

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

Rev. Amy E. Northridge, Pastor  
Louis Allison, Tech Director

Travis Pinci, Accompanist, Children's Music Coordinator, & Church Administrator

February 18, 2026

3:00 & 7:00 PM

**Valleys of Lent**

**Ash Wednesday: Valley of Dry Bones**

**With Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion**

*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 have children's books and activity bags for them to enjoy in the side narthex! Please see a member of the welcoming team for assistance!*

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Genesis 3:8-20 (NRSVUE)

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where will my help come?

**C: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

L: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

**C: He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

L: Even in the darkest valley, no evil need be feared. The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

**C: The sun shall not strike you by day nor the moon by night.**

L: The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

**C: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.**

L: Even in the darkest valley, no evil need be feared. To you we lift up our eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

**C: As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, until he has mercy on us.**

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

# Sunday's Palms are Wednesday's Ashes

Grand Piano  $\text{♩} = 80$

1. Sun-day's palms are Wednes-day's ash - es as an -  
 2. We have failed to love our neigh - bors, their of -  
 3. We are hast - y to judge oth - ers, blind to

4  
 - other - er Lent be - gins; thus we kneel be - fore our Mak - er in con -  
 - fence - es to for - give, have not lis - tened to their trou - bles, nor have  
 proof of hu - man need; and our lack of un - der - stand - ing dem - on -

8  
 - tri - tion for our sins. We have marred bap - tis - mal pledg - es, in re -  
 cared just how they live, we are jeal - ous, proud, im - pat - tient, lov - ing  
 - strates our in - ner greed; we have wast - ed earth's re - sourc - es; want and

12  
 - bel - lion gone a - stray; now, re - turn - ing, seek for - give ness; grant us  
 o - ver much our things; may the yield - ing of our fail - ings be our  
 suf - fer - ing we've ig - nored; come and cleanse us, then re - store us; make new

16  
 par - don, God, this day!  
 Lent - en of - fer - ings.  
 hearts with - in us, Lord!

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

## **\*TIME OF CONFESSION & IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

### CALL TO CONFESSION

L: Tonight, we find ourselves in a valley. Not because we failed, but because every long journey eventually leads us here. Our hearts wander. Our faith grows tired. Our hope wears thin. And still, God meets us in the valley. Not with judgment, but with breath. So trusting that the Spirit still moves among dry bones and still gathers wandering hearts, let us confess our sin and our need for God's restoring grace. Together, let us pray.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: God of breath and bone,

**C: we confess that we are weary. We wandered far from you and from one another. We have chased voices that promised life but left us dry and hollow.**

**We remember tonight that we are dust, and to dust we shall return. We confess that without you, we cannot make ourselves live. Forgive us for the harm we have caused through what we have done and what we have left undone. Forgive us for the ways we have settled for survival instead of trust, for wandering instead of listening.**

**Meet us here in this valley. Speak again to what feels lifeless in us. Breathe your Spirit into our dry bones until hope stirs and faith rises. We trust the good news: that through the cross of Jesus Christ, death does not get the final word, and even in the valley, new life is possible. So lead us forward in you.**

### INVITATION TO RECEIVE ASHES

### IMPOSITION OF ASHES

### ABSOLUTION OF SINS

### SONG OF TURNING (to the tune of the Doxology)

*Valleys of Lent*

**ALL SING: Valleys of Lent before us loom, Broad vistas fraught with dread and gloom. Good Shepherd, be our help and guide; Safely we travel at your side.**

**Breathe on us, Lord; behold our strife; Breathe on us with your breath of life. Help us this Lenten lesson learn: "Fashioned from dust, to dust return!"**

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

# INTRODUCTION TO LENTEN JOURNEY & PASSPORTS/CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(7:00 PM) **WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM**

*I Surrender All*

arr. Johnson

## SCRIPTURE

*Ezekiel 37:1-14 (NRSVUE)*

## TIME OF REFLECTION

DRAMA

SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY** (to the tune of *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*, see below)

*Christ, the Life of All the Living*

## Christ the Life of All the Living

Piano  $\text{♩} = 80$

The musical score is written for piano in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with line numbers 4, 8, 12, and 16 indicating the start of each line of text. The piece concludes with a double bar line on the fifth staff.

