

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 15, 2023

10:30 AM

New Year, Same Promises
God's Promise of New Life
Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Nora Foust

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

Baptized in Water

by Seward

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

L: The heavens open. The Spirit descends.

P: Jesus emerges from the water.

L: And a voice echoes through the blue expanse.

P: "This is my child, the Beloved, with whom I am well-pleased."

L: Jesus is named. Claimed.

P: We come to the water. We remember we are named. Claimed.

L: Can it be so? What a thing to be named. Claimed.

P: Let us worship the one who names and claims us still.

***OPENING HYMN** (see p. 4)

We Enter Your Church Lord

***TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

ALL: We are incredibly stubborn, O Lord. We have entered the season in which Your Light has been given to the world, your blessings have been poured out on the world, and yet all we can think about is our own problems, our own needs, our own desires. Help us to desire you, Lord. Help us to yearn for your presence. Pour your baptismal waters over us again, cleansing us from our self-pity and arrogance. Nourish and heal us so that we may joyfully serve you. Wash away our jealousy, greed, and all negative thoughts and behaviors that stand in the way of our truly being the people you have called us to be. Again let us receive the blessings offered in creation, in the birth and baptism of Jesus, and in the ministry of the saints of light. We ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 160 NCH (chorus, see p. 5) *Jesus the Light of the World*

ALL SING: We will follow the light, beautiful light, come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright, Shine all around us by day and by night, Jesus, the light of the world.

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

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 29

Matthew 3:13-17

MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. Nora Foust

Penn Central Conference

Associate Conference Minister for Congregational & Ministerial Excellence

HYMN NO. 292 NCH (see p. 6)

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

(10:30 AM) **INSTALLATION & ORDINATION OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBER**

Glenda Abrams

JOYS AND 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 OFFERING

OFFERING

In Christ Alone

by Townend/Getty

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE NO. 165 NCH (v. 3, see p. 6)

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

***CLOSING HYMN** (see p. 7)

All Those Who Live in Christ Jesus

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

New Faith, New Life

by Ritter

We Enter Your Church, Lord

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William James Kirkpatrick, 1895

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♩ = 80

Piano



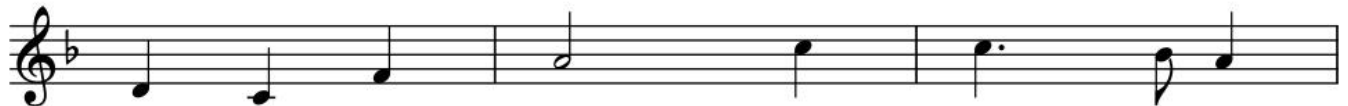
1. We en - ter your church, Lord, through
2. O God, you have called us, in -
3. We've heard here your wel - come, and

4



wel - com - ing doors. We en - ter it too, where you
- vit - ing us in; You've made us your house - hold and
al - so your call; Your Spir - it in - spires us to

8



claim us as yours. It's here at the
freed us from sin. From young - est to
share Christ with all. The life we re -

11



font that you of - fer a sign: You tell us, "My
old - est, we find in this place Your wa - ters of
- ceive here is life we can share; We'll car - ry your

15



chil - dren, you're bap - tized you're mine!"
wel - come, your fam - ily, your grace.
mes - sage of love ev - ery - where.

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.

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Doris Akers, 1962

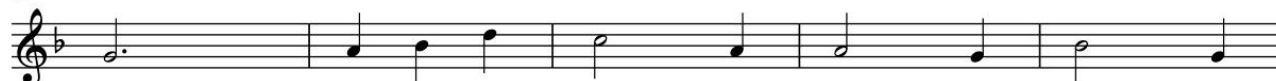
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♩ = 80

Piano 

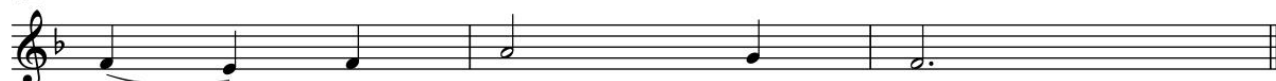
1. Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a -
 2. Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is
 3. Breathe on me, Breath of God, stir in me one de -
 4. Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er

6



- new That I may love the way you love and
 pure, Un - til with you I will one will, to
 - sire: That ev - ery earth - ly part of me may
 die, But live with you the per - fect life of

11



do what you would do.
 do and to en - dure.
 glow with ho - ly fire.
 your e - ter - ni - ty.

Love Came Down at Christmas

Christina G. Rossetti, 1885

Maurice C. Whitney, 1962

♩ = 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.

All Those Who Live in Christ Jesus

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♩ = 80

Piano



1. All those who live in Christ Je - sus are God's new cre - a -
2. This is the good news that we in the church have been giv -
3. Therefore, in Christ, we are changed in the way we view oth -

6




- tion; This is from God who as giv - en the gift of sal - va -
- en: Ev - ery-thing old has made way for God's new gift from hea -
- ers; No lon - ger stran - gers, in church we are sis - ters and broth -

12



- tion. We are God's own, par - doned, made whole and brought home;
- ven. Life is re - stored! We are made new in the Lord!
- ers; Dead to our sin, we're bound to - geth - er in him,

18



Join in the great cel - e - bra - tion!
We have been freed and for - giv - en.
now that we've passed through the wa - ters.

References

¹The call to worship is written by Rev. Caela Simmons Wood and posted at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/search/label/Epiphany%201%20A> and accessed on January 9, 2023.

²The Prayer of Confession was written by Nancy C. Townley and was posted on *Ministry Matters* at <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4549/worship-connection-january-8-2023> and accessed on January 9, 2023.

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Thank you to Rev. Dr. Nora Faust for serving as guest preacher this morning. Thank you to Dave Firestone, Denny Daugherty, Jim Firestone, Ron Miles, & John Schriver for serving on the tech team. Thank you to Barry & Nancy Schwartz, Faye Heal, & Tori Everhart for serving on the welcome team. Thank you to the worship choir for providing an anthem and leading the hymns at today's service.

NOTES