

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ

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Rev. Danielle E. Neff, Senior Pastor

Pastor Jeff Kardisco, Designated Pastor

Mr. Denny Daugherty, Adult Choir Director & Tech Director

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

Fourth Week of Lent: Mid-week Service

7:00 PM

WELCOME & PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Holy God, as we gather this evening, we are distracted.

P: Grant us focus.

L: We are worried.

P: Grant us peace.

L: Our lives are cluttered.

P: Grant us space.

L: Our minds are racing.

P: Slow us down.

L: Our hands are clinging to so many things.

P: Loosen our grasp.

L: May we release the many things of this world

P: as we seek the one thing— Your eternal kingdom. Amen.

HYMN NO. 193 (black hymnal) *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

TIME OF CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Because we live such busy, distracted lives, we often forget what you have done for us, God of every blessing. We pat ourselves for all we do and accomplish, but have forgotten that life is more than what we get done. We have more than we could ever use yet, like squirrels, we store up more and more. Our faith is often pushed to the back of the closet, to make room for all the fears we wear so easily. Forgive us, Restorer of life. As you clothe us with...

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

Your grace and mercy, may we share with those who have so little. As our hearts overflow with your love and wonder, may we offer them as gifts to everyone we meet. As you feed us with your joy and hope, may we welcome to the table all whose lives are filled with tears and pain. As we gather with family and friends during this season, may we continue to give thanks for the gift of Jesus Christ.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 198(black hymnal, refrain, vs 3, refrain) *Lift High the Cross*

ALL SING: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim; Let all adore and praise that sacred name. O Christ, once lifted on the glorious tree, your death has brought us life eternally. Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim; Let all adore and praise that sacred name.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:25-27, 34~ “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?...Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”

Isaiah 41:10~ “Don’t fear, because I am with you; don’t be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will surely help you; I will hold you with my righteous strong hand.”

TOGETHER WE LEARN AND DISCERN

WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM *Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You* by Althouse

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.

HYMN NO. 199 (black hymnal)

Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed

BENEDICTION & POSTLUDE

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

Gal. 6:14

John Bowring, 1825

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the
 5 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing

o'er the wrecks of time; All the light of
 ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the
 love up - on my way, From the cross the
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that
 o'er the wrecks of time; All the light of

sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers 'round its head sub - lime.
 cross for - sake me: Lo! it glows with peace and joy.
 ra - diancance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.
 sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers 'round its head sub - lime.

John Bowring's goal "to do something which may connect my work with the literature of the age" was attained with this enduring hymn. The gifted Bowring studied 200 languages and wrote extensively in many fields.

Tune: RATHBUN 8.7.8.7.
 Ithamar Conkey, 1849
 Alternate setting: TOMTER

Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed

(At the Cross)

Gal. 2:20; 6:14; Phil. 2:2-12; Heb. 12:1-3

Isaac Watts, 1707; alt.

Refrain by Ralph E. Hudson, 1885; alt.

1 A - las! and did my Sav - ior bleed, and did my Sov - ereign die?
 2 Was it for crimes that I have done, Christ groaned up - on the tree?
 3 Well might the sun in shad - ows hide, and shut its glo - ries in,
 4 But tears of grief can - not re - pay the debt of love I owe;

Would God de - vote that sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I?
 A - maz - ing pit - y! Grace un - known! And love be - yond de - gree!
 When Je - sus Christ my Sav - ior died for hu - man crea - tures' sin.
 Here, Christ, I give my - self a - way as all that I can do!

Refrain

At the cross, at the cross where I first found the light, and the

bur-den of my heart rolled a - way, It was there by faith all my
rolled a-way,

fears took flight, and now I am hap - py all the day.

After discharge from the Union army, Ralph Hudson taught music at Mt. Union College in Alliance, Ohio, where he founded a publishing company. He wrote the music for this Isaac Watts text and added a familiar camp-meeting chorus as a refrain

Tune: HUDSON C.M. with refrain
Ralph E. Hudson, 1885
Alternate setting: MARTYRDOM