



Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ
Second Sunday of Christmas Worship Sunday, January 8, 2023

Ministers: All the Faithful Members

Preacher: Rev. Joel Risser

1588 Mount Zion Road, Lebanon, PA 17046 717-865-3286 www.ziongosherts.org

*Please stand if you are able. Congregation, please speak the words in **bold**.

PRELUDE

WELCOME (Ringing of the Bell)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In the beginning, at creation, the Spirit hovered over the waters of the deep.

People: In the waters of the flood, God cleansed the earth and humankind.

L: God caused the waters to part so that Israel could cross from slavery to liberation.

P: God formed Jesus in the waters of Mary's womb.

L: Jesus taught us how to live by washing his disciples' feet in water.

P: Drinking water from a well, Jesus met a Samaritan woman, the first person to recognize that he was the Christ.

L: Today we celebrate the baptism of Jesus, the Christ.

P: God meant for Jesus to be the firstborn in a large family. Praise be!

*OPENING HYMN

Take My Life, and Let It Be

Hymnal #357

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

INSTALLATION OF CONSISTORY MEMBERS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Blessed be the Holy One of Israel, The Word made flesh, The Power of the Most High, One God, now and forever. Amen.

Gathered in the name of Jesus, Let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, In Christ Jesus you come among us As light shining in darkness. We confess our failure to welcome this light. Forgive us and renew our hope, So that we may live in the light of your grace, And welcome the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

I bring you good news of great joy for all the people: To you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord. Your sins are forgiven in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR DISCERNMENT

Lector: God be with you. **People: And also with you.**

SCRIPTURE : Matthew 3:13-17

SERMON: Possibilities Unfolding

HYMN:

Spirit of the Living God/Fall Fresh On Me

Hymnal #442

PRAYERS of the people and pastoral prayer

Pastor: Hear us , O God. **People: Your mercy is great.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father Who is in heaven, hallowed be Your Name. Your kingdom come; Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING - GOD'S WORD ON GIVING

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow

Tune: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Musical score for the Offertory Response. The score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. Chord symbols are placed above the notes. The lyrics are: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here be low. Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Re-joice! Re-joice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel."

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Merciful God, receive the gifts we bring, our selves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May Christ, who by his incarnation has filled us with grace and truth, give you peace this Christmas and always. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen

*HYMN

O Jesus, I Have Promised

Hymnal #334

BENEDICTION

L: Glory to God in the highest!

P: Peace to God's people on earth!

L: Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

P: Thanks be to God.

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE and THE POSTLUDE