



Mid-week Lenten Service

7 PM

February 28th, 2018

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

Second Week of Lent: Mid-week Service

7:00 PM

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: We look to the rulers of this earth for leadership, wisdom, and strength.

People: We look to these bodies of ours for stability, fulfillment, and joy.

Leader: We look to families and friends for love, compassion, and hope.

People: When rulers betray, when bodies fail, and when families disappoint we are challenged. But God offers us another look.

Leader: God will guide us.

People: God's Spirit will sustain us. Christ will welcome us home.

Leader: Come, my sisters and brothers...

People: we are all God's family now. Let us set down our challenges and freely worship God together.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 202** (black hymnal, see p. 4) *O God, How We Have Wandered*

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

*TIME OF CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Merciful God, come to us in this wilderness time. Comfort us as we acknowledge the challenges that are ever present in this wilderness. We are challenged by temptation, despair, frustration, anger, and pain. In our times of challenge we grasp for whatever control we can find. We need to feel assurance, but we seek it in all the wrong places. Forgive us, O God, and help us to seek you in our challenging times. Help us to see that you are with us through every step of our wilderness journey. Remind us that we are your children, and that you care for us. Lead us through the challenges of this wilderness time and let us find strength in your never-ending Grace. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 2030 (FWS)

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 stronghold and my sure defense, and He will be my Savior.

SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 4: 8-11~ We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may also be revealed in our mortal body.

TOGETHER WE LEARN AND DISCERN

WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM

If Anyone Is in Christ

by Frombach, Lanz

TIME OF PRAYER 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.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

***CLOSING HYMN NO. 407** (black hymnal, see p. 5)

How Firm a Foundation

***BENEDICTION**

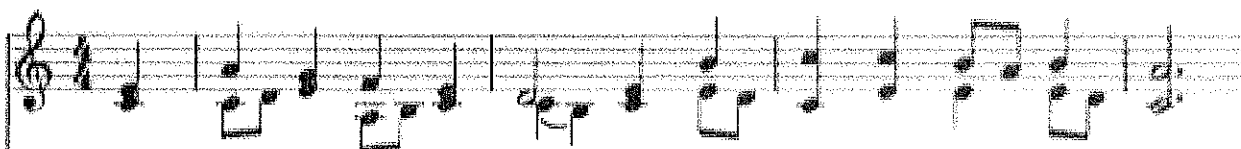
POSTLUDE

¹The call to worship is adapted from a litany taken from the “re-worship” website at <https://re-worship.blogspot.ca/2012/05/opening-litany-proper-5-b.html>. The resource at re-worship was adapted from a litany written by Mary Scifres for *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2012* by Abingdon Press, also posted on the worship elements page of the Ministry Matters website at www.ministrymatters.com

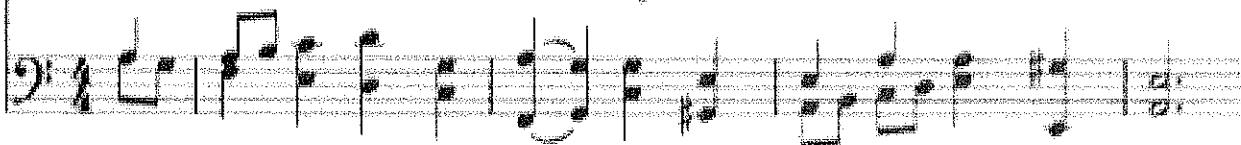
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*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

