



Wednesday Lent Service

Everything [in] Between

7 PM

March 19, 2025

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ
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Rev. Amy E. Northridge, Pastor
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Mr. Travis Pinci, Accompanist, Children's Music Coordinator, & Church Administrator

March 19, 2025

7:00 PM

Everything [in] Between: Faith and Works¹
Lent at Mt. Zion

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. 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.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION TO THEME/POEM¹

Both, Please

Rev. Sarah Speed

PRELUDE

My Jesus I Love Thee

by Featherton

A PRAYER OF INVOCATION

L: God meets us in the night—

C: before the sun rises, before the wound heals, before there are answers, before there is closure.

L: God meets us in the light—

C: where joy is effervescent, where laughter is contagious, where flowers bloom from cracks in the sidewalk, where people gather around tables.

L: God meets us in between—

C: at the edge of the water, at the beginning of the wilderness, at the start of something new, on the edge of faith.

L: And if God meets us in all those places,

C: then surely God meets us everywhere— at the water’s edge, at the start of something new, after the baptism, and before the call.

L: We are not alone. God is all around. Let us worship the God of everything.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 463 UM HYMNAL** (see below)

Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak

Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

Frances R. Havergal, 1872

Arr. from Robert Schumann, 1872

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Piano 

1. Lord, speak to me, that I may speak in
2. O strengthen me, that while I stand firm
3. O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the
4. O fill me with thy full-ness, Lord, un-
5. O use me, Lord, use ev - en me, just

4



liv - ing ech - oes of your tone; as thou hast sought, so
on the rock, and strong in thee, I may stretch out a
precious things thou dost im - part; and wing my words, that
- til my ver - y heart o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and
as thou wilt, and when, and where, un - til thy bless - ed

7



let me seek your err - ing chil - dren lost and lone.
lov - ing hand to wres - tlers with the trou - bled sea.
they may reach the hid - den depths of many a heart.
glow - ing word, thy love to tell, thy praise to show.
face I see, thy rest, thy joy, thy glo - ry share.

***PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Together let us pray,

C: Loving God, When our anxiety hovers close, when fear clings to our bones, when our stress rises like the tide, see us. Speak to us. Call us by name. See us in the kitchen, in the classroom, in the hospital waiting room. Speak to us in the quiet, in the crowd, in the inky black of night. Call us beloved. Call us by name. Call us your child. Whatever you do, speak to us, for we cannot live on bread alone. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 10:38-42 (The Message)

CONGREGATIONAL TESTIMONY

Connie Wolfe

HYMN OF THE DAY NCH # 563 (see next page)

Savior, an Offering Costly and Sweet



Savior, an Offering Costly and Sweet

Edwin Parker, 1888

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Piano 

1. Sav - ior, an of - fer - ing cost - ly and
 2. Dai - ly our lives would show weak - ness made
 3. Some word of hope for hearts bur - dened with
 4. Thus, ev - er serv - ing you, till e - ven -

4



sweet Mar - y of Beth - a - ny laid at your
 strong, toil - some and gloom - y ways bright - ened with
 fears, some balm of peace for eyes swol - len with
 - tide clos - es the day of life, may we a -

8



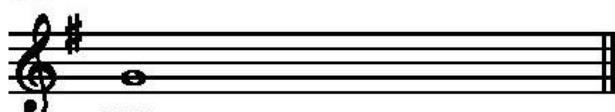
feet; May our love's in - cense rise sweet - er than
 song, Some deeds of kind - ness done, some souls by
 tears, Some dews of mer - cy shed, some way - ward
 - bide; And when earth's la - bors cease, bid us de -

12



sac - ri - fice, Sav - ior to you, dear Sav - ior to
 pa - tience won, Sav - ior to you, dear Sav - ior to
 foot - steps led, Sav - ior to you, dear Sav - ior to
 - part in peace, Sav - ior to you, dear Sav - ior to

16



you.
 you.
 you.
 you.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

L: Let us affirm our beliefs this day—beliefs that allow room for faith, works, and everything in between.

C: We believe in a Christ who teaches, sees, affirms, and celebrates all of who we are. We believe in a Christ who invites us to use our gifts for good and celebrates every step we take in that direction. We believe in a Christ who understands our anxieties and is gentle with our concerns. And we believe in a Christ who looks at us with undiluted love. The world will try to rank, rate, and declare winners, but we know love has no limit. So with God’s help, may we nurture our faith and do good work. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER²

L: Heavenly Father, as we reflect on the story of Mary and Martha, we ask for hearts that are both devoted in faith and active in service. We bring our prayers before You, trusting in Your love and mercy.

L: God of rest, sometimes we get so caught up in doing things for You that we forget to simply be with You. Help us to slow down, to sit at Your feet, and to listen to Your voice above all else. God in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer

L: But, Lord, we also know that faith calls us to action. Give us the courage to serve, even when our work seems small or unseen. Remind us that every act of love and kindness matters in Your kingdom. God in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer

L: There are times when we feel overwhelmed, burdened by too many worries and distractions. In those moments, draw us close and remind us that You are our peace, our portion, and our strength. God in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer

L: We pray for those who feel unnoticed in their service—parents caring for children, volunteers working behind the scenes, people showing quiet acts of kindness. Assure them that You see their efforts and delight in their love. God in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer

L: Jesus, You loved both Mary and Martha and called them each by name. Help us to see that there is no competition between faith and action, but that both are needed to follow You fully. Give us hearts that long to know You and hands ready to serve. God in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer

L: Loving God, You invite us into both stillness and service. May we never be too busy to hear Your voice or too hesitant to act in love. Shape us into disciples who listen deeply and serve joyfully, always walking in Your grace. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

L: Now may our voices join with all of God's children in praying the words that he taught us,

C: 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 # 527 UM HYMNAL** (see next page)

Pass It On



Pass It On

Kurt Kaiser, 1969

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Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

1. It on - ly takes a spark to get a fire go - ing,
2. What a won-drous time is spring, when all the trees are bud-ding;
3. I wish for you, my friend, this hap - pi - ness that I've found;

6

and soon all those a - round can warm up in its glow - ing.
the birds be - gin to sing, the flow-ers start their bloom - ing.
you can de-pend on him, it mat-ters not where you're bound.

11

That's how it is with God's love once you've ex - pe - ri-enced it; you
That's how it is with God's love once you've ex - pe - ri-enced it; you
I'll shout it from the moun-tain-top; I want my world to know; the

16

spread his love to ev - ery - one; you want to pass it on.
want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.
Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

***BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

Lent Medley

arr. Tate

¹Liturgy and Poem by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

²The Prayers of the People are based on prayer/prayers written by Rev. Dr. Robyn Provis, on <https://katyandtheword.com/2017/02/19/the-good-samaritan-narrative-lectionary-lent-prayers/> and accessed for use 3/10/25.

Thank you to Deb Herlocker, Jack Herlocker, & John Kollasch for serving on the tech team. Thank you to Elaine Bevivino for serving as liturgist. Thank you to our Lenten team for decorating the altar and providing the structure for our Lenten services. The Lent team members are Andrea Adams, Cindy Hogentogler, Sandy King, & Pastor Amy.

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