for the twenty-fifth anniversary of her home church, Northaven United Methodist Church in Dallas.

Tune: ANNIVERSARY SONG 11.11.11.11.
 Jane Marshall, 1980

Lam. 3:22-23

Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923; alt.



1 Great is your faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor,*
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace so en - dur - ing,



with you no shad - ow of turn - ing we see.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove,
 your own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide.



You do not change, your com - pas - sions they fail not;
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



all of your good - ness for - ev - er will be.
 to your great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine with ten thou - sand be - side.

*Refrain*

Great is your faith-ful-ness! Great is your faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by



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