

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ

1054 Ridgewood Road, York, Pennsylvania 17406

Telephone: 717-755-6117

E-mail: office@mtzionucc.org

Website: www.mtzionucc.org

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

First Sunday after Christmas

10:30 AM

A service of poem, scripture, story and carol

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

CAROL SING

CALL TO WORSHIP & LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES¹

L: Later, after the angels, after the stable, after the Child, they went back...

P: as we always must, back to the world that doesn't understand our talk of angels and stars and especially not the Christ Child.

L: We got back complaining that it doesn't last. They went back singing praises to God!

P: We do have to go back, but we can still sing the alleluias!

L: Let us worship God, and sing our alleluias!

P: Let us worship and praise the newborn King!

CAROL NO. 136 (BH, see p. 4)

Jesus, Oh Jesus, What a Wonderful Child

TIME OF CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

L: Too often our answer to the darkness is not running toward Bethlehem but running away.

P: We ought to know by now that we can't see where we're going in the dark. Running away is rampant... separation is stylish: separation from mates, from friends, from self.

L: Run and tranquilize, don't talk about it, avoid. Run away and join the army of those who have already run away.

P: When are we going to learn that Christmas Peace comes only when we turn and face the darkness? Only then will we be able to see the Light of the World.

Time of Silent Confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON³

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 125 (RH, v. 3, see p. 5)

Angels We Have Heard on High

ALL SING: Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing; Come adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord the newborn King. Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE READING

STORY AND REFLECTION

CAROL # 165 (BH, see p. 6)

Love Came Down at Christmas

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.

OFFERTORY

CALL TO OFFERING⁴

OFFERTORY

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

by Reed

OFFERTORY RESPONSE NO. 153 (BH, v. 1, see p. 6)

Who Would Think That What Was Needed

ALL SING: Who would think that what was needed to transform and save the earth might not be a plan or army proud in purpose, proved in worth? Who would think, despite derision, that a child should lead the way? God surprises earth with heaven, coming here on Christmas Day.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

BENEDICTION⁵

POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo

arr. Hopson

Thank you to Lee Brown for donating the Christmas tree in the sanctuary! Thank you to Jack Herlocker, Deb Herlocker, & John Schriver for serving on tech team this morning. Thank you to Les & Doris Loucks and Faye Heal for serving on the welcome team.

¹ Based on "Later" by Ann Weems and found in the book, "Kneeling in Bethlehem"

² Based on "Toward the Light" by Ann Weems in the book "Kneeling in Bethlehem"

³ Based on "Godburst" from Ann Weem's "Kneeling in Bethlehem"

⁴ Based on "Gifts from God" from Ann Weems' "Kneeling in Bethlehem"

⁵ "It Is Not Over" by Ann Weems from "Kneeling in Bethlehem"

*Music reproduced and licensed under CCLI License # 3220582 and One License #A-725030. Streaming licensed under CCLI License #CSPL062300.

Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child

Piano $\text{♩} = 80$



Je - sus, Je - sus, oh, what a won - der - ful

4



child. Je - sus, Je - sus, so ho - ly, meek and

8



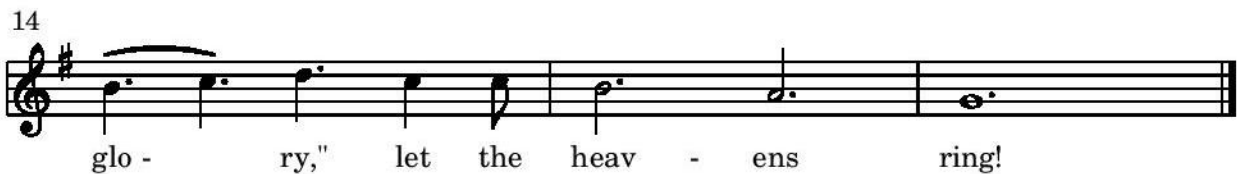
mild; new life, new hope the Child will bring.

11



List - en to the an - gels sing, "Glo - ry, glo - ry,"

14



glo - ry," let the heav - ens ring!

Angels We Have Heard on High

Piano $\text{♩} = 80$



1. An - gels we have heard on high, Sing - ing sweet - ly
2. Shep - herds why this ju - bi - lee? Why those songs of
3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the

4



through the night, And the moun - tains in re - ply Ech - o - ing their
hap - py cheer? What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings
an - gels sing; Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord the

8



brave de - light. Glo -
did you hear?
new - born King.

12



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo -

16



ri - a, in ex - cel - sis

20



De - o.

Love Came Down at Christmas

♩ = 80

Piano 

1. Love came down at Christ - mas, Love all love - ly,
 2. Wor - ship we the God - head, Love in - car - nate,
 3. Love shall be our to - ken; love be yours and

4 

Love di - vine; Love was born at Christ - mas;
 Love di - vine; Wor - ship we our Je - sus,
 love be mine; Love to God and neigh - bor,

7 

star and an - gels gave the sign.
 but where is God's sa - cred sign?
 love for plea and gift and sign.

Who Would Think that What Was Needed

♩ = 80

Piano 

1. Who would think that what was need-ed to trans - form and save the

8 

earth might not be a plan or ar-my proud in pur - pose, proved in worth?

17 

Who would think, de - spite de - ri-sion, that a child should lead the way? God sur -

26 

- pris - es earth with heav - en, com - ing here on Christ - mas Day.

Joy to the World

Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come; Let
 2. Joy to the earth! The Sa - vior reigns; Let
 3. He rules the world with truth and grace, and

5

earth re - ceive her King; Let ev - ry
 men their songs em - ploy! While fie - lds and
 makes the na - tions prove the glo - ries

9

heart pre - pare Him room and heav'n and na - ture
 floods, rocks, hills and plains re - peat the sound - ing
 of his right - eous ness and won - ders of His

13

sing, and heav'n and na - ture sing, and hea - v'n and
 joy, re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat re -
 love, and won - ders of His love, and won - ders and

17

hea - v'n and na - ture sing.
 - peat the sound - ing joy.
 won - ders of His love.