

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

March 17, 2024

8:00 & 10:30 AM

***Fifth Sunday of Lent***  
***A Mt. Zion Lenten Road Trip***  
***Guided to the Cross: Merge***

*Thank you for worshiping with us today. If you are a guest, 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 have children's books and activity bags for them to enjoy! Additionally, after the children's message during the 10:30AM 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**

**JOYS & CONCERNS**

**PRELUDE**

*Jesus, My Cross I Have Taken*

arr. Labenske

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

L: The prophet Jeremiah calls forth to the generations:

**C: Set up road signs; put up guideposts. Take note of the road that you take.**

**Merging takes awareness and persistence.**

L: Avoid the desire to sit on the sidelines.

**C: Let's merge and get in line with Christ.**

L: Don't remove yourself from hard conversations and hard actions.

**C: Let's merge and get in line with Christ.**

L: Stop silencing the Holy Spirit's calling.

**C: Let's merge and get in line with Christ.**

L: This Lent, may we be guided to the cross,

**C: May we seek strength, may we seek healing, may we seek wholeness.  
May our hearts be renewed in this time of worship.**

**\*OPENING HYMN NO. 562 NCH** (black hymnal, see below)

*Take My Gifts*

## Take My Gifts


Shirley Erena Murray, 1991

Colin Gibson, 1991

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♩ = 80

Piano



1. Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of  
2. Take the fruit that I have gath - ered from the tree your  
3. Take what-ev - er I can of - fer gifts that I have

4



all loved me, gave me light and food and shel - ter,  
Spir - it sowed, har - vest of your own com-pas - sion,  
yet to find, skills that I am slow to sharp - en,

7



gave me life and set me free, now be - cause your  
juice that makes the wine of God, spiced with hu - mor,  
tal - ents of the hand and mind, things made beau - ti -

10



love has touched me, I have love to give a - way, now the bread of  
laced with laugh - ter fla - vor of the Je - sus life, tang of risk and  
- ful for oth - ers in the place where I must be: take my gifts and

14



love is ris - ing, loaves of love to mul - ti - ply!  
new ad - ven - ture, taste and zest be - yond be - lief.  
let me love you, God who first of all loved me.

## \*TIME OF CONFESSION<sup>3</sup>

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: God our guide,

**C: We look for you in all the wrong places, and wonder why we cannot find you. We wander the corridors of power, while you are on the sidewalks, beside the homeless. We sit at the head tables of the world, while you are handing out soup to the hungry at the kitchen's backdoor. We applaud those who win the race, while you are cheering on those in last place. In forgiving us, God of new life, you would transform our cold hearts into those melted in service to others. In granting us mercy, you would challenge us to think of all those we have ignored. In gifting us with grace, you will enable us to proclaim Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, as the hope, the joy, the peace the world seeks. Forgive us. Grant us mercy. Gift us your grace. And help us get in line behind you.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE (see next page)

*As We Walk the Road Before Us*



# As We Walk the Road Before Us

Carol Geisler

$\text{♩} = 80$

Piano

1. As we walk the road be - fore us, see each sign a -  
2. Fa-ther, lead us to re - pen-tance, teach us from our

4  
- long the way. Mark-ing out the steps of Je-sus that we fol-low  
sins to turn. In our Sav-ior's steps to fol-low, His hu-mil-i-

8  
day by day. Know-ing where the road will take him,  
- ty to learn. In your mer-cy grant for-give-ness,

11  
Je - sus Christ the sin - ner's friend. Faith - ful to his  
lift us up from guilt and shame. Make us each a

14  
Fa - ther's prom - ise, fol - lows His path to the end.  
new cre - a - tion, now re - stored in Je - sus' name.

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

**SCRIPTURE**

*Proverbs 1:1-7 (NRSV)*  
*Matthew 16:13-26 (NRSV)*

**MESSAGE**

# Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Thomas A. Dorsey

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**Piano** ♩ = 80

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 80. The score begins with a piano dynamic marking. The lyrics are: 1. Pre-cious Lord, take my hand, lead me; 2. When my way grows drear, pre-cious; 3. When the shad - ows ap - pear and the. The second staff continues with: on, let me stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am; Lord, lin - ger near, when my life is al - most; night draws near, and the day is past and. The third staff continues with: worn; Through the storm, through the night, lead me; gone, Hear me cry, hear my call, hold my; gone, At the riv - er I stand, guide my. The fourth staff continues with: on hand, to the light Take my hand pre-cious Lord, lead me; hand, lest I fall: feet, hold my hand: home.

