

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

March 12, 2023

8:00 & 10:30 AM

Third Sunday of Lent
Coins

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!

PRELUDE

Give Thanks

by Smith

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

L: Jesus saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury.

P: He also saw a poor widow putting in two small copper coins.

L: Jesus understood the sacrifice those two copper coins represented.

P: And he calls on us to see the poor and widowed, and to care about them.

L: Jesus calls on his disciples to address the circumstances that compel her to give all she has to live on.

P: He never asks us to give until it hurts.

ALL: Help us, Lord, to see both rich and poor through your eyes and with your compassion.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 408** (UM hymnal, see p. 4)

The Gift of Love

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

(10:30 AM) **WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM** *I Surrender All* Victor C. Johnson

***TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: God, we come to you just as we are—your beloved children deeply in need. And we thank you for meeting us in our needs through the kindness of others, the power of your Word, and the movement of your Spirit. Forgive us, when we forget to see others and their needs. Forgive us, when we demand equality instead of justice, forgetting all situations are not equal. Forgive us, when we obsess over numbers instead of the blessedness of the gifts received. Forgive us, when we stop seeing you in the face of our siblings in God and lead with judgement instead of grace. Help us to see, know, and love others as you saw, knew and loved the widow whose 2 coins were more than enough. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 780 NCH (black hymnal, see p. 5)

Doxology

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

A TIME FOR SHARING

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY & DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY

Simple Gifts

by Brackett

OFFERTORY RESPONSE NO. 417 (black hymnal, see p. 6, vs. 3 & 4)

This is a Day of New Beginnings

ALL SING: Then let us with the Spirit's daring, step from the past and leave behind our disappointment, guilt, and grieving, seeking new paths, and sure to find.

**Christ is alive, and goes before us to show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings—our God is making all things new.**
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**SCRIPTURE
MESSAGE**

Luke 20:45-21:4

HYMN NO. 370 NCH (black hymnal, see p. 7)

What Gift Can We Bring?

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.

CLOSING HYMN NO. 399 (UM Hymnal, see p. 8)

Take My Life and Let it Be

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Nothing but the Blood

arr. Berry

References

¹The Call to Worship was written by Barb Neff utilizing passages from the book, *Lent in Plain Sight* by Jill J. Duffield

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Thank you to Dave Firestone, Deb & Jack Herlocker, John Schriver, & Joe Vacante for serving on the tech team. Thank you to the Lenten worship team for planning our worship this morning. The Lenten team members are Andrea Adams, Elaine Bevivino, Deb Herlocker, Barb Neff, & Pastor Danielle. Thank you to Nancy & Barry Schwartz, Melissa Shindler, Kathy Sweeney, Tori Everhart, & Faye Heal for serving on the welcome team. Thank you to the worship choir for providing an anthem and leading the hymns this morning.

The Gift of Love

Hal Hopson, 1972

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Piano $\text{♩} = 80$



The first staff of music is a piano accompaniment in G major and 2/4 time. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a tempo marking of quarter note = 80. The melody consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes, with a long note at the end of the staff.

1. Though I may speak with brav - est fire,
2. Though I may give all I pos - sess,
3. Come, Spir-it, come, our hearts con - trol,

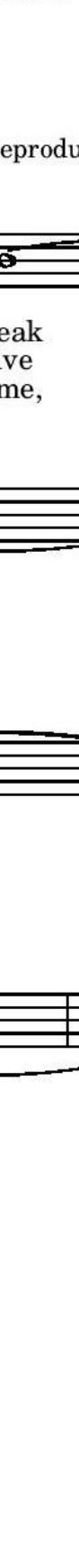
5



The second staff of music continues the piano accompaniment. It features a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a melody of eighth and quarter notes with a long note at the end.

and have the gift to all in - spire,
and striv-ing so my love pro - fess
our spir - its long to be made whole.

9



The third staff of music continues the piano accompaniment. It features a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a melody of eighth and quarter notes with a long note at the end.

and have not love, my words are vain,
but not be given by love with - in,
Let in-ward love guide ev - ery deed;

13



The fourth staff of music concludes the piano accompaniment. It features a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a melody of eighth and quarter notes with a long note at the end.

as sound-ing brass, and hope-less gain.
the prof - it soon turns strange-ly thin.
by this we wor - ship, and are freed.

Doxology

Thomas Ken, 1674

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Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise

4
God, all crea - tures here be - low; Praise God a - bove, you

7
heaven - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

This is a Day of New Beginnings

Les Garrett, 1967

♩ = 80

Piano 

1. This is a day of new be - gin-nings,
 2. For by the life and death of Je - sus,
 3. Then let us, with the Spir - it's dar - ing,
 4. Christ is a - live, and goes be - fore us

5 

time to re - mem - ber and move on,
 God's might - y Spir - it, now as then,
 step from the past and leave be - hind
 to show and share what love can do.

9 

time to be - lieve what love is bring - ing,
 can make for us a world of dif - ference,
 our dis - a - point - ment, guilt, and griev - ing,
 This is a day of new be - gin - nings

13 

lay - ing to rest the pain that's gone.
 as faith and hope are born a - gain.
 seek - ing new paths, and sure to find.
 our God is mak - ing all things

2. 

17 

new.

What Gift Can We Bring

Jane Marshall, 1980

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Piano $\text{♩} = 80$



1. What gift can we bring, what pres - ent, what
2. Give thanks for the past, for those who had
3. Give thanks for to - mor - row, full of sur -
4. This gift we now bring, this pres - ent, this

5



to-ken? What words can con - vey it, the joy of this day? When
vi-sion, who plant-ed and wa-tered so dreams could come true. Give
- prises, for know-ing what - ev - er to - mor - row may bring, The
to-ken, these words can con - vey it, the joy of this day! When

10



grate - ful we come, re - mem-bering, re - joic-ing, what song can we
thanks for the now, for stud - y, for wor-ship, for mis-sion that
Word is our prom - ise al - ways, for - ev - er; we rest in God's
grate - ful we come, re - mem-bering, re - joic-ing, this song we now

15



of - fer in hon - or and praise?
bids - us turn prayer in - to deed.
keep - ing and live in God's love.
of - fer in hon - or and praise!

Take My Life, and Let It Be

Frances R. Havergal, 1874

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♩ = 80

Piano



1. Take my life, and let it be
2. Take my hands, and let them move
3. Take my voice, and let me sing
4. Take my sil - ver and my gold;
5. Take my will, and make it thine;
6. Take my love, my Lord, I pour

3



con - se - cra - ted, Lord, to thee. Take my mo - ments
at the im - pulse of thy love. Take my feet, and
al - ways, on - ly, for my King. Take my lips, and
not a mite would I with - hold. Take my in - tel -
it shall be no lon - ger mine. Take my heart, it
at thy feet its trea - sure store. Take my - self, and

6



and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
- lect, and use ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.
is thine own; it shall be thy roy - al throne.
I will be ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.