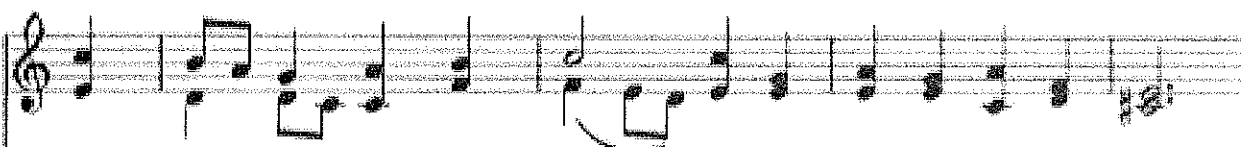
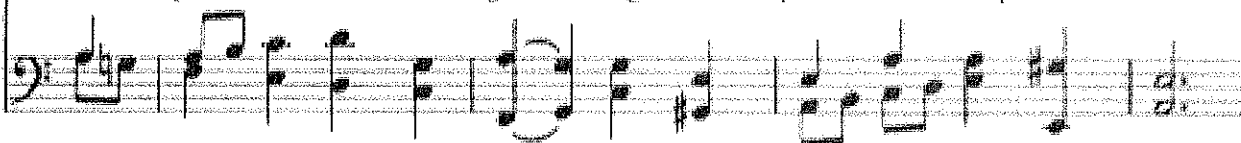
O GOD, HOW WE HAVE WANDERED (SERMON HYMN)



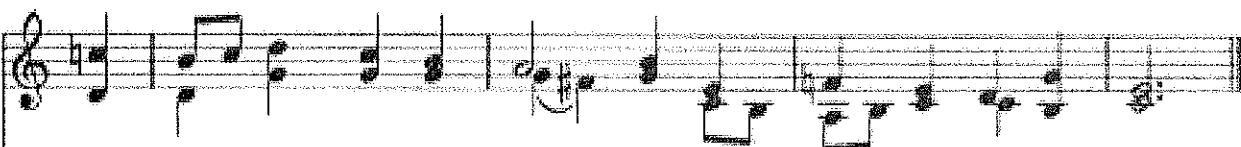
1 O God, how we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
3 O God of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,



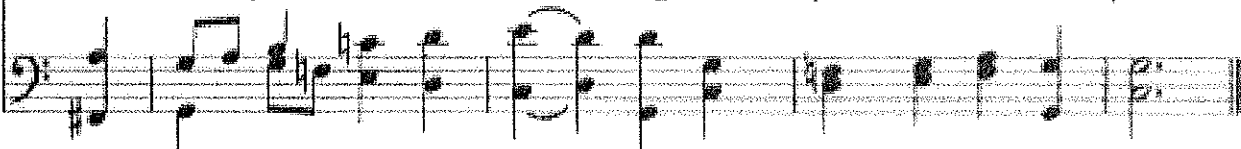
In fool - ish - ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
By faith we are re - turn - ing with hope and trust in you.
Com - pas - sion - ate, for - giv - ing, our peace and hope as - sured,



But how, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we turn with fear and shame,
In haste you come to meet us, and home re - joic - ing bring.
Grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.



As dis - tant but com - pell - ing, you call us each by name.
In glad - ness there to greet us with call and robe and ring.
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.



How Firm a Foundation

*Isa. 43:2-5; 2 Tim. 2:19; Heb. 13:5**"K" in John Rippon's Selection of Hymns, 1787; alt.*

1 How firm a foun - da - tion for you has been laid,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose,

by God in the Word, in the sac - ri - fice paid!
 for I am your God, I will still give you aid;
 the riv - ers of woe shall not o - ver you flow;
 my grace all - suf - fi - cient shall be your sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can God say than to you has been said,
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand
 For I will be with you, your trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt you; for I have de - signed
 That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you, who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my gra - cious, om - ni - po - tent hand."
 de - liv - er - ing you from your deep - est dis - tress."
 your soul to make pure just as gold is re - fined."
 I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!"

In 1787, John Rippon, English Baptist clergyman, identified the author of this hymn as "K"; no one has yet verified a complete name. The pentatonic melody has been known by several names since it first appeared in Funk's Genuine Church Music (1832).

Tune: FOUNDATION 11.11.11.11.
 Early United States melody
 from Funk's Genuine Church Music, 1832
 Alternate tune: ADESTE FIDELES