1. Pre-cious Lord, take my hand, lead me  
2. When my way grows drear, pre-cious  
3. When the shad - ows ap - pear and the

4  
on, let me stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am  
Lord, lin - ger near, when my life is al - most  
night draws near, and the day is past and

8  
worn; Through the storm, through the night, lead me  
gone, Hear me cry, hear my call, hold my  
gone, At the riv - er I stand, guide my

12  
on hand, to the light Take my hand pre-cious Lord, lead me  
hand, lest I fall: feet, hold my hand:

16  
home.

## 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.

**A TIME FOR SHARING**

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY & DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY

*Where He Leads Me*

by Blandly

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE 448 NCH (black hymnal, vs. 1 & 4)

*Take My Life God, Let It Be*

**ALL SING: Take my life and let it be consecrated Lord to Thee. Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold.**

**Take my intellect and use every power as Thou shalt choose.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*CLOSING HYMN NO. 2153 FAITH WE SING (see below)

*I'm Gonna Live*

**I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me**

arr. Wendell Whalum

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♩ = 80

Piano 

- 1. I'm gon-na live so God can use me \_\_\_\_\_ an-y -
- 2. I'm gon-na work so God can use me \_\_\_\_\_ an-y -
- 3. I'm gon-na pray so God can use me \_\_\_\_\_ an-y -
- 4. I'm gon-na sing so God can use me \_\_\_\_\_ an-y -

6 

- where, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ an-y - time! \_\_\_\_\_ I'm gon-na live so God can
- where, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ an-y - time! \_\_\_\_\_ I'm gon-na work so God can
- where, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ an-y - time! \_\_\_\_\_ I'm gon-na pray so God can
- where, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ an-y - time! \_\_\_\_\_ I'm gon-na sing so God can

12 

- use me \_\_\_\_\_ an-y - where, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ an-y - time! \_\_\_\_\_
- use me \_\_\_\_\_ an-y - where, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ an-y - time! \_\_\_\_\_
- use me \_\_\_\_\_ an-y - where, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ an-y - time! \_\_\_\_\_
- use me \_\_\_\_\_ an-y - where, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ an-y - time! \_\_\_\_\_

## \*BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*The Church's One Foundation*

by Stone

### References

<sup>1</sup>The Call to Worship is inspired by Rev. Mindi, and posted on Rev-o-lution. <http://rev-o-lution.org/> and accessed for use on 2/12/24.

<sup>2</sup>The Act of Confession is adapted from the writings of Thom Shuman, and posted on Lectionary Liturgies. <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca/> and accessed on 3/11/24.

### Volunteers

Thank you to all serving in worship this morning!

**8:00 AM Welcome Team Members**—Bob & Kathy Ensminger

**8:00 AM Tech Team**— Dave Firestone & Joe Vacante

**8:00 AM Liturgist**—Connie Wolfe

**10:30 AM Welcome Team Members**—Stella Fletcher, Jen & Mark Miller, & Melissa Shindler

**10:30 AM Tech Team**—Elaine Bevivino, Jack Herlocker, John Schriver

**10:30 AM Liturgist**—Tori Everhart

**10:30 AM Scripture Reader**—Tobias Rhinehart

**10:30 AM Praise Team**— Denny Daugherty, Hayden Dallam, Caitlin Damon, Mike Gibbs, Catie Kiefer

# NOTES