Mt. Zion United Church of Christ 1054 Ridgewood Road, York, Pennsylvania 17406

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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

March 23, 2025 9:45 AM

Third Sunday of Lent

Everything [in] Between¹ Rest and Growth

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 INTRODUCTION TO THEME

PRELUDE Seed Scattered and Sown by Feiten
POEM Gray written by Cindy Hogentogler & read by Tama Allison
CALL TO WORSHIP¹

L: Worship is a place to rest.

C: We breathe deeply here.

L: We still our aching bones.

C: We sit in the quiet.

L: We surround ourselves with music.

C: Worship is a place to rest.

L: Worship is a place to grow.

C: We listen for God's word.

L: We invite it to challenge us.

C: We lean in with curiosity.

L: We ask questions.

C: Worship is a place to grow.

L: So come into this space.

C: Come rest and grow here.

L: For where two or more are gathered,

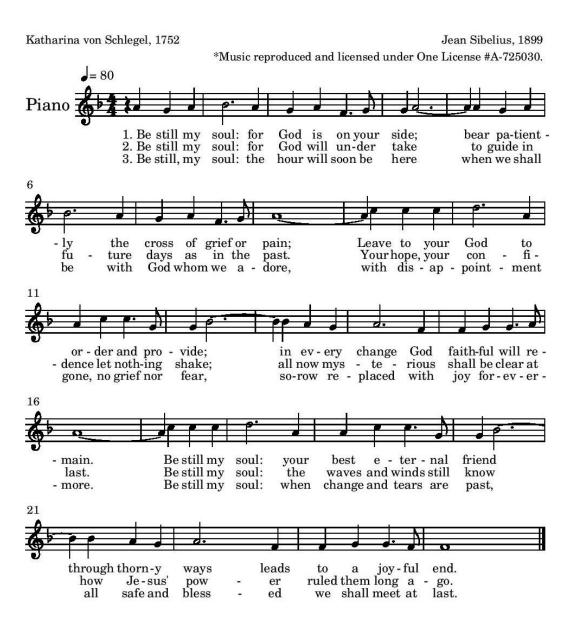
C: God is always there.

L: Let us worship our gracious God.

*GATHERING HYMN NCH # 488 (see below)

Be Still My Soul

Be Still My Soul



*TIME OF CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Holy God,

C: There are days when we fail to rest. We stretch ourselves too thin. We say "yes" to every invitation. We run a million miles a minute. We ignore your command to rest. There are also days when we fail to act. We wait for someone else. We take the easy road. We find excuses and justify our inaction. God, forgive our imbalance. Remind us that birds rest, and they also fly. Show us how to do the same. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Family of faith, I have good news! Our God does not keep score. Our God does not hold grudges. Our God does not assume the worst about us. No, our God offers grace, and endless second chances, and boundless love. So join me in proclaiming the good news of the gospel:

C: God's grace is deeper than the ocean. God's love is wider than the sky. We are seen. We are claimed. We are forgiven. May this realization change and inspire us. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*ACT OF PRAISE UM HYMNAL # 558 (refrain, v. 4, refrain, see below) We Are the Church ALL SING: I am the church! You are the church! We are the church together! All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church together!

And when the people gather, there's singing and there's praying, there's laughing and there's crying sometimes, all of it saying,

I am the church! You are the church! We are the church together! All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church together!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

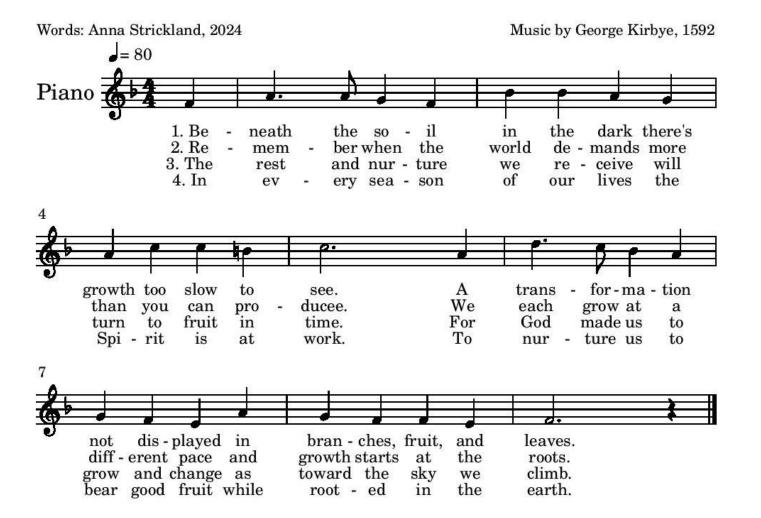
SCRIPTURE Luke 13:6-9 (CEB)

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY (see next page)

Beneath the Soil

Beneath the Soil



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

Crucified with Christ

by Dengler

A TIME FOR SHARING

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY & DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

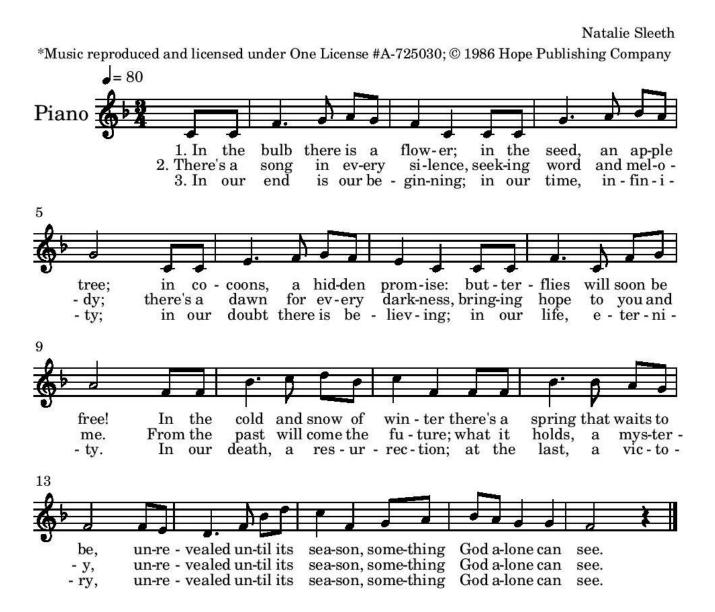
by Maker

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 707 UM (see below)

Hymn of Promise

In the Bulb There is a Flower



by Birchwood

References

¹The Worship Liturgy was by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org ²The Poem *Gray* was written by Cindy Hogentogler

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.

Welcome Team Members—John & Connie Wolfe, Barry & Nancy Schwartz
Guest Preacher—Andrea Adams
Liturgist— Carol Hartman
Tech Team— Elaine Bevivino, John Kollasch, John Schriver