

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  
Cody Messersmith, Worship Music Director  
Travis Pinci, Accompanist, Children's Music Coordinator, & Church Administrator

June 21, 2026

9:45 AM

**Mt. Zion UCC Summer Road Trip**

**June 21, 2026: Rocky Mountain National Park**

*Seeing God in the beauty of nature as the US celebrates 250 years*

*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! We have children's books and activity bags for them to enjoy in the side narthex! Sunday School is currently paused for the summer and will return in the fall. Please see a member of the welcoming team for assistance!*

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**JOYS & CONCERNS**

**PRELUDE** (sung by the Belles)      *Simple Gifts/Pachelbel's Canon*      arr. Moore

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (inspired by Psalm 8:3-8)

L: Come, travelers on the road of faith.

**C: We gather in God's presence.**

L: When we look at the heavens, the work of God's fingers,

**C: We marvel at the beauty of creation.**

L: When we consider the earth and all that fills it,

**C: We remember God's goodness and care.**

L: From sunrise to sunset, God's glory surrounds us.

**C: We come to worship the Creator of all things.**

L: Come, let us worship.

**C: Let us worship God.**

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: God of creation, today we give thanks for your presence at Rocky Mountain National Park and the gift of mountaintop moments. As a climber reaches the summit and finds a place of stillness amid the vastness, remind us that your Spirit often speaks not in the loud and dramatic, but in quiet ways that call us closer. As we look at the wonder you have created around us, meet us here on holy ground. Shape us by your Spirit, open our ears to your presence, and our hearts to your call. Amen.

**\*OPENING HYMN ELW NO. 513** (see below)

*Listen, God is Calling*

## Listen, God is Calling

Tanzanian tune; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, b. 1919

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$\text{♩} = 80$   
*Leader* *All*

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three systems of music. The first system (measures 1-6) features a piano accompaniment with a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The lyrics are: "Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word in-viting, offer-ing for-". The second system (measures 7-13) continues the piano accompaniment and includes a vocal line for the leader. The lyrics are: "- giveness, com - fort, and joy." followed by three verses: "1. Je-sus gave his mandate: share", "2. Let none be for-got-ten through-", and "3. Help us to be faith-ful, stand-". The third system (measures 14-20) continues the piano accompaniment and includes a vocal line for the leader. The lyrics are: "the good news that he came to save us and set us free.", "- out the world. In the tri-une name of God go and bap-tize.", "- ingstead - fast, walking in your precepts, led by your Word."

Piano

Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word in-viting, offer-ing for-

- giveness, com - fort, and joy.

1. Je-sus gave his mandate: share  
2. Let none be for-got-ten through-  
3. Help us to be faith-ful, stand-

the good news that he came to save us and set us free.  
- out the world. In the tri-une name of God go and bap-tize.  
- ingstead - fast, walking in your precepts, led by your Word.

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

## **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS<sup>1</sup>**

### INVITATION TO CONFESSION

L: In these summer days we rejoice in the gifts of your creation—the beauty of the earth, the playfulness of animals, and the gift of our being—fragile as it may be. Though God’s creation dazzles us with all of its wonder, we have not always done our part to be good stewards of it. Together, let us confess before God the times we have missed the mark when it comes to our own lives as well as caring for creation.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: O God,

**C: God, we come to you today acknowledging that things are broken. Creation is broken. Relationships are broken. We are broken. But in the same breath we know that you make all things new. Today we pray that your presence would be felt in our brokenness. We ask that through your grace all of creation would once again be made whole. Amen.**

### WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

P: Hear the great news today; through his life, death, and resurrection—Christ heals what we have broken. Just as quickly as our sins were offered up, they have been forgiven. This day you are forgiven, we all are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

\*ACT OF PRAISE NCH NO. 4 (black hymnal, v. 2, see next two pages)

*Joyful Joyful We Adore You*

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

# Joyful, Joyful, We Adore

Henry van Dyke, 1907

Ludwig von Beethoven, 1824

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

$\text{♩} = 80$

Piano

1. Joy-ful, joy - ful, we a - dore you, God of glo - ry,  
2. All your works with joy sur-round you, earth and heaven re -  
3. You are giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing,  
4. Mortals, join the might - y cho - rus which the morn-ing

God of love; Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore you, opening to the  
- flect your rays, Stars and an-gels sing a-round you, cen-ter of un-  
ev - er blessed, Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of  
stars be - gan; Bound-less love is reign-ing o'er us, re - con - cil - ing

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

sun a - bove.  
- bro - ken praise.  
hap - py rest!  
race and clan.

