

***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

Ms. Donna Gross, Custodian

First Sunday of Lent

8:00 & 10:30 AM

***Hold Fast: Even in the Desert<sup>1</sup>***

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**POEM<sup>1</sup>** (read by Deb Herlocker & Vanessa Bicher)

*From Here in the Sand*

*You've been here before.  
I squeeze that truth like an orange in my hands,  
willing some form of comfort to run out,  
roll down my wrists,  
calm these aching nerves.*

*You've been here before--  
in the wilderness, in the desert,  
in the place where nothing is what it seems  
and everything is sharp.*

*You've been here before  
so surely you know how hard it is  
to hold tight to what is real  
in the middle of the storm.*

*But because you've been here before,  
I will stand tall.  
I will sing songs of the river,  
from here in the sand.  
I will sing songs of the river,  
into the wind.*

**PRELUDE**

*Be Not Afraid*

by Wagner

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Jesus went to the mountaintop to pray.

**P: Jesus went into the city to heal.**

L: Jesus walked to Samaria to extend love.

**P: Jesus went to the water's edge to teach.**

L: Jesus went to places of peace and connection,

**P: but Jesus also went to the wilderness.**

L: There is nowhere we can go that God does not walk with us.

**P: We are in God's house. Let us worship Holy God.**

**\*OPENING HYMN NO. 195** (BH, see p. 3)

*The Old Rugged Cross*

## \*TIME OF CONFESSION<sup>2</sup>

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Holy God, when we think that expansive life is about power—

**P: Teach us a new way.**

L: Gracious Creator, when we think that expansive life is about material wealth—

**P: Teach us a new way.**

L: Gracious Author, when we think that expansive life is about control—

**P: Teach us a new way.**

L: Teach us to live as you live.

**P: Teach us to love as you love.**

L: Forgive us when we don't.

**P: Gratefully we pray, amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Siblings in Christ, no matter how many times we mess up, no matter how far we wander, no matter how lost we feel, God's grace is full to the brim. It overflows in desert places. It finds us where we are and it covers us in mercy. Hear and believe this good news—

**P: God's love is overflowing. We are drenched in mercy. Thanks be to God, amen.**

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 780 (BH, see p. 4)

*Doxology*

**ALL SING: Praise God from whom all blessing flow. Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above you heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

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

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

L: God of the wilderness places in our lives, it can be hard to hear you in the desert...We ache for your good news. Gratefully we pray, amen.

## SCRIPTURE

*1 Thessalonians 5: 19-22*

*Luke 4: 1-13*

## MESSAGE

**HYMN NO. 190** (BH, see p. 5)

*Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

L: We believe God is love.

**P: We believe God's love is overflowing.**

L: We believe Jesus is a river.

**P: We believe that river is running toward us.**

L: We believe the Holy Spirit is a vessel.

**P: We believe that vessel holds mercy for you and for me.**

L: We believe the wilderness is real.

**P: We believe the desert is lonely.**

L: We believe that Jesus has been there.

**P: We know that we do not walk alone.**

L: Even in the desert,

**P: we are loved.**

L: Even in the desert,

**P: God is with us.**

L: Even in the desert,

**P: This love overflows.**

L: Thanks be to God.

**P: Amen.**

(10:30 AM) **WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM**

*God Will Make a Way*  
by Moen, arr. Haynes

## JOYS & CONCERNS

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

### INVITATION

L: Jesus has always been one to invite...You are invited. This Table is for you.

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

L: God who knows us, we are amazed by you... Your love never runs out, so bring that never-ending love here. Together we pray:

### 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 ELEMENTS POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

## REFLECTIVE MOMENT

### OFFERING OF SAND

### PRAYER OVER THE OFFERING

**\*CLOSING HYMN NO. 18** (BH, see p. 6)

*Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer*

**\*BENEDICTION**

## POSTLUDE

Thank you to the worship team for planning the Lent services and decorating the sanctuary. The Lent team members are Lana Fritz, Cindy Hogentogler, Vanessa Bicher, Elaine Bevivino, Jim Shiffer, Deb Herlocker, Pastor Amy, Travis Pinci, & Denny Daugherty.

