

# ***Mt. Zion United Church of Christ***

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Rev. Danielle E. Neff, Senior Pastor

Rev. Jeff Kardisco, Associate Pastor

Mr. Denny Daugherty, Adult Choir Director & Tech Director

Mr. Travis Pinci, Accompanist, Children's Music Coordinator, & Secretary

Fifteenth 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**

### **PRELUDE**

*The Stand*

by Houston

### **CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 103: 1-7, 8-13)**

L: Bless God, O friends: with all our strength, bless the holy name. Bless God, O friends, and never forget God's gifts.

**P: Bless God, O friends: with all our strength, bless the holy name. Bless God, O friends, and never forget God's gifts.**

L: Forgiveness flowing into healing, tireless goodness and joy: Strength and youth of the Eagle's flight.

**P: Bless God, O friends: with all our strength, bless the holy name. Bless God, O friends, and never forget God's gifts.**

L: Vindication, justice for all those oppressed; liberation from bondage, and guidance for the way; unending mercy, steadfast love.

**P: Bless God, O friends: with all our strength, bless the holy name. Bless God, O friends, and never forget God's gifts.**

L: For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is God's love toward those who are faithful; as a parent has compassion for children, so our God has compassion for us.

**P: Bless God, O friends: with all our strength, bless the holy name. Bless God, O friends, and never forget God's gifts.**

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

**\*TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**ALL:** God of all creation, divine parent to us all, hear our confession today. We have convinced ourselves that our way of worshipping you is the “right” way. In our desire to worship you well we have become blinded to the visions that others have of you. We have told ourselves that we are welcoming, but when we are challenged to welcome on terms that are not our own we struggle. Instead of heeding Jesus’ message to come as we are, we feel the need to pull ourselves together before coming before you. Forgive us God. Help us to see that none of your children are perfect, but that we are all embraced by your eternal love. Help us to open our hearts and our lives to all of your children, and not only to those who are easy to love. Extend your grace to us, and let us extend that grace to others throughout our lives. Holy One, you call us into an ever expanding dance of grace, into a future of hope and peace. Continue to work in us, because you can do infinitely more than we could ever ask or imagine. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 42 (black hymnal, vs. 1 & 4) *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

**ALL SING:** O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer’s praise, the glories ever echoing the triumphs of God’s grace!

Glory to God, and love and praise be ever, ever given by all the saints in every age, the church in earth and heaven.

(10:30 AM) **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SCRIPTURE  
MESSAGE**

*Romans 14: 1-12*

**HYMN NO. 457** (black hymnal)

*Jesus, I Live to You*

\*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.

(10:30 AM) **WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM**

*Help Us Accept Each Other*  
by John Ness Beck

### OFFERTORY

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Let It Be Said of Us*

by Fry

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE NO. 28 (black hymnal, v. 4)

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

**ALL SING:** For the good that love inspires, for a world where none exclude, for a faith that never tires, and for every heart renewed, God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\***CLOSING HYMN NO. 82** (black hymnal)

*Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

\***BENEDICTION**

\***POSTLUDE**

*Fugue in C Major*

by Handel

# NOTES

\*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!

One vase of altar flowers is presented in honor of the birthday of Erin Shiffer, our daughter-in-law, by Jim and Sue Shiffer.

One vase of altar flowers is presented in honor of the birthday of Susan Shiffer, our sister-in-law, by Jim and Sue Shiffer.

The bulletins are presented for the honor and glory of God by Elaine Bevivino.

Thank you to the Worship Choir for participating in the 10:30 AM service today.

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.

8 AM Worship Tech: Dave Strine

8 AM Welcome Team: Mike and Kathy Ferree; Bob and Kathy Ensminger

8 AM Sound Tech: Denny Daugherty

8 AM Video Tech: Jack Herlocker

10:30 AM Worship Tech: Clyde Snyder

10:30 AM Welcome Team: Red and Ellie Arnold; Bill and Bonnie Murphy

10:30 AM Sound Tech: Ron Miles

10:30 AM Video Tech: Emily Merritt

10:30 AM Camera Tech: Jim Firestone

10:30 AM Nursery: Coordinated by Kathy Sweeney

WOW Kids: Coordinated by Kathy Sweeney

The third vase of altar flowers is presented in honor of our 1<sup>st</sup> year wedding anniversary, by Denny Daugherty.

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

# Praise to God

Nobuaki Hanaoka, 1980; alt.

Rom. 14:11; John 3:16; Eph. 5:16-20; Ps. 68:4, 32

Unison

1 Praise to God, praise to God, for the green-ness  
2 Thanks to God, thanks to God, for the gift of  
3 Sing to God, sing to God, for the grace of

of the trees, for the beau - ty of the flowers, for the bless - ing  
friends in Christ, for the church, our house of faith, for the gift of  
Je - sus Christ, for the love of par - ent God, for the com - fort

of the sky, for the great - ness of the sea.  
won - drous love, for the gift of end - less grace.  
and the strength of the Spir - it, ho - ly God.

Praise to God, praise to God, now and for - ev - er - more.  
Thanks to God, thanks to God, now and for - ev - er - more.  
Sing to God, sing to God, now and for - ev - er - more.

Nobuaki Hanaoka was born in Japan and has earned degrees in theology from Japanese and American schools. Hanaoka has served as a pastor in Sacramento, California, and has published articles in both Japanese and English. He is the author of *Nihilism and Nothingness*, 1968.

Tune: SAKURA 6.7.7.7.6.6.  
Traditional Japanese melody  
Harm. Jonathan McNair, 1993

CONSECRATION

457

# Jesus, I Live to You

Rom. 14:8; Phil. 1:21

Henry Harbaugh, c. 1850; alt.

1 Je - sus, I live to you, the love - li - est and best;  
2 Je - sus, I die to you, when - ev - er death shall come;  
3 Wheth - er to live or die, I know not which is best;  
4 Liv - ing or dy - ing, Lord, I ask to be your own;

My life will be your life in me, in your blessed love I rest.  
Un - ceas - ing - ly, you'll live in me in my e - ter - nal home.  
To live will be your bliss in me, to die is end - less rest.  
My life will be your life in me, and heaven on earth be known.

*This is the most famous of all hymns from the German Reformed tradition of the United Church of Christ. Henry Harbaugh, a noted educator and clergyman, was associated with institutions that became Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster Theological Seminary, and The Mercersburg Academy.*

Tune: LAKE ENON S.M.  
Isaac B. Woodbury, 1856

## Go, My Children, with My Blessing

*Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983, 1990; alt.*

1 Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone;  
2 Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me;

Wak - ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own:  
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.

In my love's bap - tis-mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er,  
Here my Spir - it's pow-er filled you, here with ten - der com-fort stilled you;

Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own.  
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free.

*American hymnwriter and translator Jaroslav Vajda crafted this benediction text as though God were "dismissing the congregation after worship, while drawing together a review of the events that transpired during the service." The wedding stanza was a later addition.*

Tune: AR HYD Y NOS 8.4.8.4.8.8.8.4  
Traditional Welsh melody  
For another harmonization, see 425