

*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](http://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

Epiphany

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

### **Sacrament of Holy Communion**

*This morning, as we worship our God, we also celebrate the Lord's Supper. Here at Mt. Zion UCC, all are invited to the table of grace.*

*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**

8 AM *We Three Kings* by Lanz  
10:30 AM *Thankful* (sung by Debbie Butcher) by Bayer Sager

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We gather in the Light that was before, is now, and ever will be.

**People: We seek the Light's ancient wisdom.**

Leader: We gather in the Light that is God's continuing gift.

**People: We live in the Light's new wisdom.**

Leader: We gather in the Light that is our own, emerging anew each day.

**People: We seek to share this wisdom, nurtured in the Light from Bethlehem's cradle.**

**\*OPENING HYMN NO. 148** (black hymnal)

*What Child is This*

### **RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

8 AM *John & Connie Wolfe*  
10:30 AM *Bruce & Monique Peacey*

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

**\*TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**ALL:** God of Light and God of Grace, we come to you now to confess our sins. We confess to you that sometimes we feel lost in the darkness of this world. We confess that sometimes we even feel like the darkness might consume us. In spite of your promise that the darkness will never overcome the light, we give in to despair. When we live in that darkness we dim the value and worth of others. We dim the value and worth of ourselves.

Forgive us God. Forgive us for taking our eyes from you and from your light. Bring our focus to you. Warm us and guide us by your light, showing us a well lit path to wholeness and forgiveness. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE (Hymn No. 162, black hymnal, verse 1)

**ALL SING:** Came to earth for you and me, gave up life upon the tree; there we saw God's love revealed, through that pain were healed. Lives again in glory bright, lives again in power and might, our salvation now has come, gift of God, the Human One!

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

**SCRIPTURE**        Matthew 2:1-12

**MESSAGE**

**HYMN NO. 159** (black hymnal)

*As With Gladness Those of Old*

**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) **WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM**

*Song of the Wisemen*

by Dengler

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

## OFFERING

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*What Star is This*

arr. Berry

\*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

## HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

**L:** God's banquet is coming. The time we await when all will gather from North, East, West, and South.

**P:** **A banquet where the rich and powerful sit with the weak and poverty-stricken. A table where young and old will learn from each other. A time when all will sit together in peace and mutual respect.**

**L:** Here at this table we get a foretaste of God's banquet. This is indeed God's table, and so all who wish to know Christ better are welcome to eat and drink from it.

**P:** **In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of life-giving bread.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

**L:** God be with you.

**P:** **And also with you.**

**L:** Lift up your hearts.

**P:** **We lift them to God.**

**L:** Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**P:** **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**L:** Holy God, our loving Creator, close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star, we thank you for your constant love for all you have made. We thank you for all that sustains life, for all people of faith in every generation who have given themselves to your will, and especially for Jesus Christ, whom you have sent from your own being as our Savior. We praise you for Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection, and for the calling forth of your church for its mission in the world. Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we offer ourselves to you as we unite our voices with the entire family of your faithful people everywhere:

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

**P: Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who come in the name of our God!**

THE STORY REMEMBERED  
PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND POURING OF THE WINE  
SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**ALL: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

\***CLOSING HYMN NO. 164** (black hymnal)      *Arise, Your Light is Come*

\***BENEDICTION**

\***POSTLUDE**                      *Angels We Have Heard on High*                      Traditional

\*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 is presented in memory of Leon Hartman's birthday with love from Carol Hartman.

One vase of altar flowers is presented in honor of our New Members by Mary Jane Snyder.

Thank you to our Worship Choir for performing during the 10:30 AM service today.

8 AM Sound Tech: Ivy Leach

8 AM Video Tech: Jack Herlocker

8 AM Welcome Team & Communion Servers: Jerry & Becky Hester, Tim Snyder, & Tama Allison

8 AM Worship Tech: Jim Shiffer

10:30 AM Acolyte: Weston Wagaman

10:30 AM Camera Tech: Mason DeMers

10:30 AM Sound Tech: John Schriver

10:30 AM Video Tech: Emily Merritt

10:30 AM Welcome Team & Communion Servers: Steph, Cora, & Carter Beyer, Robin & Emily Schriver

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

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

# See the Little Baby

Donald Swift, 1983; alt.

rain

See the lit - tle ba - by born in a man - ger, on this Christ - mas morn - ing,

right as the an - gels; See the lit - tle ba - by born in a man - ger,

*Last time, end*

Sing No-el! 1 There were shep-herds keep-ing their watch  
Sing No-el! 2 "Come and see," said Mar - y and Jo - seph;

Sing No-el!

o - ver sheep as the an - gels sang. There were sa - ges  
come and see what a won - der - ful child." Sheep and ox all

*to Refrain*

bl - low - ing the star. Sing No - el! Sing No - el!  
th - er - ing a - round. Sing No - el! Sing No - el!

was first performed in a choral arrangement by the Morehouse College Glee Clubs in 1985. Composer Swift is a graduate of Morehouse College, whose work includes chamber pieces and choral collections such as "Three Rituals."

Tune: LITTLE BABY Irr. with refrain  
Donald Swift, 1983

# What Child Is This

William C. Dix, 1865; alt.

Luke 2:7-14, 25-32; Matt. 2:11; John 1:14;  
John 19:16b-18, 34

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?  
2 Why lies the Child in man - ger bare where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
3 Bring gifts of in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, join in ju - bi - la - tion;

Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
Give heed, draw near; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
The Ho - ly Child, though meek and mild, has come with God's sal - va - tion.

