

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

Rev. Jeff Kardisco, Associate Pastor

Mr. Denny Daugherty, Adult Choir Director & Tech Director

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

Second Sunday after Epiphany

8:00 & 10:30 AM

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

Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

by Tomlin & Giglio

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Leader: From the waters of Creation, the earth sprang forth.

People: From the waters of a womb, God's blessed Son was given to us.

Leader: From the waters of a river, people were baptized and marked as God's Children.

People: Praise be to God, whose loving gifts and presence have called us together.

Leader: Let us shout our love to God for God's abundant love!

People: AMEN!

***OPENING HYMN NO. 326** (black hymnal)

Crashing Waters at Creation

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

*TIME OF CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹

ALL: Merciful God, you have blessed us with life. We praise you for this blessing. What we have done with our lives has both delighted and perplexed you. We are far too often inclined to be stubborn and arrogant, believing that we are all powerful, that we have no need for you. But there is an emptiness in us – a place where we are raw and hurting, bleeding, and bruised. We have tried our own healing methods, and they have not worked. We feel as though we are an oar-less, sail-less boat drifting in water, unable to gain direction, unable to see the shore. We long for home and hope. O God, from across these waters you have called us, and we come before you in contrition seeking your healing and forgiveness. God of mercy and love, through the waters of baptism you have blessed us. You have cleansed and healed us, and adopted us as your beloved children. Help us to live as children of the light, serving you faithfully throughout our lives.

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 160 (black hymnal, v. 4 & refrain)

Jesus the Light of the World

ALL SING: Hail the Bearer of God's peace! Jesus, the light of the world; Hail the Sun of righteousness! Jesus, the light of the world.

We will follow the light, beautiful light, come where the dew-drops of mercy are bright, shine all around us by day and by night, Jesus, the light of the world.

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

(10:30 AM) **BAPTISM OF LONNY GORDON**

WELCOME

L: The sacrament of baptism proclaims and celebrates the grace of God. It is an outward sign of an invisible truth – that we are loved and claimed by God. By water and the Spirit we are called, claimed, and commissioned:

P: We are called God's own, welcomed as children of God; we are claimed by Christ, united with Christ, united with one another in Christian community.

L: In baptism, we are commissioned to Christ's ministry of love, peace, and justice, strengthened by the Holy Spirit for the work of the church in the world.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

ACT OF BAPTISM

DOXOLOGY NO. 780 (black hymnal)

ALL SING: Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above you heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER & LAYING ON OF HANDS

(10:30 AM) **HYMN NO. 328** (black hymnal, vs. 1 &2) *Wonder of Wonders, Here Revealed*

SCRIPTURE

MESSAGE

HYMN NO. 168 (black hymnal)

O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word

(10:30 AM) **INSTALLATION & ORDINATION OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Bonnie Murphy, John Schriver, Jason Shiffer, & Joe Vacante

COVENANT

Leader: Members of Mt. Zion, this household of faith... our covenant with them.

ALL: We are grateful to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you, that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.

(10:30 AM) **HYMN NO. 328** (black hymnal, v. 4)

Wonder of Wonders, Here Revealed

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**

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

OFFERTORY

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

River of Glory

by Schutte

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE NO. 164 (black hymnal, vs. 1 & 2)

Arise, Your Light is Come

ALL SING: Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey; show
forth the glory of your God which shines on you today!

Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door; proclaim the
captive's liberty, good tidings to the poor.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 547

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

At Length There Dawns a Glorious Day

by Mansfield

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

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.

One vase of altar flowers is presented in honor of Bill Murphy for his hours of dedication to keep our church facilities clean by the congregation.

One vase of altar flowers is presented in honor of the newly elected council members by the congregation.

The bulletins are presented in honor of my nephew's, Logan Kline's, birthday, with love, Auntie Anne Henry.

