**Zion’s United Church of Christ of Taborton**

**Service of the Worship of God**

**Sunday, September 20, 2020**

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Rev. Hafidha F. Saadiqah, Pastor \* Mr. Robert Bondi, Board Moderator

Mr. Conor Frost, Musician

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PRELUDE *Traumerei* R. Schumann

WELCOME & ANNOUNCMENTS

CALL to WORSHIP

 L: Come and worship,

everyone on earth,

everywhere the sun shines,

**ALL: Let’s praise God together!**

L: For listening when we call,

answering our prayers,

forgiving our mistakes,

and providing what we need:

**ALL: Let’s praise God together!**

L: Come and worship,

everyone on earth,

everywhere the sun shines,

**ALL: Let’s praise God together!**

~ Christine Longhurst, re:Worship

OPENING PRAYER

\*HYMN *Let Every Christian Pray* LAUDES DOMINI

\*UNISON PRAYER of CONFESSION

 God of Surprising Generosity and Unexpected Grace,

We have come to witness a miracle;

to prepare our hearts for a new invasion of Your Light;

But we know that your generosity is not like ours.

While you have no constraints on your love, we seek assurances of worthiness.

God of plenty, soften our hearts and increase our caring capacity.

Birth us into a new reality where there is no shortage of your resources.

By your mercy and grace move in our midst to captivate and challenge us

to live and move and love in all things according to your abundance.

Here us as we come to you in silence.

~ John van de Laar

***\*Words of Assurance (*minister*)***

 ***\*Gloria Patri* (spoken)**

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit Three in One!

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be;

 World without end. Amen. Amen.

***\*Offering Signs of Peace***

INTERLUDE *Praeludium* J.S. Bach

INVITATION to STEWARDSHIP

***Doxology (*spoken)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

 Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise Godabove, ye heavenly host.

 Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication***

**God of grace help us live and give in your kingdom of love,
where there are no enemies, only brothers and sisters,
and kindness is the air we breathe. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

~ written by Carol Penner

CHILDREN’S TIME

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE Jonah 3:10-4:11

SERMONOur God is Not Puny

INTERLUDE *Prelude Op. 3 No. 2* S. Rachmaninoff

\*HYMN *When Peace, Like a River* VILLE DU HAVRE

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *More Precious Than Silver* J. Deshazo

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***THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US!***

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***Today’s Scriptures:***

**Jonah 3:10-4:11**

(The Inclusive Bible)

﻿10 God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behavior. And God relented by not inflicting on them the disaster that threatened them.

4 :1 But Jonah grew indignant and fell into a rage. 2 He prayed to YHWH and said, “Please, YHWH! Isn’t this exactly what I said would happen, when I was still in my own country? That’s why I left and fled to Tarshish: I knew that you were a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness, relenting from violence. 3 Now, YHWH, please take my life! I’d rather be dead than keep on living!” 4 Then YHWH said, “What gives you the right to be angry?”

5 Jonah then left the city and sat down to the east of it. There he made a shelter for himself and sat down under the shade to see what would happen to the city. 6 Then YHWH God sent a castor oil plant\* to grow up over Jonah to shade his head and soothe his indignation. Jonah was delighted with the castor oil plant. 7 But at dawn the next day, God sent a worm to attack the castor oil plant and it withered. 8 And after the sun had risen, God sent a scorching east wind. The sun beat down on Jonah’s head so that he was overcome and begging for death, and said, “I’d rather be dead than keep on living!” 9 God said to Jonah, “What gave you the right to be upset about the castor plant?” He replied, “I have every right to be angry, to the point of death!” 10 God replied, “You feel sorrow because of a castor plant that cost you no labor, that you did not make grow, that sprouted in a night, and that perished in a night. 11 Is it not right, then, for me to feel sorrow for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than 120,000 people who cannot tell their right hand from their left, to say nothing of all the animals?”

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***REMINDERS… REMINDERS… REMINDERS…***

**TODAY** is **HOMECOMING!**  - September 20th! It means…

 \*No-touch Coffee Hour resumes in Fellowship Hall

 \*Children and their families are invited to sign-up to light the candle and collect the

offering (see Pastor Hafidha)

 \*Sunday School for children and youth begins (see Marsha Millington)

 \**Bring Your Own Theology* resumes on Zoom, Wednesday, 23 September, 7pm

 (Zoom Meeting #:

**Don’t Forget Your Church During This Time:** You can give your offering or pledge online at: members.myeoffering.com.

**HYMNS for THE LORD’S DAY**

**LET EVERY CHRISTIAN PRAY**

HYMN TUNE: LAUDES DOMINI

LYRICS: Fred Pratt Green

1. Let every Christian pray, this day and every day,

Come, Holy Spirit, come!

Was not the church we love, commissioned from above?

Come, Holy Spirit, come!

1. The Spirit brought to birth the church of Christ on earth

to seek and save the lost:

God never has withdrawn, since that tremendous dawn,

the gifts of Pentecost.

1. Only the Spirit’s power can fit us for this hour:

come, Holy Spirit come!

Unite, instruct, inspire

and fill us with your fire; come Holy Spirit, come!

**WHEN PEACE, LIKE A RIVER**

HYMN TUNE: VILLE DU HAVRE

LYRICS: Ps. 146; Col. 1:19-23; 2:13-14; 3 John 1:2

1. When peace, like a river, upholds me each day,

when sorrows like sea billows roll,

Whatever my lot, you have taught me to say,

“It is well, it is well with my soul.”

 **Refrain**

 It is well (it is well) with my soul, (will my soul)

 It is well, it is well with my soul.

1. Though evil should tempt me, though trials should come,

let this blessed assurance control -

 that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,

 and has paid life and blood for my soul:

**Refrain**

 It is well (it is well) with my soul, (will my soul)

 It is well, it is well with my soul.

1. My sin - oh, the bless of this glorious thought -

my sin - not in part, but the whole -

Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more.

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

**Refrain**

 It is well (it is well) with my soul, (will my soul)

 It is well, it is well with my soul.

1. O God, speed the day that is filled with your light,

when clouds are rolled back as a scroll;

The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall appear,

“even so” - it is well with my soul.

**Refrain**

 It is well (it is well) with my soul, (will my soul)

 It is well, it is well with my soul.

