

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

Epiphany

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 & red hymnals.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come. The glory of the Lord has risen upon you!

People: The glory of God shines in the darkness.

Leader: Lift up your eyes and look around. Follow the star, wherever it leads!

People: Take the journey that leads to the child.

Leader: Let your hearts rejoice. Be overwhelmed with joy!

People: We worship the Christ child, the hope of the world.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 164** (black hymnal)

Arise Your Light Has Come

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

*TIME OF CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

ALL: Merciful God, we confess that we have been wrapped up in our secular celebration of Christmas. We have thoroughly enjoyed the music, the food, the swirl of activities. We have looked happily at the Christmas lights and decorations, and yet we have chosen to ignore the people who are most in need of compassion and assistance during this time. We often feel overwhelmed by the demands on our resources and so we turn a “deaf ear” and look away. Open our hearts today, precious Lord, and help us hear the cries of those in need. Bring us to an understanding of active discipleship in which we work helping others and thus serving you. Heal us and give us courage and joy in your service. For we ask this in Jesus’ Name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 179 (black hymnal, vs. 1 &3)

We Yearn, O Christ for Wholeness

ALL SING: We yearn, O Christ, for wholeness and for your healing touch; too long have we felt helpless; our burdens seemed too much. Forgetting all pretenses we make our pleadings heard, in hope and expectation away your gracious word. We need your living presence, O Christ of Galilee, a presence that revives us and sets our spirits free. No longer are we fearful, your love pervades each place. Empower us with courage to claim your healing grace.

(10:30 AM) **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 60: 1-9

MESSAGE

HYMN NO. 177 (black hymnal)

God of Change and Glory

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

**JOYS & CONCERNS
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

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

OFFERTORY

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE NO. 181 (black hymnal, v. 1)

You Are Salt for the Earth O People

ALL SING: You are salt for the earth, **O people:** salt for the reign of God! Share the flavor of life, **O people:** life in the City of God! Bring forth the reign of mercy, bring forth the reign of peace; bring forth the reign of justice, bring forth the City of God!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

COMMUNION

INVITATION

Leader: Like the star that guided and called the magi to an encounter with Jesus, God calls us now to the table to encounter Jesus for ourselves.

People: Guided by the light of Christ we come to the table.

Leader: At this table we encounter what we have all longed for and searched for – God’s never ending grace. In our searching it is not we who find, but rather it is God who finds us. This is God’s table, open to all who wish to know Christ better. All are welcome to eat and to drink here, and to be nourished by this holy meal.

People: We are hungry people, living in a hungry world. We come to the table seeking Christ, longing for grace, hoping to be filled. In company with all who seek these things we share in the gift of life-giving bread.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

GREAT 'THANKSGIVING

Leader: At Epiphany we acknowledge God's very real presence on our journeys. God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: As the magi lifted their eyes to the star lift up your hearts, so that you find the blessed light of Christ to comfort and to guide you.

People: We lift our hearts to God with hope and expectation.

Leader: Holy God, our loving Creator, close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star, we thank you for your constant love for all that you have made....In the presence of your Holy Spirit we offer ourselves to you, and we unite our voices with the entire body of the church in saying:

People: Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty and light, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God!

REMEMBERING THE STORY

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION & 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND POURING OF THE WINE

SHARING THE ELEMENTS *(all cups contain grape juice)*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

ALL: God of love and light, we give you thanks for refreshing us at your table, and for being present with us here at this holy meal. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, guide us into the places where you have called us, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN NO. 160** (black hymnal)

Hark the Herald Angels Sing (Jesus the Light of the World)

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

NOTES

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

One vase of altar flowers is presented in memory of my husband, Leon's, birthday by Carol Hartman.

One vase of altar flowers is presented in honor of the Strine family for their assistance at the 7 PM Christmas Eve service.

