

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

First Sunday of Lent

8:00 & 10:30 AM

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Why Jesus? Who is This Man?

This morning, as we worship our God, we also celebrate the Lord's Supper.

Here at Mt. Zion UCC, all are invited to the table of grace.

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

Blessed Be Your Name with At the Name of Jesus arr. Tornquist

"This is why I speak to crowds in parables: although they see, they don't really see; and although they hear, they don't really hear or understand."

~Jesus (Matthew 13:13)

CALL TO WORSHIP¹ & SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

L: This is a season of digging deep. This is a season to ask ourselves hard questions, and wait patiently for what God will reveal.

P: This is a season of digging deep. Let us not be afraid to seek understanding.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

L: This is a season of challenge. This is a season to look deeply for who Christ is, and in truly seeing Him, discover who we are called to be.

P: This is a season of challenge. Let us have the courage to live into the answers.

L: This is a season for trusting. This is a season to trust in God's capacity to love us as we are and to save us as we are.

P: This is a season for trusting. Let us have confidence in God's redemptive love.

L: In scripture we hear Jesus speak in parables, challenging us to look closer at who he is and what he teaches. Today, we ask ourselves, "Who is this man?" Today, we ask ourselves, "Who will I be?"

P: Let us join together, in seeking the truth about God and about ourselves, no matter where it leads.

HYMN NO. 332 (black hymnal, v. 1)

As We Gather at Your Table

ALL SING: As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word, help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred. Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own; teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.

INVITATION

L: Friends, as we embark on this Lenten season, it is helpful to look to the end and be reminded why we take this long and difficult journey: to be closer to Christ...Friends, this table is open to all who wish to know Christ better.

HYMN NO. 332 (black hymnal, v. 2)

ALL SING: Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life; send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife. Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave; may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.

RETURNING TO RIGHT RELATIONSHIP

CALL TO CONFESSION

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Compassionate Lord, forgive us when we falter on this Lenten pathway; when the road ahead seems too uncertain and we are afraid. We admit that following Jesus is not an easy task. Jesus requires us to be willing to make the ultimate commitment of our whole lives and we hesitate and hold back. Draw us back to you, Lord. Give us confidence and courage to face the future with hope. Let us place our trust in you that the message of peace and mercy you have given to us through Jesus Christ may be offered to others through our own witness to your healing mercy. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

HYMN NO. 332 (black hymnal, v. 3)

ALL SING: Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least. There no more will envy bind us nor will pride our peace destroy, as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

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.

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS (all cups contain grape juice)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

ALL: Since, dear God, in this place, at this table, we have touched, we have tasted, and we have heard the signs of your love for us, grant that we may embark on this Lenten journey filled with love for you and overflowing with your love for us and those around us. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

(8 AM) **SPECIAL MUSIC** (sung by Mike Gibbs) *Redemption* by J. Cash

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

(10:30 AM) **WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM** *You Are the Christ* by Angerman

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

TIME OF OFFERING

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

In Christ Alone

by Townend/Getty

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE NO. 2203 (FWS)

In His Time

ALL SING: In his time, in his time; he makes all things beautiful in his time. Lord, please show me every day as you're teaching me your way, that you do just what you say in your time.

In your time, in your time, you make all things beautiful in your time. Lord, my life to you I bring; may each song I have to sing be to you a lovely thing in your time.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN NO. 208 (black hymnal)

God Loved the World

SCRIPTURE

MESSAGE

Who is This Man?

ALL SING: *Spirit of Christ Jesus*

Spirit of Christ Jesus

Musical score for the hymn "Spirit of Christ Jesus". The score is written on a single staff in G major (one flat) and 2/4 time. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 80. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of Christ Je sus Spir - it of lov - ing kind - ness con - firm your heart and keep it; con - firm your heart and keep it." The score includes two measures of triplets over the words "Christ" and "lov - ing".

