

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ  
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Rev. Danielle E. Neff, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Amy E. Northridge, Associate Pastor  
Mr. Denny Daugherty, Adult Choir Director & Tech Director  
Mr. Travis Pinci, Accompanist, Children's Music Coordinator, & Church  
Administrator  
Ms. Donna Gross, Custodian

January 8, 2023

10:30 AM

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**EPIPHANY SUNDAY**  
**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*If you are a guest, thank you for worshiping with us today. We invite you to take a moment to complete a visitor's card located in the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate when it is passed. We also invite you to sign your name in our guest book located in the back entrance of the sanctuary.*

*We welcome infants and children and all their wiggles & voices in our worship! For your comfort, we also have a children's corner in the back narthex where your child can relax and play and you can still participate in the worship experience. We also have nursery care downstairs during our 10:30 AM worship service.*

*Additionally, after the children's message during the 10:30 AM service, children from 3 years old—6th grade are invited to participate in Sunday school in our classroom downstairs. They can choose to attend Sunday school or return to their seats to sit with their parents. Please see a member of the welcoming team for assistance!*

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

*We Three Kings*

arr. Fettke

**CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>**

L: The magi came from far away places, following a star.

**P: We come to worship, and the star sheds light on our lives.**

L: The magi brought gifts to offer the Child.

**P: We too bring gifts—ourselves, our hopes, our dreams.**

L: Shepherds and magi—the meek and the mighty—all were welcome.

**P:** The story continues. The good news abounds. There is a living Christ to discover and worship and serve.

L: This year, let us continue to follow the light that leads us.

**P:** The Star of Hope. The Star of Peace. The Star of Joy. The Star of Love. The Light of the World.

**\*OPENING HYMN NO. 159 NCH** (see p. 4)

*As With Gladness Those of Old*

**\*TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>2</sup>

**ALL:** God of starlight, shine your love into the shadowy places of our lives. Preoccupied with ourselves, we forget the needs of others; we participate in systems that oppress; we accept violence as a way of life; we fail to respond to the cry of others. May your insight fall upon us like freshly fallen snow. May your love wash away our indifference and water the tender shoots of our care and compassion. Nourished in the sunlight of your love, may we grow into people who live in righteousness and who work for justice for all your people. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 154 NCH (chorus, verse 3, chorus, see p. 5)

*Go Tell It On the Mountain*

**ALL SING:** Go tell it on the mountain, over the hill and everywhere.  
Go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

Down in a lowly manger, the humble Christ was born. And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hill and everywhere. Go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

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

**SCRIPTURE  
MESSAGE**

*Matthew 2:1-12*

**HYMN NO. 163 NCH** (vs. 1-3, see p. 6)

*Many Are the Lightbeams*

# INSTALLATION & ORDINATION OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

*Glenda Abrams*

*Jennifer Damon*

*Tom Mulligan*

*John Wolfe*

**HYMN NO. 163 NCH** (vs. 4-5, see p. 6)

*Many Are the Lightbeams*

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### OFFERTORY

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERING

*This Is My Father's World*

adapt. Sheppard

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE NO. 165 NCH (v. 3, see p. 7)

**ALL SING: Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine;**

**Love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: At Epiphany we acknowledge God's very real presence on our journeys. God be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

Leader: As the magi lifted their eyes to the star lift up your hearts, so that you find the blessed light of Christ to comfort and to guide you.

**P: We lift our hearts to God with hope and expectation.**

L: Holy God, our loving Creator, close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star...In the presence of your Holy Spirit we offer ourselves to you, and we unite our voices with the entire body of the church in saying:

**P: Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty and light, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God!**

REMEMBERING THE STORY

## PRAYER OF CONSECRATION & 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.

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD & POURING OF THE JUICE SHARING THE ELEMENTS

### \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**ALL:** God of love and light, we give you thanks for refreshing us at your table, and for being present with us here at this holy meal. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, guide us into the places where you have called us, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