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: Jim Shiffer

8 AM Welcome Team: Matt, Tami, Emerson, & Declan Grimes

8 AM Sound Tech: Jack Herlocker

8 AM Video Tech: George DeMers

10:30 AM Worship Tech: Alan Neff

10:30 AM Welcome Team: Jim Shiffer, Bill & Bonnie Murphy, Bob Katherman

10:30 AM Sound Tech: Tom Mulligan

10:30 AM Video Tech: John Schriver

10:30 AM Camera Tech: Jim Firestone

10:30 AM Nursery: Coordinated by Kathy Sweeney

WOW Kids: Coordinated by Kathy Sweeney

¹The call to worship and prayer of confession were written by Nancy Townley, and used with permission from the ministry matters website at <http://www.ministrymatters.com/worship/entry/2214/classic-worship-connection-january-7-2018> Written on December 1st, 2017 and found on January 9th, 2018.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

Crashing Waters at Creation

326

Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1991

Gen. 1:1-5; Exod. 14:21-22; Mark 1:9-11; John 4:13-14

- 1 Crash-ing wa-ters at cre-a-tion
or-dered by the Spir-it's breath,
First to wit-ness day's be-gin-ning
from the bright-ness of night's death.
- 2 Part-ing wa-ter stood and trem-bled
as the cap-tives passed on through,
Wash-ing off the chains of bond-age—
chan-nel to a life made new.
- 3 Cleans-ing wa-ter once at Jor-dan
closed a-round the One fore-told,
O-pened to re-veal the glo-ry
ev-er new and ev-er old.
- 4 Liv-ing wa-ter, nev-er end-ing,
quench the thirst and flood the soul.
Well-spring, Source of life e-ter-nal,
drench our dry-ness, make us whole.

Hymnwriter Sylvia Dunstan wrote this text to accompany a prayer for blessing the water in the United Church of Canada baptismal rites. She has credited the work of Miriam Therese Winter as her inspiration for some of the imagery in the last stanza.

Tune: STUTTGART 8.7.8.7.
Attrib. to Christian F. Witt (1660-1716), in
Psalmodia Sacra, Gotha, 1715

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Jane Parker Huber, 1980

1 Won - der of won - ders, here re - vealed;
 2 Here in this sac - ra - ment we see
 3 This child of God, though young or old,
 4 Now we our vow of faith re - new,

God's cov - e - nant with us is sealed.
 God's grace un - bound, for all, for me!
 we wel - come now in - to Christ's fold,
 stretch wide our sights to glob - al view,

And long be - fore we know or pray,
 May we re - spond with joy - ful praise
 To know with us God's lov - ing care;
 And claim with Chris - tians far and near

God's love en - folds us ev - ery day.
 in lov - ing ser - vice all our days.
 here all our joys and sor - rows share.
 a larg - er fam - i - ly held dear.

Jane Parker Huber has noted two important ideas she addressed in this text: "The fact that God loves each of us before we know how to love in return, and . . . in baptism we become part of a worldwide family."

Tune: PENTECOST L.M.
 William Boyd, 1864

dove-like form the Spir - it de - scends on God's A-noint-ed One.
 led to paths of ser - vice through maz - es of ad-ver - si - ty.
 us a cho - sen peo - ple trans - formed by love to be your own.

O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word 168

Ruth Duck, 1989

Isa. 60:19-20; Matt. 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11

1 O ra - dian't Christ, in - car - nate Word, e - ter - nal
 2 Our bar - tered, bus - y lives burn dim, too tired to
 3 Your glo - ry shone at Jor - dan's stream, the font where
 4 O Light of Na - tions, fill the earth; our faith and

love re - vealed in time: Come, make your home with - in our
 care, too numb to feel. Come, shine up - on our shad - owed
 we were born a - new. At - tune your church to know you
 hope and love re - new. Come, lead the peo - ples to your

hearts, that we may dwell in light sub - lime.
 world: your ra - dian'ce bathes with power to heal.
 near; il - lu - mine all we say and do.
 peace, as stars once led the way to you.

Commissioned by the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, Ruth Duck's text provides a fitting center for Epiphany celebrations, with its sense of wonder at the incarnation and petition that through Christ's revelation

Tune: DICKINSON COLLEGE L.M.
 Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr., 1962
 Alternate tune: WAREHAM

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

547

St. 1-4, John Newton, 1779; alt.

St. 5, A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 4 My God has prom - ised good to me, whose
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; How pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'Tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; God will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to

now am found, was blind but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

John Newton's autobiographical hymn reflects his conversion from his earlier existence as a slave trader. While serving as curate in the English village of Olney, Newton met William Cowper, and together they published Olney Hymns, which included this hymn.

Tune: AMAZING GRACE C.M.
 (NEW BRITAIN)
 Columbia Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829
 Arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1900