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

June 29, 2025

9:45 AM

Biblical Detectives: Discovering the Unknown The Holy Trinity

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! Please see a member of the welcoming team for assistance!

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

(played by *Destiny* band and sung by Sandy Brown) *I'll Fly Away* by Brumley

GATHERING LITURGY¹

L: We gather today as seekers of discovery, carried by wonder, embraced by mystery, drawn here by the God who is always revealing more.

C: We come with expectant hearts, ready to meet the Living God.

L: This is the wonder we cannot keep silent:

C: May this eternal truth be always on our hearts: that the God who breathed this world into being, placed stars into the heavens, and designed a butterfly's wing, is the God who entrusted His Son to the care of ordinary people, and became vulnerable that we might know the strength and wonder of His Love. A mystery so deep it is impossible to grasp. A mystery so beautiful it is impossible to ignore.

L: Let us worship this God of wonder, mystery, and love.

This Is My Father's World



*TIME OF CONFESSION²

CALL TO CONFESSION PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Holy God,

C: you invite us to live in mystery—to walk by faith, not by sight. But we confess: we prefer certainty. We long for clear paths, fixed plans, and predictable outcomes. You call us to trust in your promises, to see the world through your eyes of mercy. But too often, we rely on our own understanding, measuring life by what we can control.

You speak of new creation, of old things passing away and everything becoming new. But we hold on to the familiar, afraid to let go of what no longer gives life. It is hard to live by faith. Forgive us, O God of mercy.

Forgive us for playing god, for clinging to illusions of control, instead of resting in your mystery and love. Teach us again to walk by faith. Amen. ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Hear this good news: The God who scattered stars across the heavens also plants seeds of grace in the soil of your soul. Though the work is hidden, though the growth is a mystery, God is making all things new—even you. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven, we all are forgiven, set free to live by faith, and called to grow in love.

ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC (played by *Destiny* band)

Nothing Special

by Sprenkle

SCRIPTURE

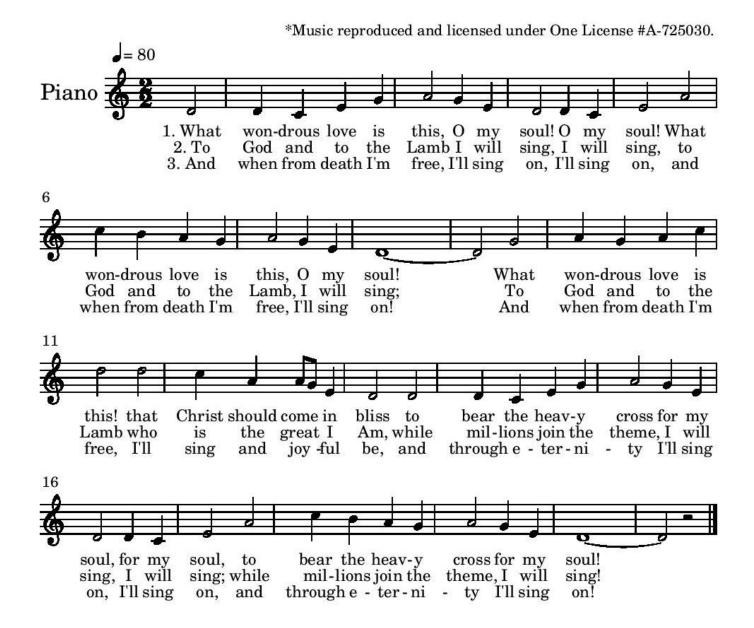
Genesis 1:1-5, 22-23 (CEB) John 1:1-5 (CEB)

INVESTIGATING THE QUESTIONS

HYMN OF THE DAY NO. 223 NCH (see next page)

What Wondrous Love is This

What Wondrous Love Is This



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.

A TIME FOR SHARING

| INVITATION TO GENEROSITY & DISCIPLESHIP OFFERTORY (played by <i>Destiny</i> band) | Power in the Blood | by Jones |
|--|----------------------------------|----------|
| *PRAYER OF DEDICATION | | |
| *CLOSING HYMN NO. 2120 FWS (see next page) | Spirit of Gentleness (v. 1, 3-4) | |
| *BENEDICTION | | |

POSTLUDE

Thanks Be to Thee

Handel

References

¹The opening liturgy includes the writing of John Birch, posted on <u>Faith and Worship</u> - <u>Prayers and Resources</u> and used with permission as accessed at https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/11/sending-mystery-so-deep.html on 6/11/25.

²The prayer of confession is inspired by the work of by Peter Bankson. Posted on the **Worship Elements** page of the **Ministry Matters** website. <u>http://www.ministrymatters.com/</u> and accessed on 6/11/25.

<u>Welcome Team Members</u>Carol Hartman & Faye Heal <u>Liturgist</u>Tori Everhart <u>Tech Team</u> Deb Herlocker, Jack Herlocker, & Paul Ramsey <u>Special Musicians</u>Destiny band, music group led by Mike Gibbs, Sandy Brown

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

James K. Manley, 1978 *Music reproduced and licensed under One License #A-725030.

