

***Mt. Zion United Church of Christ***

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Rev. Danielle E. Neff, Senior Pastor

Rev. Amy Northridge, Transitional Minister

Mr. Denny Daugherty, Adult Choir Director & Tech Director

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

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 & 10:30 AM

***Laws of Love: The Commandments for Today  
The Law of Reflection***

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

by Temple

**PRAYER TO WELCOME THE SABBATH**

L: Lord of Creation,

**P: create in us a new rhythm of life composed of hours that sustain rather than stress, of days that deliver rather than tackle.**

L: Lord of Liberation,

**P: by the rhythm of your truth, set us free from the bondage and baggage that break us, from the Pharaohs and fellows who fail us, from the plans and pursuits that prey upon us.**

L: Lord of Resurrection,

**P: may we be raised into the rhythm of your new life, dead to deceitful calendars, dead to fleeting friend requests, dead to the empty peace of our accomplishments.**

L: To our packed-full planners, we bid, "Peace!"

**P: To our over-caffeinated consciences, we say, "Cease!"**

L: To our suffocating selves, Lord grant release.

**P: Drowning in a sea of deadlines and death chimes, we rest in you, our lifeline. By your ever-restful grace, allow us to enter your Sabbath rest as your Sabbath rest enters into us.**

L: In the name of our Creator, our Liberator, our Resurrection and Life, we pray.

**P: Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN NO. 23** (black hymnal, see p. 3) *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

## **TIME OF CONFESSION**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>1</sup>**

**ALL: Almighty God, we confess that we have taken Your commandments and turned them into rules. We have criticized those who have fallen short and selfishly proclaimed ourselves righteous. We have failed to understand the spirit of the commandments and the Way that was shown by You to live, loving God and loving our neighbors. Forgive us for turning Your law into burdens for others and ourselves, instead of a Way to love and freedom in You. In the name of Christ, who has given us the Way and leads us on, we pray. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**ACT OF PRAISE NO. 2036** (black hymnal, see p. 4) *Give Thanks*

**ALL SING: Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son. And now let the weak say, "I am strong"; let the poor say, "I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us." Give thanks!**

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

(10:30 AM) **HYMN NO. 25** (black hymnal, see p. 4) *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

## **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.**

(8:00 AM) **HYMN NO. 25** (black hymnal, see p. 4) *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

(10:30 AM) **SPECIAL MUSIC** (sung by Braden Bicher & Travis Pinci)

*May the Peace of God* by Getty & Getty

## **SCRIPTURE**

*Exodus 20: 13*  
*Matthew 5: 21-26*

## **MESSAGE**

**BENEDICTION<sup>2</sup>** (inspired by Matthew 5: 21-37 & Deuteronomy 30:15-20)

**POSTLUDE**

*Send the Light*

by Turner

Thank you to Barb Neff and Braden Bicher for serving on the praise team. Thank you to Braden Bicher for providing special music and to Barb Neff for reading Scripture. Thank you to Denny Daugherty, Jack Herlocker, Deb Herlocker, & John Schriver for serving on the tech teams this morning. Thank you to Deb & Terry Barnes, the Bradnick family, Glenda Abrams, and the Stine family for serving on welcome teams!

<sup>1</sup> The Confession was written by Rev. Mindi and posted on *Rev-o-lution*. It was accessed as re-posted on Re:Worship: [re:Worship: Prayer of Confession: Commandments \(re-worship.blogspot.com\)](http://re:Worship:PrayerofConfession:Commandments(re-worship.blogspot.com)) and accessed on July 19, 2021.

<sup>2</sup> The Benediction was shared by Re:Worship from *Ministry Matters* at [re:Worship: Prayer: Epiphany 6A \(re-worship.blogspot.com\)](http://re:Worship:Prayer:Epiphany6A(re-worship.blogspot.com)) and accessed on July 19, 2021.

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## There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

**Piano** ♩ = 80

1. There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;  
 2. For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sures of our minds;

5  
 there's a kind-ness in God's jus-tice, which is more than lib-er-ty.  
 and the heart of the E-ter-nal is most won-der-ful-ly kind.

9  
 There's no place where earth-ly sor-rows are more felt than  
 If our love were but more faith-ful, we would glad-ly

12  
 in God's hea-ven; there's no place where earth-ly fail-ings  
 trust God's word; and our lives would show thanks-giv-ing

15  
 have such kind-ly judg-ment given.  
 for the good-ness of our God.

# Give Thanks

**Piano**  $\text{♩} = 80$

Give thanks with a great - ful heart, give thanks to the

5  
Ho - ly One, give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ his

9  
Son. And now let the weak say, "I am strong"; let the poor say, "I am

14  
rich be - cause of what the Lord has done for us." Give thanks!

19

# O God, Our Help in Ages Past

**Piano**  $\text{♩} = 80$

1. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to  
 2. Un - der the shad - ow of our throne your saints have dwelt se -  
 3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its  
 4. A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning  
 5. Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, soon bears us all a -  
 6. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to

5  
 come, Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
 - cure; Suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
 frame, From ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.  
 gone, Short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.  
 - way; We fly for - got - ten, as a dream fades at the o - pening day.  
 come, Still be our God while trou - bles last, and our e - ter - nal home!

# God Be With You

*♩* = 80

Piano

1. God be with you till we meet a - gain; By good coun-sel guide, up -  
 2. God be with you till we meet a - gain; Wings of shel-ter safe - ly  
 3. God be with you till we meet a - gain; When life's per - ils thick con -  
 4. God be with you till we meet a - gain; Keep love's ban-ner float-ing

4

- hold you, With a shep-herd's care en - fold you: God be with you till we  
 hide you, Dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you: God be with you till we  
 - found you, Put un - fail - ing arms a - round you: God be with you till we  
 o'er you, Smite death's threat-ening wave be - fore you: God be with you till we

8 *Refrain*

meet a - gain. Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Je - sus'  
 meet a - gain.  
 meet a - gain.  
 meet a - gain.

12

feet; till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet a -

16

- gain.