Melt the clouds of  
Field and for - est,  
Lov - ing Spir - it,  
Ev - er singing,

sin and sad - ness,  
vale and mountain,  
Fa - ther, Moth - er,  
move we for - ward,

drive the storms of  
flower - y meadow,  
all who love be -  
faith - ful in the

doubt a - way;  
flash - ing sea,  
- long to you;  
midst of strife,

Giv - er of im -  
Chanting bird and  
Teach us how to  
Joy - ful mu - sic

mor - tal glad - ness,  
flow - ing foun - tain,  
love each - oth - er,  
leads us on - ward

fill us with the  
teach us what our  
by what love our  
in the triumph

light of day.  
praise should be.  
joy re - new.  
song of life.

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

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

## SCRIPTURE READING

*1 Kings 19:1-19 (NRSVUE)*

## SERMON

## SPECIAL MUSIC (sung by Caitlin Damon)

## GRADUATE RECOGNITION

OPENING WORDS FOR A GRADUATION CELEBRATION<sup>2</sup>

GRADUATION CELEBRATION LITANY

L: 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.**

L: 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.**

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

CONGREGATION BLESSING

**ALL: 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

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

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

# I Was There to Hear Your Borneing Cry

John Ylvisaker

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**Piano**  $\text{♩} = 80$



1. I was there to hear your borneing cry, I'll be there when you are
2. When you found the won-der of the Word, I was there to cheer you
3. In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no long - er
4. I was there to hear your borneing cry, I'll be there when you are

5



old. I re - joiced the day you were baptized, to see your life un -  
on; You were raised to praise the liv - ing God, to whom you now be -  
young, I'll be there to guide you through the night, com - plete what I've be -  
old. I re - joiced the day you were baptized, to see your life un -

9



- fold. I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you  
- long. Should you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as  
- gun. When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry  
- fold.

13



well; I'll be there in case you wan-der off and find where de-mons dwell.  
one, I'll be there to make your vers-es rhyme from dusk till ris-ing sun.  
eyes, I'll be there as I have al-ways been with just one more sur - prise.

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

## 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.**

## TIME FOR SHARING<sup>1</sup>

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY & DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY

*How Firm a Foundation*

arr. Berry

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: God,

**C: we know that you aren't in need of anything we have to offer. However you desire for us to serve you in every aspect of our life. We pray that this offering was not a meaningless ritual but a true act of worship. Bless these tithes and offerings and guide us as we seek to use them to serve you in all of creation. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** (see next page)

*Here I Am Lord*

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

# 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 people cry.  
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people'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. Finest bread I

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

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

heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will

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



### \*BENEDICTION

P: May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you: wherever he may send you; may he guide you through the wilderness: protect you through the storm; may he bring you home rejoicing: at the wonders he has shown you; may he bring you home rejoicing: once again into our doors.

**C: Amen.**

### \*SENDING

P: Go forth rejoicing in God's calling and sharing God's grace with the world.

**C: Thanks be to God! We will!**

### POSTLUDE

*Faith of Our Fathers*

arr. Berry

### Service Participants

**Welcome Team Members**— Jennifer Damon & Doris Loucks

**Liturgist**— Tori Everhart

**Tech Team**— Louis Allison, John Kollasch

**Special Musicians**—Caitlin Damon & the Belles

### References

<sup>1</sup>The Time of Confession and the Offertory Liturgies are written by Drew Gray

<sup>2</sup>The 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.

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