

# *Mt. Zion United Church of Christ*

First Sunday of Lent

10:30AM

## *Final Words from the Cross: "Father, forgive them..."* *Sacrament of Holy Communion*

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRELUDE

*The Wonderful Cross*

by Tomlin, Walt, & Reeves

#### CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup> (based on Psalm 51: 13, 15)

L: Forgiveness is mercy.

**P: Such pardon and kindness we cannot fathom.**

L: Forgiveness is unfailing love.

**P: Such patience and understanding we cannot comprehend.**

L: Forgiveness is overwhelming compassion.

**P: Such sympathy and warmth we cannot reciprocate.**

L: Forgiveness is the blotting out of transgressions.

**P: Such freedom and good will we do not deserve.**

L: Forgiveness is the washing away of our iniquities.

**P: Such purity and newness we cannot maintain.**

L: Forgiveness is a gift of God.

**P: Let us worship the God of Grace.**

#### OPENING HYMN NO. 2169 (black hymnal, see p. 3)

*God, How Can We Forgive*

#### SUNDAY SONGS

*Hidden in My Heart*

by Elkins

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

#### WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM

*Father, Forgive Us*

by Rickard & Keveren

#### JOYS & CONCERNS

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### HYMN NO. 208 (black hymnal, see p. 4, vs. 1 & 2)

*God Loved the World*

#### MONOLOGUE

*Simon of Cyrene*

Dave Firestone

#### HYMN NO. 208 (black hymnal, see p. 4, vs. 3 & 4)

*God Loved the World*

**TIME OF CONFESSION & SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**P:** Merciful God, you call us to be your voices in this world and we stay silent. You call us to be your hands in this world and we keep them hidden. You call us to be your feet in this world and we go our own way. When we meet those who are doubting and say nothing, forgive us. When we meet those who need your touch and do nothing, forgive us. When we are called to take up your cross and carry nothing, forgive us. Breathe life into our bones, bring freedom to our lives that we might declare with heart and soul and voice that you are our Lord and our God. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON & INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

**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 BREAD & CUP**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**ALL:** Forgiving God, at your table of grace, we have received the sign 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.

**CLOSING HYMNS NO. 190/191** (black hymnal, see p. 5)

*Beneath the Cross of Jesus/ Before Your Cross O Jesus*

**BENEDICTION**

***Reflect & Act:** Take a moment to think about people who wronged you. Write their names down. Offer a prayer of forgiveness similar to the one that Christ offered for those who crucified him.*

*Share the first name of one who has wronged you by texting 717.408.9280 or by emailing [office@mtzionucc.org](mailto:office@mtzionucc.org).*

**POSTLUDE**

*My Savior's Love*

by Gabriel

Thank you to Robin Schriver for reading Scripture this morning! Thank you to the Lent Worship Planning Team for creating today's service and for decorating the altar. The Lent team members are Marcus Alfonso, Steph Beyer, Brigitte Bradnick, Pastor Danielle, Travis Pinci, & Denny Daugherty. Thank you to David Firestone for reading the monologue this morning. Thank you to Dave Beyer, Ron Miles, & Jack Herlocker for serving on the tech team. Thank you to Barb Neff, Braden Bicher, & Denny Daugherty for serving on the praise team.

<sup>1</sup>The call to worship was found on the website <http://sjbrown58.wordpress.com> and was written by Steve Brown on Worship Ideas you Can Use..

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## God, How Can We Forgive

Grand Piano  $\text{♩} = 80$

The musical score is written for Grand Piano in a 4/4 time signature with a tempo of 80 beats per minute. It consists of four staves of music, each with corresponding lyrics. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The lyrics are as follows:

1. God, how can we for - give when bonds of love are  
 2. When we have missed the mark, and tears of an - guish  
 3. Who dares to throw the stone to damn an - oth - er's

5  
 torn? How can we rise and start a - new, our trust re - born? When  
 flow, how can you still re - lease our guilt, the debt we owe? The  
 sin, when you, while know - ing all our past, for - give a - gain? No

10  
 hu - man lov - ing fails and ev - ery hope is gone, your  
 o - cean depth of grace sur - pass - es all our needs. A  
 more we play the judge, for by your grace we live. As

14  
 love gives strength be - yond our own to face the dawn.  
 priest who shares our hu - man pain, Christ in - ter - cedes.  
 you, O God, for - give our sin, may we for - give.

# God Loved the World

$\text{♩} = 80$

Piano



1. God loved the world, and lov - ing gave a won - drous  
2. Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made  
3. If you are sick, if death is near, this truth your  
4. Be of good cheer, for God in Christ for - gives the

7



gift, the lost to save, That all who would in Christ be -  
flesh and suf - fered death; All who con - fide in Christ a -  
trou - bled heart can cheer; Christ Je - sus saves us all from  
flock, by sin en - ticed, And jus - ti - fied by Je - sus'

13



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

# Closing Hymn Week 1

**Piano** ♩ = 80

1. Up - on the cross, of Je - sus, with -  
2. Be - fore your cross, O Je - sus, our

4  
- in my mind I see the ver - y dy - ing  
lives are judged to - day; the mean - ing of our

7  
form of One who suf - fered there for me; And  
ea - ger strife is test - ed by your way. A -

10  
from my griev - ing heart with tears two won - ders I con -  
- cross our rest - less liv - ing the light streams from your

13  
- fess, the won - ders of Christ's glo - rious love and  
cross, and by its clear re - veal - ing beams we

16  
my un - wor - thi - ness.  
mea - sure gain and loss.