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: Ken & Sherry Dunbar, Mary Jane Snyder, & Tim Snyder

8 AM Sound Tech: Denny Daugherty

8 AM Video Tech: George DeMers

8 AM Hall Monitor: Pam Minnich

10:30 AM Worship Tech: Alan Neff

10:30 AM Welcome Team: Steph, Carter, Cora, & Jim Beyer, & Nancy Slegger

10:30 AM Sound Tech: Ron Miles

10:30 AM Video Tech: John Schriver

10:30 AM Camera Tech: Jim Firestone

10:30 AM Hall Monitor: Bob Katherman

10:30 AM Nursery: Coordinated by Pastor Jeff

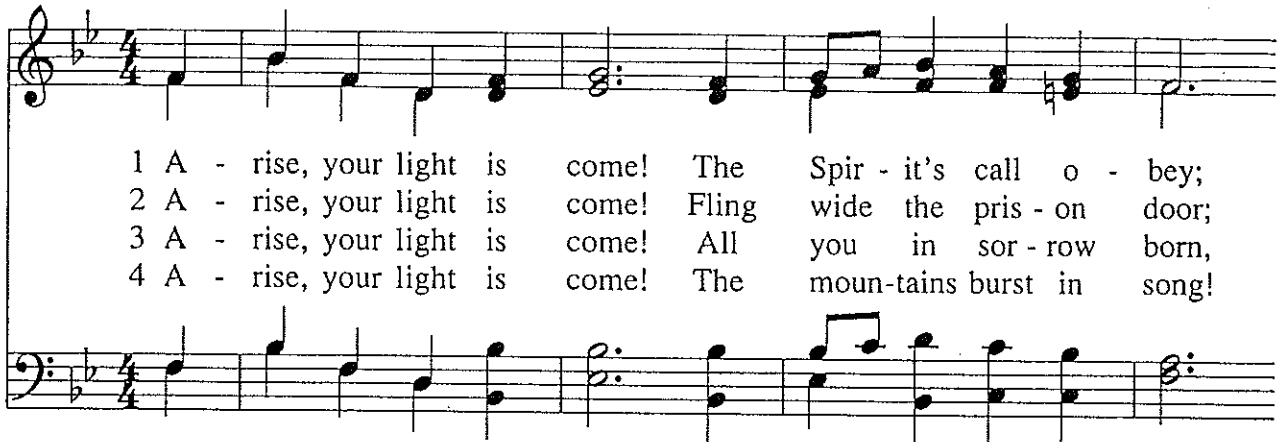
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²The Prayer of Confession was written by Nancy C. Townley, an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church. It was posed on the *Ministry Matters* website with permission to be used in worship. <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4511/worship-connection-epiphany-sunday>. Accessed online on January 3, 2019.

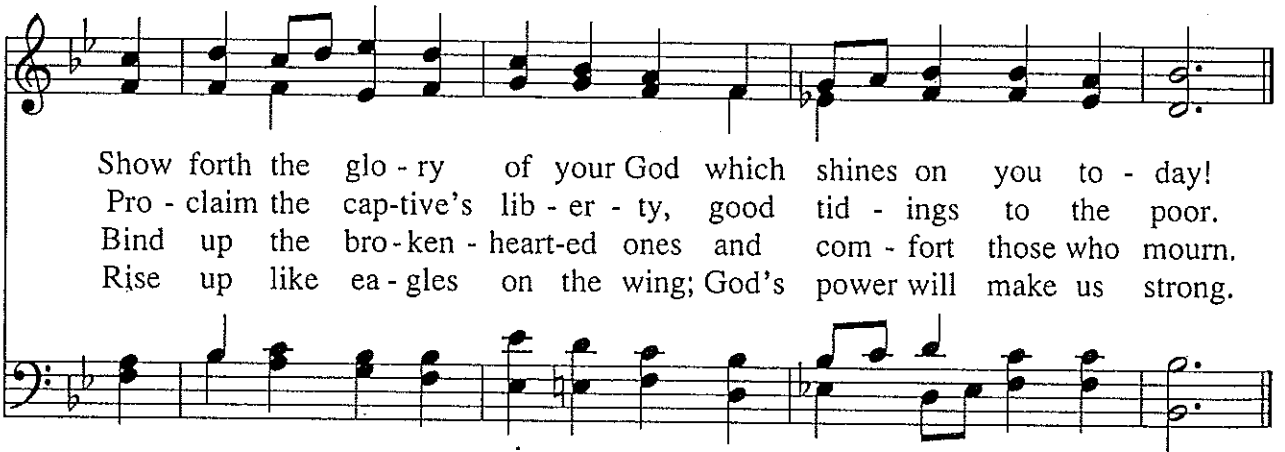
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*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

