

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ
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Rev. Amy E. Northridge, Pastor
Mrs. Amy Peck, Worship Choir Director
Mr. Travis Pinci, Accompanist, Children's Music Coordinator, & Church Administrator
Ms. Donna Gross, Custodian

September 22, 2024

9:45 AM

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Guess Who?: A Series Investigating Key Figures of the Bible

Mt. Zion Bible Detectives: Uncovering the Wonders and Mysteries of the Faith

Thank you for worshipping 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, 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: BLANKET SUNDAY
JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**WEEKLY CLUES
PRELUDE**

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

L: Here, in this place,

C: God welcomes all the dreamers, as well as the doubters:

L: Right here,

C: the worriers and wanderers can call on God by name.

L: Here, in this time,

C: we can remember all the ways God has graced us:

L: Here, in these moments,

C: we are reminded that God is with us, always!

L: Here are gathered those daring enough to step out of comfort into the unknown:

C: here, in this faith space, we will find the courage to cry out, 'God, save us!' in every situation.

***OPENING HYMN** (see below and next page)

On Eagle's Wings

ON EAGLE'S WINGS

Michael Joncas

Verse 1



1. You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a-bide in his



1. shad-ow for life, say to the Lord: "My ref-uge, my rock in whom I trust!"

to Refrain

Refrain



And he will raise you up on ea- gle's wings, bear you on the



breath of dawn, make you to shine like the



sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

to Verses (last time to Coda) ♯

Coda



And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

Verse 2



2. The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and fam-ine will bring



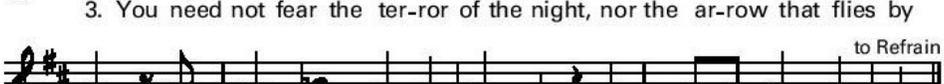
2. you no fear: un-der his wings your ref-uge, his faith-ful-ness your shield.

to Refrain

Verse 3



3. You need not fear the ter-ror of the night, nor the ar-row that flies by



3. day; though thou-sands fall a- bout you, near you it shall not come.

to Refrain

Text: Based on Psalm 91. Text and music © 1979, OCP. All rights reserved.

ON EAGLE'S WINGS (CONT. 2)

Verse 4

4. For to his an-gels he's giv-en a com-mand to
4. guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will
4. bear you up, lest you dash your foot a-gainst a stone. to Refrain

The image shows a musical score for three staves. The first staff is labeled 'Verse 4' and has a triplet of eighth notes. The lyrics are '4. For to his an-gels he's giv-en a com-mand to'. The second staff continues the melody with lyrics '4. guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will'. The third staff concludes the verse with lyrics '4. bear you up, lest you dash your foot a-gainst a stone.' and includes a 'to Refrain' instruction.

***TIME OF CONFESSION²**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Gracious God, Creator of all, Weaver of our life stories,

C: we confess that we do not always understand Your ways. We are easily discouraged when life takes unexpected turns and our carefully laid plans and dreams come to nothing. We confess that we are quick to give up when things get difficult, and quick to question Your presence and Your power. Forgive us. Grant us patience to wait for Your good timing. Open our eyes to recognize Your leading in our lives—to listen for Your gentle whisper when we least expect it. And then give us courage to step out in faith and obedience, trusting in Your leading even when we cannot yet see the outcome. We praise You for Your faithful love, and pray that You would make us worthy to bear Your name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 295 NCH (v. 1)

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

ALL SING: I sing a song of the saints of God, faithful their whole lives through, who bravely labored lived and died for the God they loved and knew. And one was a doctor and one was a queen and another a shepherd in pastures green. They were saints of God if you know what I mean God help me to be one too.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Guess Who? Scriptures

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY NCH NO. 412 (black hymnal, see next page)

God Moves in a Mysterious Way

God Moves in a Mysterious Way

William Cowper, 1774

William Kroyt, 1708

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♩ = 80

Piano

1. God moves in a mys - te - rious way great
 2. Deep in un - fath - om - a - ble mines of
 3. O fear - ful saints, fresh cour - age take, the
 4. Judge not God's way through hu - man sense, but
 5. God's pur - pos - es will rip - en fast, un -
 6. Our un - be - lief is sure to err and

4

won - ders to per - form; God plants firm foot - steps
 nev - er fail - ing skill God floods the earth with
 clouds you so much dread are big with mer - cy
 trust un - fail - ing grace: be - hind a frown - ing
 - fold - ing ev - ery hour; The bud may have a
 scan God's work in vain; God is God's own in -

7

in the sea and rides u - pon the storm.
 bright de - signs, guards with a sov - ereign will.
 and shall break in bless - ings on your head.
 prov - i - dence there shines a smil - ing face.
 bit - ter taste but sweet will be the flower.
 - ter - pret - er, whose truth shall be made plain.

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.

TIME FOR SHARING

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY & DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 433 NCH (see below)

In the Bulb There is a Flower

In the Bulb There is a Flower

Natalie Sleeth

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$\text{♩} = 80$

Piano 

1. In the bulb there is a flow-er; in the seed, an apple
2. There's a song in ev-ery si-lence, seek-ing word and mel-o -
3. In our end is our be - gin-ning; in our time, in - fin - i -

5 

tree; in co - coons, a hid-den prom-ise: but - ter - flies will soon be
- dy; there's a dawn for ev-ery dark-ness, bring-ing hope to you and
- ty; in our doubt there is be - liev-ing; in our ife, e - ter - ni -

9 

free! In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to
me. From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys-ter -
- ty. In our death, a res - ur - rec-tion; at the last, a vic - to -

13 

be, un-re - vealed un-til its sea-son, some-thing God a-lone can see.
- y, un-re - vealed un-til its sea-son, some-thing God a-lone can see.
- ry, un-re - vealed un-til its sea-son, some-thing God a-lone can see.

***BENEDICTION**
POSTLUDE

References

¹The Call to Worship is written by Thom Shuman, and posted on his Lectionary Liturgies blog for August 7, 2011, accessed for use 9/16/24.

²The Prayer of Confession is offered for use on Re:Worship Blogspot <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/07/prayer-of-confession-commitment-august.html>, and accessed on 9/16/24.

Thank you to all serving in worship this morning!

Welcome Team Members—Nancy & Jeff Sleeper, John & Connie Wolfe

Liturgist—Tori Everhart

Guest Accompanist—Amy Peck

Tech Team—George DeMers, Jack Herlocker, John Kollasch