Thank you to John Kollasch and Jack & Deb Herlocker for serving on the tech teams. Thank you to Debbie Butcher, Lana Fritz, & Braden Bicher for serving on the praise team. Thank you to Bob & Kathy Ensminger, David Strine, Kathy Sweeney, Tori Everhart, & Tammy Gordon for serving on the welcome teams.

<sup>1</sup>Liturgy and Poetry by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

<http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/year-c/p/pentecost-ordinary-time-9.html> and accessed on 2/14/2022

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\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

# The Old Rugged Cross

George Bennard, 1913

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Piano   $\text{♩} = 80$

1. On a hill far a - way stood an old rug-ged cross, the  
2. Oh, that old rug-ged cross, so de - spised by the world, has a  
3. In that old rug-ged cross, which bore Love so di - vine, a  
4. To the old rug-ged cross I will ev - er be true, its

4 

em - blem of suf - fer - ing and shame; And I love that old cross where the  
won - drous at - trac - tion for me; For the dear Lamb of God left the  
won - drous beau - ty I see, For up - on that old cross Je - sus  
shame and re - proach glad - ly bear; When God calls me some - day to my

7 

dear - est and best for a world of lost sin - ners was slain. So I'll  
glo - ry of heaven to bear it to cold Cal - va - ry.  
suf - fered and died to par - don and sanc - ti - fy me.  
home far a - way, there God's glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.

10 

cher - ish the old rug - ged cross, till my tro - phies at last I lay down; I will

14 

cling to the old rug - ged cross, and ex - change it some - day for a crown.

## Doxology

Thomas Ken, 1674

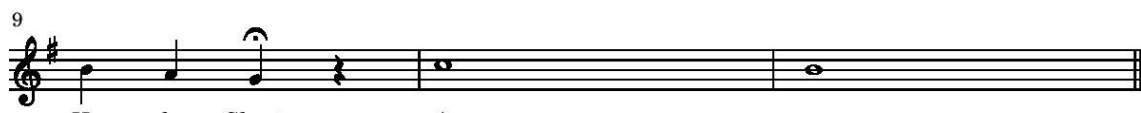
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Piano   $\text{♩} = 80$

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures

5 

here be - low; Praise God a - bove, you heav - en - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and

9 

Ho - ly Ghost. A - - - men.

# Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Frederick C. Maker, 1881

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**Piano** ♩ = 80

The musical score is written for piano in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of music, each with a treble clef staff and lyrics below. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 80. The lyrics are arranged in three verses. The first system (measures 1-3) introduces the three verses. The second system (measures 4-6) continues the lyrics. The third system (measures 7-9) continues. The fourth system (measures 10-12) continues. The fifth system (measures 13-15) concludes the piece with a double bar line.

1. Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I  
 2. Up - on the cross of Je - sus with -  
 3. I take, O cross, your shad - ow for

4  
 glad - ly take my stand, the shad - ow of a  
 - in my mind I see the ver - y dy - ing  
 my a - bid - ing place; I ask no oth - er

7  
 might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land; A  
 form of One who suf - fered there for me; And  
 sun - shine than the sun - shine of Christ's face; Con -

10  
 home with-in the wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the  
 from my griev - ing heart with tears two won - ders I con -  
 - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain or

13  
 way, from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat, and the  
 - fess, the the won - ders of Christ's glo - rious love and  
 loss, my sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my

16  
 bur - den of the day.  
 my un-worth - i - ness.  
 glo - ry all the cross.

# Guide Me O My Great Redeemer

Harry Emerson Fosdick, Joseph M. Martin

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Piano  $\text{♩} = 80$

1. Guide me, O my great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, where the heal - ing  
3. When I reach the Riv - er Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

4

bar - ren land; I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me with your  
wa - ters flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my  
fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion, land me safe on

8

power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,  
heav - en's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

11

feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.  
ev - er be my strength and shield, ev - er be my strength and shield.  
I will ev - er sing to you, I will ev - er sing to you.