

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ
1054 Ridgewood Road, York, Pennsylvania 17406
Telephone: 717-755-6117
E-mail: office@mtzionucc.org
Website: www.mtzionucc.org

Rev. Amy E. Northridge, Pastor
Mrs. Amy Peck, Worship Choir Director
Mr. Travis Pinci, Accompanist, Children's Music Coordinator, & Church Administrator

February 23, 2025

9:45 AM

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Guess Who?: Investigating Key Figures of the Bible ***Mt. Zion Bible Detectives: Uncovering the Wonders and Mysteries of the Faith***

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, 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

WEEKLY CLUES

PRELUDE

Be Still My Soul

by Sibelius

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

L: The prophet asks: Can our soul-weary bones live again?

C: O God, you know!

L: We ask: Can we dance again after mourning, loss and grief?

C: O God, you know!

L: The gift is sure and unmistakable:

C: God's breath poured out as new life for weary souls!

L: Let us celebrate the gift of God's new life,

C: And come to worship God in laughter and dancing!

OPENING PRAYER

L: Compassionate God,

C: the wind of your Spirit is the very sign of life for all who long for you. One breath from you and we are rescued from the arid valley of dry bones, given muscles and sinews and joy with which to praise you, and filled with the holy hope you grant to all your faithful children. Let our whole lives be filled with the life-breath of the Spirit, that what has lain dormant may burst into bloom, and what looks to us to be death may be revealed as but sleep before the emergence of new life. Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN NCH # 42 (see below)

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Miriam Winter

Carl Glaser

*Music reproduced and licensed under One License #A-725030.

Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

The musical score is written for piano on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of four lines of music, each with four measures. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures. The lyrics are: 1. O for a thou - sand; 2. My grac - ious Sav - ior; 3. Je - sus! the name that; 4. Glo - ry to God, and; 3. tongues to sing my - great Re-deem - er's praise, The; and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim, To; calms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease Is; love and praise be ev - er, ev - er given By; 6. glo - ries ev - er ech - o - ing the; spread through all the earth a - broad the; mu - sic in the sin - nger's ears, is; all the saints in ev - ery age, the; 8. tri - umphs of God's grace; hon - ors of your name; life, and health, and peace!; church in earth and heaven.

1. O for a thou - sand
2. My grac - ious Sav - ior
3. Je - sus! the name that
4. Glo - ry to God, and

3
tongues to sing my - great Re-deem - er's praise, The
and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim, To
calms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease Is
love and praise be ev - er, ev - er given By

6
glo - ries ev - er ech - o - ing the
spread through all the earth a - broad the
mu - sic in the sin - nger's ears, is
all the saints in ev - every age, the

8
tri - umphs of God's grace
hon - ors of your name
life, and health, and peace!
church in earth and heaven.

***TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Holy God,

C:...we open our hearts to you this day, and offer the truth of our lives: The fear that stifles us, the prejudice that blinds us, the ignorance that hobbles us, the doubt that plagues us. Help us, we pray, that we will find courage in unlikely place, see the world with new and gracious eyes, move to those places where love is needed, have faith that you are with us. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(Time of silence for personal reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***ACT OF PRAISE NO. 2237 FWS** (vs. 1 & 2)

As a Fire is Meant for Burning

ALL SING: As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame. So the church is meant for mission giving glory to God's name. Not to preach our creeds or customs but to build a bridge of care. We join hands across the nations finding neighbors everywhere.

We are learners; we are teachers, we are pilgrims on the way. We are seekers; we are givers. We are vessels made of clay By our gentle, loving actions we would show that Christ is light. In a humble, listening Spirit we would live to God's delight.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GUESS WHO SCRIPTURE READING

SERMON

HYMN NO. 522 NCH (black hymnal, see next page)

I Love to Tell the Story


I Love to Tell the Story

Katherine Hankey, 1866


William G. Fischer, 1869

*Music reproduced and licensed under One License #A-725030.


$\text{♩} = 80$

Piano 

1. I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove. Of
2. I love to tell the sto - ry; more won - der - ful it seems than
3. I love to tell the sto - ry; it's plea - sant to re - peat what
4. I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best seem

6 

Je - sus' ra - diant glo - ry, of Je - sus' end less love. I love to tell the sto - ry, be -
all the gold - en vi - sions of all our gold en dreams. I love to tell the sto - ry, I
seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet. I love to tell the sto - ry, for
hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it, like the rest. And when I sing in glo - ry, I

12 

- cause I know it's true; it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else can do. I
tell it now to you be - cause I want to share it, be - cause I know it's true.
some have nev - er heard the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly Word.
know the new, new song will be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

18 

love to tell the sto - ry; and when I am in glo - ry I'll tell the old, old sto - ry of

24 

Je - sus' end - less love.

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.

WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM

Bless the Lord

by Beethoven

A TIME FOR SHARING

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY & DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

by Lemmel

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***CLOSING HYMN NO. 471 NCH** (see next page)

What a Covenant

BENEDICTION

L: Come out! Jesus commands,

C: And calls us from the tombs of our existence into the brightness of a new day.

L: Come out! Jesus cries,

C: And unbinds us from the chains of our past.

L: Come out! Jesus calls,

C: And entices us into a world filled with grace and possibility.

L: So: Go out!

C: Into a world that needs our life, our breath, our spirit!

L: Go out!

C: Into a world that needs the Spirit of God, carried on our lips and in our loving arms.

L: Go out!

C: Into the world to live as God's resurrected people!

L: Go out: trusting the power of God who raised Lazarus from the dead goes with you.

Amen.

POSTLUDE

Galerius Anciens

by Janzer

References

¹The Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, and Benediction are from Come Out! On the Breath of God, Service Prayers for the fifth Sunday of Lent, written by the Rev. Elizabeth Dilley. Posted on the United Church of Christ's Worship Ways website. <http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/> and accessed for use 2/18/25.

²The Time of Confession is written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'. Used with permission.

Welcome Team Members—Faye Heal, Connie & John Wolfe

Liturgist— Brenda Beyer

Tech Team— Jack Herlocker, John Kollasch, Ron Miles

What a Covenant

Elisha A. Hoffman, 1887

Anthony J. Showalter, 1887

*Music reproduced and licensed under One License #A-725030.

Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

1. What a cov - e - nant, what a joy di - vine,
2. Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way,
3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear,

3

lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms. What a bless - ed - ness,
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms. Oh, how bright the path
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace

6

what a peace is mine, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
grows from day to day, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
with my Sav - ior near, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

9

Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms; lean - ing,

14

lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.