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND SENDING FORTH

ALL SING: *Spirit of Christ Jesus*

Spirit of Christ Jesus

Musical score for the hymn "Spirit of Christ Jesus". The score is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a time signature of 2/4. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 80. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of Christ Je sus Spir - it of lov - ing kind - ness con - firm your heart and keep it; con - firm your heart and keep it." The first line of music includes two triplet markings over the words "Christ" and "lov - ing". The second line of music starts with a measure rest (5) before the lyrics "- firm your heart and keep it;".

Time of Silence

POSTLUDE

Nearer My God to Thee

by Mason

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

If you receive Holy Communion today, please complete a communion card located in the pew racks and place it in the offering plate.

The bulletins are presented in honor of Bonnie Murphy's birthday on March 11th by Bill Murphy.

Thank you to Mike Gibbs for providing special music at the 8 AM service today.

Thank you to the Worship Choir for participating in the 10:30 AM service today.

Thank you to the Lenten Worship Team for planning today's service. The team members are Dani Kardisco, JJ Rhinehart, Tori Everhart, Suzanne Skennonto, & Pastor Danielle.

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 & Communion Servers: Jodi Graham, Terry Barnes, Tama Allison, & Dan Kinard

8 AM Sound Tech: Ryan Neal

8 AM Video Tech: Denny Daugherty

8 AM Hall Monitor: Pam Minnich

10:30 AM Worship Tech: Alan Neff

10:30 AM Welcome Team & Communion Servers: Carrah Wagaman, Lana Fritz, Megan Merritt, Sandy King, & David Firestone

10:30 AM Sound Tech: John Kollasch

10:30 AM Video Tech: John Schriver

10:30 AM Camera Tech: Jim Firestone

10:30 AM Hall Monitor: George DeMers

10:30 AM Nursery: Katelyn & Corey McCarthy

WOW Kids: Kathy Sweeney

¹The Call to Worship was written by the Rev. Danielle Neff for Mt. Zion United Church of Christ.

²*In His Time*. Words and music by Diane Ball. © 1978 CCM Music. All rights reserved. CCLI Song # 25981. CCLI License # 3220582.

³*Spirit of Christ Jesus*. From *Songs and Prayers from Taizé*. © 1991, Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, F-71250 Taizé Community. Score created with the free version of Flat. –<https://flat.io>.

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*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

Matt. 22:1-10; Luke 14:16-24

Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1989

1 As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
 2 Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
 3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.
 where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.

Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
 Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;
 There no more will en - vy bind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,

teach us through this ho - ly ban - quet how to make Love's vic - tory known.
 may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
 as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

In this hymn, commissioned by an Episcopal parish in Virginia for the celebration of its tricentennial, Carl P. Daw, Jr., utilized a familiar phrase from Isaac Watts' "Joy to the World," which was the motto for the celebration: "Repeat the sounding joy."

Tune: BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7.D.
 The Sacred Harp, 1844
 Harm. The New Century Hymnal, 1992

John 3:16-17

Heiliges Lippen und Herzens Opfer, Stettin, 1778
Transl. August Crull, 1845; alt.

1 God loved the world, and lov - ing gave
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith,
3 If you are sick, if death is near,
4 Be of good cheer, for God in Christ

a won - drous gift, the lost to save,
who was made flesh and suf - fered death;
this truth your trou - bled heart can cheer;
for - gives the flock, by sin en - ticed,

That all who would in Christ be - lieve
All who con - fide in Christ a - lone
Christ Je - sus saves us all from death;
And jus - ti - fied by Je - sus' blood,

should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
that is the firm - est ground of faith.
your bap - tism grants the high - est good.

Edward Miller, a skilled flutist in G. F. Handel's orchestra,
adapted Rockingham from the tune Tunbridge. Miller named it
for the Marquis of Rockingham, a patron and friend, and prime
minister of Great Britain.

Tune: ROCKINGHAM L.M.
Anon.
Adapt. Edward Miller, 1790