Arise, Your Light Is Come

*Isa. 60:1; 61:1-2; Luke 4:14-21**Ruth Duck, 1973*


1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
 2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
 3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
 4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun-tains burst in song!



Show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day!
 Pro - claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
 Bind up the bro-ken - heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

This hymn was first published by the Ecumenical Women's Center of Chicago in the 1974 collection of hymn adaptations, Because We Are One People. Ruth Duck later included it in her own collection, Dancing in the Universe.

Tune: FESTAL SONG S.M.
 William Walter, 1872

1 Cor. 12:4-27

Al Carmines, 1973

1 God of change and glo - ry, God of time and space,
 2 God of man - y col - ors, God of man - y signs,
 3 Fresh-ness of the morn - ing, new - ness of each night,

when we fear the fu - ture, give to us your grace.
 you have made us dif - ferent, bless - ing man - y kinds.
 you are still cre - at - ing end - less love and light.

In the midst of chang - ing ways give us still the grace to praise.
 As the old ways dis - ap - pear, let your love cast out our fear.
 This we see, as shad - ows part, man - y gifts from one great heart.

Refrain

Man - y gifts, one Spir - it, one love known in man - y ways.

Al Carmines, composer, playwright, performer, and teacher, has served as minister for two United Church of Christ congregations in New York City. This hymn, commissioned in 1973, was one of the first modern texts to claim diversity as a gift from God.

Tune: KATHERINE 6.5.6.5.7.7.
 Al Carmines, 1973

CONTINUED. . .

GOD OF CHANGE AND GLORY. . .CONTINUED

C F C F G

In our dif - fer - ence is bless - ing, from di - ver - si - ty we praise

Detailed description: This system contains the first line of music. The treble staff has a melody with notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords C, F, C, F, G. The lyrics are 'In our dif - fer - ence is bless - ing, from di - ver - si - ty we praise'.

C F G

one Giv - er, one Word, one Spir - it, one God known in man - y ways,

Detailed description: This system contains the second line of music. The treble staff continues the melody with notes C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords C, F, G. The lyrics are 'one Giv - er, one Word, one Spir - it, one God known in man - y ways,'.

F C G7 C

hal - low - ing our days. For the Giv - er, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!

Detailed description: This system contains the third line of music. The treble staff continues the melody with notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords F, C, G7, C. The lyrics are 'hal - low - ing our days. For the Giv - er, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!'.

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

(Jesus, the Light of the World)

John 8:12; 9:5

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.; adapt. George D. Elderkin; alt.

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing, Je-sus, the light of the world;
 2 Joy - ful, all you saints a - rise, Je-sus, the light of the world;
 3 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored, Je-sus, the light of the world;
 4 Hail the Bear-er of God's peace! Je-sus, the light of the world;

Glo - ry to the Christ-child bring, Je-sus, the light of the world.
 Join the tri - umph of the skies, Je-sus, the light of the world.
 Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Word, Je-sus, the light of the world.
 Hail the Sun of righ - teous-ness! Je-sus, the light of the world.

Refrain

We will fol - low the light, beau - ti - ful light, come where the

dew-drops of mer - cy are bright, Shine all a - round us by

day and by night, Je - sus, the light of the world.

The original version of Charles Wesley's hymn has received various alterations throughout the years. This adaptation by George Elderkin utilizes a repeated ascription, "Jesus, the light of the world," and a refrain to create a rousing carol of praise.

Tune: ELDERKIN 7.7.7. with refrain
 George D. Elderkin
 Arr. Jeffrey Radford, 1993