

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

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 & 10:30 AM

Laws of Love: The Commandments for Today
The Law of Assurance

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Back to School Slideshow

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER¹

L: Wisdom cries out in the streets.

P: We hear and struggle to understand.

L: Come and listen to the words of life and love.

P: We hear and proclaim our faith in the One who brings life.

L: Let us worship the God of life and wisdom.

P: Let us worship the God whose words guide our life on right paths.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 1** (BH, see p. 4)

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

***TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

ALL: Wisdom cries in the streets, but we do not listen or understand. The words of your law are spoken, but we rarely pay heed or obey. You call us to declare who Jesus is for us, but we can't seem to get the right words out. Our tongues engage before our brains do. We want so much to be a people who are faithful to your word and led by your guidance, but we are so easily distracted by the cacophony of words and sounds. Forgive us when we are quick to speak and slow to understand. Forgive us when we do not hear your wisdom in all the ways you speak to us.

Forgive us when we do not even try to truly understand what it means to be your disciples. Lead us back to the path of wisdom and life, that we may truly live. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 2036 (black hymnal, see p. 5)

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) **PRESENTATION OF THE BIBLES**

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

(10:30 AM) **HYMN NO. 290** (BH, vs. 1 & 3 see p. 6)

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

JOYS & CONCERNS

(8:00 AM) **HYMN NO. 290** (BH, vs. 1 & 3 see p. 6)

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

TIME OF REFLECTION & REMEMBRANCE

L: On this 20th anniversary of September 11th, as a community, we pause to pray to you, O God, in remembrance and in hope... We ring a bell for grief. We grieve the lives lost, on September 11th, and in the weeks and months and years that followed:

P: Lives lost in the attacks, lives lost from the aftermath of related trauma and illness; lives lost in wars and conflict.

L: We call on your promise to comfort those who mourn and we lament that in this broken world, there are those who resort to terror and destruction and we grieve the effects of those choices. Lord, in your mercy.

P: Hear our prayer. We ring a bell for grief.

L: We ring a bell for love. Though there was so much heartache and despair on September 11th, we also witnessed the enduring gift of love. We treasure that in such a time of darkness, the undying flame of love continued to flicker. We remember the love shown:

P: in acts of self-sacrifice and heroism; in neighborly love and care; in generosity shown.

L: We thank you for the gift of love, which comes from you, O God, and we honor that it is because of you and the gift of your son that we know the meaning of your Word that there is no greater love than to give up one's life in the service of others. Lord, in your mercy.

P: Hear our prayer. We ring a bell for love.

L: We ring a bell for hope. The Psalmist reminds us to hope in the Lord- and so we place our hope in you, O God. We look to the future with hope, knowing that you work all things for good. As your people, we attest to the hope seen in:

P: the resurrection, the gift of each new day, the work of reconciliation and the promise of your ever-unfolding plans for good.

L: Thank you for the gift of hope. Lord, in your mercy...

P: Hear our prayer. We ring a bell for hope.

L: We ring a bell for peace. We remember that despite the devastation of September 11th, despite the unfolding trauma and tragedy in the aftermath- you remain the God of Peace. We lift our hearts in prayer that you would help us build that peace:

P: Peace with one another, peace with our sisters and brothers throughout the world, peace with you.

L: We thank you for the gift of peace in our hearts and we pray for the realization of that peace in our world. Lord, in your mercy...

P: Hear our prayer. We ring a bell for peace...

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.

HYMN NO. 290 (BH, vs. 4 & 5, see p. 6)

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 20: 17

Psalm 19: 7-14

MESSAGE

HYMN NO. 7 (BH, see p. 7)

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

BENEDICTION³

POSTLUDE

Sing the Glad Song

by Ritter

Thank you to Brenda Beyer & Paula Strayer for serving on the Praise Team. Thank you to Denny Daugherty, John Kollasch, & Ron Miles for serving on the tech team. Thank you to Tom & Carol Bair, Lana Fritz, Jeff & Nancy Sleeper, & Scott Kiefer for serving on the welcome teams this morning!

¹ The Call to Worship was written by Joanne Carlson Brown and posted on <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/6253/worship-elements-september-12-2021> and accessed on Sept. 7, 2021.

² The Prayer of Confession was written by Joanne Carlson Brown and posted on <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/6253/worship-elements-september-12-2021> and accessed on Sept. 7, 2021.

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Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise, in
 2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light, not
 3. Your life is life - giv - ing, to both great and small; in
 4. So per - fect your glo - ry, so bril - liant your light, your

6

light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes, Most bless - ed, most
 want - ing, not wast - ing, but rul - ing in might; Your jus - tice like
 all life you're liv - ing, the true life of all; We blos - som and
 an - gels a - dore you, all veil - ing their sight; All praise we now

11

glo - rious, the An - cient of Days, al - might - y, vic - to - rious, your
 moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove, your clouds which are foun - tains of
 flour - ish as leaves and as flowers, then with - er and per - ish, but
 ren - der as your an - gels do: in awe at the splen - dor of

16

great name we praise.
 good - ness and love.
 naught dims your powers.
 light hid - ing you.

Give Thanks

$\text{♩} = 80$

Piano

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 80. The piece consists of five lines of music, each with a measure number (5, 9, 14, 19) at the beginning. The lyrics are written below the notes. The final measure of the fifth line ends with a double bar line.

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

5
Ho - ly One, give thanks because 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

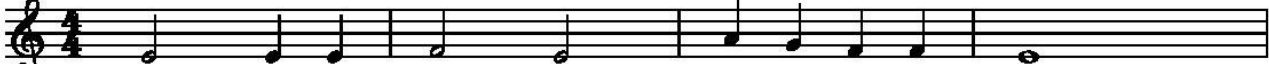
14
rich be-cause of what the Lord has done for us." Give thanks!

19

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart


$\text{♩} = 80$

Piano




1. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
3. Have you not bid us love you ev - ery way?
4. Teach me to feel that you are al - ways nigh;
5. Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,

5




wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;
All, all your own: soul, heart, and strength, and mind;
teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear,
one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;

9



Stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as you are,
I see your cross, there teach my heart to stay:
To check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh;
The bap - tism of the heaven - de - scend - ed dove,

13



and make me love you as I ought to love.
O let me seek you, and O let me find.
teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

All People That on Earth do Dwell

Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

1. All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing
 2. Know that there is one God, in - deed, who
 3. En - ter the sa - cred gates with praise, with
 4. Pro - claim a - gain that God is good, whose

5

out your faith with cheer - ful voice; De - light in God whose
 fash - ions us with - out our aid, Who claims us, gives us
 joy ap - proach the tem - ple walls. Ex - tol and bless our
 mer - cy is for - ev - er sure, Whose truth at all times

9

praise you tell, whose pres - ence calls you to re -
 all we need, whose ten - der care will nev - er
 God al - ways as peo - ple whom the Spir - it
 firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en -

13

- joice.
 fade.
 calls.
 - dure.