1. Christ the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the  
2. You have suf - fered great af - flic - tion and have  
3. Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the

4  
death of death, our foe, Christ your - self for me once giv - ing to the  
borne it pa - tient - ly, e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly  
sor - rows deep and sore, for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will

8  
dark - est depths of woe: through your suf - fring, death, and mer - it life e -  
to a - tone for me; for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my  
thank you ev - er - more; thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the

12  
- ter - nal I in - her - it. Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est  
doom should be pre - vent - ed. Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est  
bleed - ing and the dy - ing, for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you

16  
Je - sus, un - to you.  
Je - sus, un - to you.  
ev - er - more on high.

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: We are ashes, Creator God, fashioned from the dust of the earth, to which we must return. We are dust, Creator God, besmudged with sin and disobedience, and to dust we must return. But we are your dust, Creator God, fashioned by your fingers and breathed into by your own life-giving breath. We came into being at your behest. And now, most gracious God, we poor sinners do beseech you: Come to deliver us, whom you made from dust.

**C: Let your Holy Spirit breathe new life into these dry bones.**

L: Blow upon the dry valleys of our existence. Hover over us as once your Spirit brooded over the face of the deep, and refresh us with the forgiveness bought by the blood of Jesus Christ, who gave up his breath on the cross so that we might be revived. Come to deliver us, whom you made from dust.

**C: Let your Holy Spirit breathe new life into these dry bones.**

L: Accompany us through every valley we traverse this Lenten season and throughout our lives. Be present to deliver us from fearsome enemies and slithering temptations; keep our feet from falling, our minds from wandering, our wills from wavering. Whenever we are confronted by the old evil Foe, come to deliver us, whom you made from dust.

**C: Let your Holy Spirit breathe new life into these dry bones.**

L: With the tender concern of a shepherd, care for those for whom we care, the sick and the injured, the hospitalized and the homebound, the lonely and despairing, the frightened and the oppressed, and those who grieve. Bring them once again to green pastures and still waters, and refresh their souls. Come to deliver us, whom you made from dust.

**C: Let your Holy Spirit breathe new life into these dry bones.**

L: Let war and strife give place to peace and concord throughout the world, and make us instruments of your peace, those who work for life in the midst of the death that surrounds us. For all humanity, in every place we pray: Come to deliver us, whom you made from dust.

**C: Let your Holy Spirit breathe new life into these dry bones.**

L: For the sake of him who gave up his spirit for us all, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## TIME FOR SHARING

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY & DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY

*Ashes*

by Conry

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: God of mercy,

**C: we offer these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our need. Receive them, and receive us, breathing life into what feels small or worn. Use all that we bring to serve your world with love. Amen.**

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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 RECEIVE

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

L: I invite you to stand as comfortable to join in our post communion prayer. God of mercy,

**C: we thank you for meeting us at this table. You have fed us in the valley and strengthened us for the journey ahead. Carry this grace into our weary places. Breathe life into what feels dry within us, until we are raised again to walk in your love. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN (see below)

*Journey to Gethsemane*

# Journey to Gethsemane (Valley Verses)

James Montgomery, 1820

Richard Redhead, 1853

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

*Piano*  $\text{♩} = 80$

The musical score is written on three staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 80. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The second staff starts at measure 5 and continues the melody. The third staff starts at measure 9 and concludes with a double bar line.

1. Jour-ney to Geth - se - ma - ne, go and feel the tempter's power;  
2. In the steps our Savior trod, Let us fol - low faith - ful - ly,

5  
Your Redeem-er's con - flict see, watch the anguish of this hour;  
Where the sin - less Son of God went to set us sin - ners free.

9  
Do not hide or turn a - way: learn from Je - sus how to pray.  
Mar each foot - step in the strife of the Way, the Truth, the Life.

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

**\*BENEDICTION** (Isaiah 40:28-31)

L: The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

**C: He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.**

L: He gives power to the faint and to him who has no might he increases strength.

**C: Even youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall fall exhausted;**

L: But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,

**C: They shall mount up with wings like eagles,**

L: They shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

L2: Go in peace, you do not walk alone.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

by Maker

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**Welcome Team Members 3:00 PM**— Doris Loucks, Bob Katherman, & Lana Fritz

**Welcome Team Members 7:00 PM**—Elaine Bevivino, Becky Hester, & John & Connie Wolfe

**Liturgist 3:00 PM**— Brenda Beyer

**Liturgist 7:00 PM**—Deb Herlocker

**Tech Team 3:00 PM**— Louis Allison & Ron Miles

**Tech Team 7:00 PM**—Jack Herlocker, John Kollasch, & Eloise Rhinehart

\*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.



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