This, this, the an - gels sing, is Christ, God's ho - ly of - fer - ing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the song on high, the moth - er sings her lul - la - by;

Haste, haste your praise to bring the babe, the child of Mar - y!  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the child of Mar - y!  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the child of Mar - y!

William Chatterton Dix, manager of an English marine insurance company, wrote a number of fine hymns. This one is always sung to the tune Greensleeves, which first appeared in England in 1580 and is mentioned in one of Shakespeare's plays.

Tune: GREENSLEEVES 8.7.8.7.6.8.6.7. with refrain  
English traditional melody, 16th century

# O Morning Star, How Clear and Bright

0; Rom. 15:7-13

Philipp Nicolai, 1598  
Transl. Catherine Winkworth, 1863; alt.

O Morn-ing Star, how clear and bright, your beam shines forth in  
Come heav-en-ly Bright-ness, Light di-vine, and deep with-in my

uth and light! My Sov-ereign meek and low-ly! O Root of Jes-se,  
heart now shine, there make your-self an al-tar! Fill me with joy and

rom-ised One, my God and Rul-er, you have won my heart to serve you  
length to be your mem-ber, joined e-ter-nal-ly in love that can-not

le-ly! You are ho-ly, great and glo-rious, all-vic-to-rious,  
al-tar; Long-ing for you does pos-sess me; turn and bless me;

In chorale by Lutheran pastor Philipp Nicolai  
popular that its tune was chimed by church bells  
is engraved on pottery. It has been called "the  
orales."

Tune: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET 8.8.7.8.8.7.4.8.4.8.  
Philipp Nicolai, 1598  
Harm. J. S. Bach, c. 1731

Rich in bless-ing, rule and might o'er all pos-sess-ing.  
Here in sad-ness eye and heart long for your glad-ness.

1-4-98 1-16-00 1-4-04  
1-17-99 1-5-03

# As with Gladness Those of Old

159

William C. Dix, 1861; alt.

Matt. 2:1-12

1 As with glad-ness those of old did the guid-ing star be-hold;  
2 As with joy-ful steps they sped to that low-ly man-ger bed,  
3 As they of-fered gifts most rare at that man-ger plain and bare,  
4 Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-ery day keep us in the nar-row way;

As with joy they hailed its light, lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;  
There to bend the knee be-fore One whom heaven and earth a-dore;  
So may we with ho-ly joy, pure and free from sin's al-loy,  
And when mor-tal things are past, bring our ran-somed souls at last

So, true Morn-ing Star, may we ev-er-more your splen-dor see.  
So may we with will-ing feet ev-er seek your mer-cy seat.  
All our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to you from whom they spring.  
Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds your glo-ry hide.

After reading the Epiphany gospel, William C. Dix penned this  
hymn. Dix, the manager of a marine insurance company, was  
also a gifted hymnwriter. Among his many fine contributions  
is "What Child Is This."

Tune: DIX 7.7.7.7.7.7.  
Conrad Kocher, 1838  
Adapt. William H. Monk, 1861

1-25-98 12-15-02  
 2-7-99  
 1-16-00  
 2-6-00  
 EPIPHANY  
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# Arise, Your Light Is Come

Ruth Duck, 1973

Isa. 60:1; 61:1-2; Luke 4:14-21

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
 2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
 3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,  
 4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun-tains burst in song!

Show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day!  
 Pro - claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.  
 Bind up the bro-ken - heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

This hymn was first published by the Ecumenical Women's Center of Chicago in the 1974 collection of hymn adaptations, *Because We Are One People*. Ruth Duck later included it in her own collection, *Dancing in the Universe*.

Tune: FESTAL SONG S.M.  
 William Walter, 1872

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1-4-98 1-6-02  
 11-22-98 1-5-03  
 1-24-99 1-4-04  
 165 1-9-05

# Love Came Down at Christmas

Christina G. Rossetti, 1885; alt.

Matt. 2:1-11; Luke 2:8-18

1 Love came down at Christ - mas, Love all love - ly, Love di-vine;  
 2 Wor-ship we the God - head, Love in-car-nate, Love di-vine;  
 3 Love shall be our to - ken; love be yours and love be mine;

Christina Rossetti, author of the more familiar carol "In the

Tune: WHITNEY 6.7.6.7.

Love was born at Christ-mas; star and an - gels gave the  
 Wor-ship we our Je - sus, but where is God's sa - cred  
 Love to God and neigh - bor, love for plea and gift and

# Immortal Love, Forever Full

John Greenleaf Whittier, 1867; alt.

Phil. 2:9-11; Rom. 10:6-7; M...

1 Im - mor - tal Love, for - ev - er full, for - ev - er flow-ing  
 2 Our out - ward lips con - fess the Name all oth - er names a - b  
 3 We may not climb the heav-en-ly steeps to bring the Sov-ereign d  
 4 But warm, sweet, ten - der, ev - en yet this One our help will

For - ev - er shared, for - ev - er whole, a nev - er-ebb - ing se  
 Love on - ly knows from where it came and com - pre-hends God's lo  
 In vain we search the low - est deeps for One no depths can dro  
 For faith has still its Ol - i - vet, and love its Gal - i - le

- 5 The heal-ing of Christ's seam-less dress still soothes our beds of pain; We touch it in life's throng and press, and we are whole a-gain.
- 6 Through Christ our ear-liest are said with words we scarce can fr The last low whis-pers of our still ech-o with Christ's nam

Though the American poet John Greenleaf Whittier did not write