

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

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 & 10:30 AM

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

A Simple Devotion

by Barrett

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

L: We have gathered in God's holy presence, the One who etches grace on our hearts.

P: This is the place where God will transform us into disciples.

L: We glorify our God, who yearns for justice, not just for a favored few, but for the least of our world.

P: This is the place where God will write compassion on our souls.

L: We give thanks to God for unceasing grace; we remember God's persistence in saving us.

P: This is the place where God will breathe the Word in our lives.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 311** (BH, see p. 4)

Renew Your Church

***TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

ALL: We give thanks, O God, that you are unchanging, that your concern for peace, mercy, love and justice was so strong that you came in human form to share that concern with us in person. We confess that all too often we hesitate to speak or act when we see people being treated unjustly. Forgive us, O God, for the times when we have been happy to hear the gospel without truly living it. Forgive us for uncaring attitudes towards others.

Forgive us when our longing to live simply and with humility is defeated by selfish desires. Forgive us for placing our hope in anything other than you. Our hope lies in the promise of your mercy, O God. Heal, restore and bless us, we pray, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 2141 (FWS, see p. 5)

There's a Song

ALL SING: There's a song of peace in my heart; peace is a gift from Jesus. There's a song of peace in my heart; peace is a gift from God. Alleluia! Peace in my heart is singing praises. Alleluia! Peace is a gift from God.

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

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.

HYMN NO. 313 (BH, see p. 6)

Like a Tree Beside the Waters

SCRIPTURE

1 Thessalonians 5: 12-24

MESSAGE

HYMN (see p. 7)

Lord, You Teach Us to Be Humble

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Be of Good Courage

by Telemann

Thank you to Tom Bair for serving on the Praise Team. Thank you to Tom Bair & Brenda Beyer for reading Scripture. Thank you to Dave Firestone, Dave Beyer, George DeMers, Ron Miles, & Hunter King for serving on the tech team. Thank you to Cindy & Rick Hogentogler, Carol Bair, Jeff & Nancy Sleeper, and Scott Kiefer for serving on the welcome teams this morning!

¹ The Call to Worship was written by Thom Shuman and was first published on his website Lectionary Liturgies. It was accessed at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2013/09/call-to-worship-prayer-proper-24-c.html> on September 22, 2021.

² The Prayer of Confession was adapted from a prayer written by Moira Laidlaw and published on her website Liturgies Online. It was accessed at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/11/confession-assurance-advent-3-b.html> on September 22, 2021.

Renew Your Church

Piano 

1. Re - new your church, its min - is - tries re - store: both to serve
2. Teach us your word, re - veal its truth di - vine; on our path
3. Teach us to pray, for you are ev - er near; your still voice
4. Teach us to love, with strength of heart and mind, each and all,

4 

and a - dore. Make us a - gain as salt through-out the land,
let it shine. Tell of your works, your might - y acts of grace;
let us hear. Our souls are rest - less till they rest in you;
hu - man-kind! Break down old walls of prej - u - dice and hate;

7 

and as light from a stand. 'Mid som-ber shad - ows
from each page show your face. As you have sent your
this is life, full and true. Be - fore your pres - ence
leave us not to our fate. As you have loved and

10 

of the night, where greed and ha - tred spread their blight, O
Christ to save, in love to tri - umph o'er the grave, O
keep us still that we may find for us your will And
given your life to end hos - til - i - ty and strife, Your

13 

send us forth with power en - dued. Help us, God, be re - newed.
let our hearts with love be stirred. Help us, God, know your word.
seek your guid - ance ev - ery day. Teach us, God, how to pray.
grace we must be mind - ful of: Teach us, God, how to love.

There's a Song

$\text{♩} = 80$

Piano

There's a song of peace in my heart; peace is a gift from Je - sus.

5

There's a song of peace in my heart; peace is a gift from God.

9

Al - le - lu - ia! Peace in my heart is sing - ing prais - es.

13

Al - le - lu - ia! Peace is a gift from God.

Like a Tree Beside the Waters

$\text{♩} = 80$

Piano

1. Like a tree be-side the wa-ters, nur-tured by your lov-ing care, We, O
 2. Like a tree be-side the riv-er, draw-ing life from ho-ly streams, Fill us
 3. We, be-side the liv-ing wa-ters, drink from your e-ter-nal life. Give to

6

God, your sons and daugh-ters, your en-dur-ing wit-ness bear. In each
 with your love for-ev-er; re-cre-ate our hopes and dreams. Through the
 all, your sons and daugh-ters, faith that ris-es o-ver strife. O

10

pass-ing gen-er-a-tion may your voice of love be heard. Bless, we pray, this con-gre-
 storms of life sus-tain us by the wis-dom of your grace. May the chang-ing of the
 Liv-ing God, most glo-rious, strength-en us for life to-day. By the hope of time-less

15

-ga-tion with your ho-ly, liv-ing Word.
 sea-sons find us in your warm em-brace.
 prom-ise guide your church up-on the Way.

Lord, You Teach Us to Be Humble

Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

1. Lord you teach us to be hum - ble in the
 2. How do oth - er peo - ple greet us as we
 3. May we nev - er bur - den oth - ers with a

4

things we do and say. So that oth - ers will not
 jour - ney through our days? Do we hope that they will
 faith that's hard to bear. Make us kind to one an -

7

stum - ble, or dis - cour - aged turn a - way. For a
 meet us with a word of thanks or praise? Do we
 - oth - er; make us hum - ble in our prayer. As we

10

faith that's lived for glo - ry full of brag - ging, full of show, can - not
 seek con - grat - u - la - tions for the kind of life we lead? Do we
 give up seats of hon - or, may we give you glo - ry, too. Lord, you

14

tell the Gos - pel sto - ry that your peo - ple long to know.
 wantg their ad - mir - a - tion for the things that we be - lieve?
 teach us to be hum - ble; may we hum - bly fol - low you.