



Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ

Worship
Sunday, October 11, 2020

Pastor: Bruce Farrell
Pulpit Exchange: Reverend Tony Fields
Ministers: All the Faithful Members

1588 Mount Zion Road, Lebanon, PA 17046 717-865-3286 www.ziongosherts.org FM 89.3

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

PRELUDE

Tara Zimmerman

[9:55 a.m.]

WELCOME

The ringing of the bell

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Call to the Lord, Who is worthy of praise. Come and with Jesus look up to the heavens. Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary. His understanding no one can fathom. [John 11:41; Isaiah 40:28]

People: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. [Psalm 46:1]

Leader: Extol the Lord, both now and forevermore. Praise the Lord. [Psalm 115:18]

People: You guard and protect the way of Your faithful ones. You are our confidence; You keep our feet from slipping. [Psalm 115:18; Proverbs 2:8, 3:26]

Leader: The Lord is a refuge for the poor and needy, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat... The Lord will keep us from all harm. The Lord will watch over our coming and going both now and forevermore. [Isaiah 25: 4f]

People: What, then, shall we say in response to this? [Romans 8:31]

Leader: If God is for us, who can be against us? You did not spare your own Son but gave Him up for us all. [Romans 8:32]

People: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? [Romans 8:35]

Leader: We are convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. [Romans 8:38-39]

All: **Because You are our help, we sing in the shadow of Your wings.** [Psalm 63:7]

*HYMN

Psalm 121

Tune: Jesus the Very Thought of Thee

**1 I to the hills will lift my eyes; from whence shall come my aid?
My help is from the Lord alone, Who heaven and earth has made.**

**2 God will not let your foot be moved; Your guardian never sleeps;
God's watchful and unslumbering care protects and safely keeps.**

**3 Your faithful keeper is the Lord, your shelter and your shade.
'Neath sun or moon, by day or night, you shall not be afraid.**

**4 From evil God will keep you safe, provide for all you need.
Your going out, your coming in, God will forever lead.**

CONFESSION

[from Psalm 121]

We tend to keep our eyes focused only on earthly things. We think you, God, sleep a lot rather than watching over us.

Silent confession

Words of Assurance

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead... Through faith [you] are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation ...In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. [1 Peter 1:3, 5-6]

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 121

SERMON: Standing in the Gap with the Help of God

ANTHEM

Everlasting God
Voices of Zion

OFFERING

God's Word on Giving: My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

[Psalm 121:2]

Offering Song

Thy Lovingkindness

[Sing as many times as needed during the offering.]

Thy lovingkindness is better than life. Thy lovingkindness is better than life. [Refrain]

Refrain: ***My lips shall praise Thee, thus still I bless Thee. I will lift up my hands unto Thy name.***

I lift my hands up unto Thy name. I lift my hands up unto Thy name. [Refrain]

Safe in Thy shadow I will rejoice. Safe in Thy shadow I will rejoice. [Refrain]

PRAYERS for the people and pastoral prayer

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.

*HYMN

Great is Thy Faithfulness

**¹ Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father. There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not. As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.**

Refrain:

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see. All I have needed, Thy hand hath provided.

Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

**² Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness to Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.** [Refrain]

**³ Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!** [Refrain]

BENEDICTION

God send us up: up to the mountains and cities; up to be with the people of the world; up to come and go, to follow and lead; up into your world stepping out in faith, following where we would prefer not to go, trusting Your leading and always to be Your people. The Lord is your keeper. The Lord is your shade at your right hand. The Lord will keep your life – your going out and your coming in, from this time on and forevermore. Amen

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE

POSTLUDE

The Lord Himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you.

Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.

Deuteronomy 31:8, Hebrews 13:5

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