### \*CLOSING HYMN NO. 160 NCH (see p. 8)

*Jesus the Light of the World*

### \*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*Send in the Light*

by McCabe

## As With Gladness Those of Old

William C. Dix, 1861

Conrad Kocher, 1838

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**Piano**  $\text{♩} = 80$

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a piano dynamic marking and a tempo marking of quarter note = 80. The lyrics are arranged in four columns, with each line of music corresponding to a line of text. The lyrics are: 1. As with glad-ness those of old did the guid-ing star be-hold; 2. As with joy-ful steps they sped to that low-ly man-ger bed, 3. As they of-fered gifts most rare at that man-ger plain and bare, 4. Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-ery day keep us in the nar-row way; 5. As with joy they hailed its light, lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright; There to bend the knee be-fore One whom heaven and earth a-dore; So may we with ho-ly joy, pure and free from sin's al-loy, And when mor-tal things are past, bring our ran-somed souls at last 9. So, true Morn-ing Star, may we ev-er-more your splen-dor see. So may we with will-ing feet ev-er seek your mer-cy seat. All our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to you from whom they spring. Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds your glo-ry hide.

# Go Tell It on the Mountain

African American Spiritual


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Piano  $\text{♩} = 80$




Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hill and ev - ery - where.

5



Go tell it on the moun - tain, that Je-sus Christ is born! 1. While  
2. The  
3. Down

9



shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, Be -  
shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth rang  
in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, and

13



- hold through-out the heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

# Many Are the Lightbeams

Olle Widstrand

Anders Frostenson

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Piano  $\text{♩} = 80$

1. Man - y are the light beams from the one light.  
 2. Man - y are the branch- es of the one tree.  
 3. Man - y are the gifts given, love is all one.  
 4. Man - y ways to serve God, the Spir - it is one.  
 5. Man - y are the mem - bers, the bod - y is one;

5

Our one light is Je - sus.  
 Our one tree is Je - sus.  
 Love's the gift of Je - sus.  
 ser - vant Spir - it of Je - sus.  
 mem - bers all of Je - sus.

9

Man - y are the light- beams from the one light we are  
 Man - y are the branch- es of the one tree; we are  
 Man - y are the gifts given, love is all one; we are  
 Man - y ways to serve God, the Spir - it is one; we are  
 Man - y are the mem - bers, the bod - y is one; we are

13

one in Christ. \_\_\_\_\_  
 one in Christ. \_\_\_\_\_  
 one in Christ. \_\_\_\_\_  
 one in Christ. \_\_\_\_\_  
 one in Christ. \_\_\_\_\_

# Love Came Down at Christmas

Christina G. Rossetti, 1885

Maurice C. Whitney, 1962

♩ = 80

Piano

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three lines of music. The first line starts with a piano dynamic marking and a tempo marking of quarter note = 80. The second line begins with a measure rest of 4 measures. The third line begins with a measure rest of 7 measures. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

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.

## References

<sup>1</sup>The call to worship is an adaptation of several liturgies. One written by Maren Tirabassi and another by Glen Rainsley that were published on page 37 of *Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship*, edited by Ruth Duck. The other liturgy was written by Rev. Nathan Decker and found at <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/epiphany-call-to-worship> and accessed on January 3, 2023.

<sup>2</sup>The Prayer of Confession was written by Mary Petrina Boyd and posted on the website, *Ministry Matters* at <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/3475/worship-elements-epiphany-sunday-option-1> and accessed on January 3, 2023.

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# Jesus, the Light of the World

Evelyn Simpson-Curenton

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Piano  $\text{♩} = 80$



1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, Je - sus, the light of the world;
2. Joy - ful, all you saints a - rise, Je - sus, the light of the world;
3. Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored, Je - sus, the light of the world;
4. Hail the Bear - er of God's peace! Je - sus, the light of the world;

8



Glo - ry to the Christ - child bring, Je - sus, the light of the  
Join the tri - umph of the skies, Je - sus, the light of the  
Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Word, Je - sus, the light of the  
Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness! Je - sus, the light of the

15

## *Refrain*



world. We will fol - low the light, beau - ti - ful light, come where the  
world.  
world.  
world.

22



dew - drops of mer - cy are bright, Shine all a - round us by day and by night,

29



Je - sus the light of the world.