

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:00 & 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 welcome infants and children and all their wiggles & voices 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 pray God's blessing upon you. For today's service, we will be using the black hymnal.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

In the Garden

by Kim

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

L: Jesus said, "I am the vine and you are the branches... Abide in me as I abide in you."

P: We come to reaffirm and renew our connection with the life-giving Vine.

L: Jesus said, "I appointed you to go and bear fruit... fruit that will last."

P: We want to be fruitful, productive people whose lives make a difference.

L: Jesus said, "This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you."

P: Christ, you are the Vine! We are the branches. We will bear your fruit.

We will abide in your love and share it!

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 313** (black hymnal)

Like a Tree Beside the Waters

***TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

ALL: Lord, we are slow to admit that too often we have been unfruitful branches of your vine. Too often we have forgotten the love and mercy we receive from you. Too often we have failed to share your love with the world. Forgive us, Lord, and help us to accept your loving pruning that we might bring forth good and wonderful fruit for you. In Christ we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 236 (black hymnal)

Halleluja

ALL SING: Halle, halle, halleluja. Halle, halle, halleluja. Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halleluja. Halleluja.

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

SCRIPTURE

John 15: 1-8

MESSAGE

HYMN (see p. 4, vs. 1, 2, & 5)

Vine and Branches

JOYS & 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**

I Am the Vine

by Pote

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

OFFERTORY

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

This Is My Father's World

by Sheppard

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE NO. 778 (black hymnal)

Doxology

ALL SING: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 471 (black hymnal)

What a Covenant

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Go Forth in Triumph

by Ritter

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

VINE AND BRANCHES

Trevor Thomson



I am the vine and you the branch-es. Re-main in



me as I re-main in you; you will bear great fruit in me.



- 1. A new com - mand - ment I give you: e - ven
→ 2. No great - er love is there than this: than to
3. I am the liv - ing bread from heav - en; if you
4. All those who eat my flesh and drink my blood re -
→ 5. The words that I have spo - ken are
6. And now as I have washed your feet, so



1. as I have loved you, now love one an - oth - er.
2. lay down your life, your life for your friends.
3. eat this bread, you will live for - ev - er.
4. main in me and I re-main in them.
5. spir - it and life, they are spir - it and life.
6. you must do just as I have done.

Text based on John 6:35-63; 13:14-15; 15:1-13.

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*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

NOTES

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One vase of altar flowers is presented in memory of our beloved daughter, Emily Elizabeth Butcher, by Scott and Debbie Butcher.

One vase of altar flowers is presented in honor of Zyiann and Kingston's 7th birthday. You both are true blessings to our lives! We love you so much!! Happy Birthday, Love Mommy and Daddy!

One vase of altar flowers is presented in honor of Jill and Stan Miller's 29th wedding anniversary by Bill and Shitley McCahan.

The bulletins are presented in honor of the birthdays of our daughter-in-law, Tamra, our grandson, Kirk, and our granddaughter, Allie, by Don and Diane Strine.

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: Mary Jane Snyder

8 AM Welcome Team: Deb & Terry Barnes; Coordinated by Travis Pinci

8 AM Sound Tech: John Kollasch

8 AM Video Tech: Coordinated by Denny Daugherty

10:30 AM Worship Tech: Tori Everhart

10:30 AM Welcome Team: Steph, Dave, Layla, & Cora Beyer

10:30 AM Sound Tech: Coordinated by Denny Daugherty

10:30 AM Video Tech: Elaine Bevivino

10:30 AM Camera Tech: Coordinated by Denny Daugherty

10:30 AM Nursery: Coordinated by Pastor Jeff

WOW Kids: Coordinated by Pastor Jeff

¹<http://worshipcalls.blogspot.com/2012/05/god-is-love.html>

²Wilson, James R. *Lectionary Worship Aids: Series IV, Cycle B*; ©2008 CSS Publishing Company, Inc., pg. 105.

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Like a Tree beside the Waters

Jer. 17:7-8

Unison

James F. D. Martin, 1992

1 Like a tree be-side the wa-ters, nur-tured by your lov - ing care,
 2 Like a tree be-side the riv - er, draw-ing life from ho - ly streams,
 3 We, be - side the liv-ing wa-ters, drink from your e - ter - nal life.

We, O God, your sons and daugh-ters, your en - dur-ing wit - ness bear.
 Fill us with your love for - ev - er; re - cre - ate our hopes and dreams.
 Give to all, your sons and daugh-ters, faith that ris - es o - ver strife.

In each pass - ing gen - er - a - tion may your voice of love be heard.
 Through the storms of life sus - tain us by the wis - dom of your grace.
 O Liv - ing God, most glo - rious, strength - en us for life to - day.

Bless, we pray, this con - gre - ga - tion with your ho - ly, liv - ing Word.
 May the chang - ing of the sea - sons find us in your warm em - brace.
 By the hope of time - less prom - ise guide your church up - on the Way.

James Martin wrote this text at the invitation of Campbellsport (Wisconsin) United Church of Christ for the celebration of its 125th anniversary year in 1993. Ordained to the United Church of Christ in 1980. Martin has served as pastor to churches in WI.

Tune: SILVER CREEK 8.7.8.7.D.

Roy Hopp, 1989

Alternate tune: HYFRYDOL

Deut. 33:27

Elisha A. Hoffman, 1887; alt.

1 What a *cov - e - nant, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -

last - ing arms. What a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine, lean - ing
 last - ing arms. Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, lean - ing
 last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Sav - ior near, lean - ing

Refrain

on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 on the ev - er - last - ing arms. Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from
 on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

all a - larms; lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

*Or, "fellowship"

In a letter to two grieving friends, A. J. Showalter quoted Deuteronomy 33:27, "... underneath are the everlasting arms."

Tune: LEANING 5.5.9.D. with refrain
 Anthony J. Showalter, 1887