

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

June 01, 2025

9:45 AM

Seventh Sunday of Easter
Graduate Recognition Sunday

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
UPDATE FROM CHURCH COUNCIL

PRELUDE (played by the Holy Dingalings)

Seek Ye First

by Lafferty

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

L: When we pass through the waters,

C: God is there with us.

L: When we suffer and feel hopeless,

C: God is there with us.

L: When we are joyful and celebratory,

C: God is there with us.

L: Whether we feel triumphant or defeated,

C: God is there with us, always.

L: Come, let us worship together. Our God is here with us.

Take My Gifts

Shirley Erena Murray, 1991

Colin Gibson, 1991

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$\text{♩} = 80$

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 CONFESSION²**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Creator of the universe,

C: we stand amazed at your power and glory. We are eager to worship you and offer our praise, but we are often reluctant to answer when we hear you calling our name. We sing our songs of tribute in the sanctuary, but shy away from the river, lest we be baptized with the fire of the Holy Spirit.

Forgive us when we forget your promise to be with us always, O God. Renew us with the power of your ever-present love, and strengthen us to proclaim your justice throughout the world. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***ACT OF PRAISE NCH # 236** (black hymnal)

Halle, Halle, Halle

ALL SING: Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah, hallelujah.

I am the resurrection, live in me. I am the way the truth, follow me. I am the resurrection, live in me. Hallelujah, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah, hallelujah.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Every Move I Make

by Ruis

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 43:1-3 (CEB)

Philippians 1:3-9 (CEB)

GRADUATE SOLO

The Call by Williams

Finn McCracken

GRADUATE TESTIMONY

Jonathan Butcher

HYMN OF THE DAY UM HYMNAL NO. 593 (see next page)

Here I Am Lord

Here I Am Lord

Dan Schutte, 1981

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Piano $\text{♩} = 80$



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo-ple cry.
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo-ple's pain.
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,

5
 All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I who made the
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will break their
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin-est bread I

10
 stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright. Who will bear my
 hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone. I will speak my
 will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied. I will give my

14
 light to them? Whom shall I send? Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
 word to them. Whom shall I send?
 life to them. Whom shall I

21
 I have heard you call-ing in the night. I will go Lord, if you

28
 lead me. I will hold your peo-ple in my heart.

GRADUATE RECOGNITION

*Caden Billet
Jonathan Butcher
Maddie Haugh
Finn McCracken
Anson Morcos
Zander Ray
Weston Wagaman*

OPENING WORDS FOR A GRADUATION CELEBRATION³

GRADUATION CELEBRATION LITANY

P: Beloved ones, we gather on this threshold moment—between what has been and what is yet to come. We name the journey taken, and we bless the road that lies ahead.

C: We give thanks for knowledge gained, lessons learned, and challenges overcome.

P: We honor the long nights and early mornings, the growth in character, curiosity, and courage.

C: We celebrate the ways our graduate has stretched, become, questioned, and deepened.

P: And now, we offer our blessings for the continued journey ahead.

CONGREGATION BLESSING

C: May your mind stay curious, open to wonder, wisdom, and truth. May your body carry you boldly, with strength, rest, and resilience. May your heart stay soft, ready to give and receive love freely. May your spirit stay rooted, grounded in grace, guided by God. May your path be lit by compassion, and your steps marked by justice. May you know your worth is not in titles or tests, but in the deep truth that you are beloved. May you remember whose you are, and walk always in the way of Jesus.

PRAYER OF BLESSING

WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM

Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A TIME FOR SHARING

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY & DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY

Servant Song

McGargill

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

L: We give thanks for this meal, as together we pray, God our Father,

C: God of the table and the journey, we thank you for this holy meal—for bread that strengthens, and a cup that reminds us we are never alone. As we go from here, may the taste of grace linger on our lips. May we carry the memory of your presence into all that lies ahead—in endings and beginnings, in rest and in work, in joy and in uncertainty. You have called us by name. You have fed us with love. Now send us out, nourished and not alone, to walk in your way. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN NCH NO. 81** (see next page)

God Be With You Til We Meet Again



God Be With You

Jeremiah E. Rankin

Edward J. Hopkins, 1869

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$\text{♩} = 80$

Piano



1. God be with you till we meet a-gain; By good coun-sel guide, up -
 2. God be with you till we meet a-gain; Wings of shel-ter safe - ly
 3. God be with you till we meet a-gain; When life's per - ils thick con -
 4. God be with you till we meet a-gain; Keep love's ban-ner float-ing

4



- hold you, With a shep-herd's care en - fold you: God be with you till we
 hide you, Dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you: God be with you till we
 - found you, Put un - fail - ing arms a - round you: God be with you till we
 o'er you, Smite death's threat-ening wave be - fore you: God be with you till we

8 *Refrain*



meet a-gain. Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Je sus' feet; till we
 meet a-gain.
 meet a-gain.
 meet a-gain.

13



meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.

References

¹The Call to Worship was written by Rev. Mindi, and posted on Rev-o-lution. <http://rev-o-lution.org/2011/10/23/worship-resources-for-october-30-2011-and-all-saints-day/> and accessed for use on 5/19/25.

²The Prayer of Confession is from posted on the Ministry Matters website by Laura Jaquith Bartlett. <http://www.ministrymatters.com/> and accessed for use on 5/19/25.

³The Opening Words for a Graduation Celebration is offered as a resource as posted on posted on A Preacher Musing, June, 2016. <https://preachermusings.wordpress.com/2016/06/30/graduation-june-26-2016/> and accessed 5/19/25. And the remainder of the blessing is written from it's inspiration.

Welcome Team Members—Sarah Shaffer, Connie & John Wolfe

Liturgist— Tama Allison

Tech Team— Ron Miles, Joe Vacante