



# Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ

Worship  
Sunday, June 21, 2020

Pastor: Bruce Farrell  
Ministers: All the Faithful Members

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

PRELUDE

Tara Zimmerman

[9:55 a.m.]

WELCOME

Ringling of the Bell

FATHER'S DAY

[Ephesians 3:14-19]

On this Father's Day, we kneel before You, Father, from Whom all fatherhood in heaven and on earth derives its meaning. We acknowledge that You are the Father we've always longed for and needed. Thank you for adopting us, through the finished work of Jesus, into an inheritance that can never spoil or fade. Thank you for fathers and "spiritual fathers" who give us a glimpse of You. Thank you that even broken fathers cannot rob us of the joy of knowing You.

Lord, out of Your glorious riches, strengthen all of us with power through Your Spirit in our inner being, so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith. May we, being rooted and established in love, have power, together with all the Lord's holy people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that we may all be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

PASTORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

[Genesis 1:27; John 4:24; Revelation 7:9-12]

Come now, my beloved, away from your busy life and worship God. We exalt You Who have made every single person in Your image. Worship God in Spirit and in truth. Stand with the great multitude that no one can count – from every nation, tribe, people and language – before the throne and before the Lamb. Cry out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." Fall down on your face before the throne and worship God and say: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!"

HYMN

*We are Called to be God's People*

[TUNE: AUSTRIAN HYMN: *Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken*]

**<sup>1</sup>We are called to be God's people showing by our lives His grace  
One in heart and one in spirit – sign of hope for all the race.  
Let us show how He has changed us and remade us as His own.  
Let us share our life together as we shall around His throne.**

**<sup>2</sup>We are called to be God's servants working in His world today.  
Taking His own task upon us, all His sacred words obey,  
Let us rise then to His summons dedicate to Him our all  
That we may be faithful servants quick to answer now His call.**

**<sup>3</sup>We are called to be God's prophets speaking for the truth and right,  
Standing firm for godly justice bringing evil into light.  
Let us seek the courage needed our high calling to fulfill  
That we all may know the blessing of the doing of God's will.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Take the Plunge

ANTHEM

*Amazing Grace*

Lydia Blatt and Tracy Troup

THE SCRIPTURE: Genesis 1:27; John 4:4-26; Revelation 7:9-12

Lector: Jen Boyer

SONG

*Salvation Belongs to our God*

**Salvation belongs to our God, Who sits upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.  
Praise and glory, wisdom and thanks, honor and power and strength  
be to our God forever and ever, be to our God forever and ever, be to our God forever and ever, Amen.**

**And we, the redeemed shall be strong in purpose and unity, declaring aloud:  
Praise and glory, wisdom and thanks, honor and power and strength  
be to our God forever and ever, be to our God forever and ever, be to our God forever and ever, Amen.  
Be to our God forever and ever, be to our God forever and ever, Amen.**

SERMON: A Second Plague

PRAYERS for the People and Pastoral Prayer

Confession

You, Who breathed life into clay, Who continue to mold us in Your many-colored image, crack our hearts open wide so rivers justice and mercy flow from us. We have been blind to our unjust acts and collusion of racism. We have contributed to our deeply divided land. People shout, "Black lives matter!" We have spoken by our silence, "No, not really." We don't help to obliterate the systemic legacy of slavery and racism. We can be ignorant of the effects of our actions – July 4 is not the same celebration for our black brothers and sisters brought here in slavery 401 years ago. We are embarrassed and sad that Sunday is still the most racially divided day of the week. We claim to love You, but have not loved all Your children.

But You, Lord, are a God of reconciliation. You sent Your Son to destroy hostility on the Cross. Because of Your powerful right hand, the gates of hell cannot prevail. Forgive us so can we worship you in Spirit and in truth. Deliver us, O God from our sins that segregate our nation and from the heresy of division in Your church.

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

*In Christ There is No East or West*

**<sup>1</sup> In Christ there is no east or west, in Him no south or north,  
But one great fam'ly bound by love throughout the whole wide earth.**

**<sup>2</sup> In Him shall true hearts ev'rywhere their high communion find;  
His service is the golden cord close binding humankind.**

**<sup>3</sup> Join hands, disciples in the faith, whate'er your race may be!  
Who serve each other in Christ's love are surely kin to me.**

**<sup>4</sup> In Christ now meet both east and west, in Him meet south and north,  
All Christly souls are one in Him throughout the whole wide earth.**

BENEDICTION

[Ephesians 2:14, 6:12-15; Luke 14:18; Revelation 22:20]

In this world filled with troubles, for the black person and others, may you remember that the Kingdom of God is both already and not yet. Jesus is indeed already victorious over sin and death and every evil, but the full manifestation of the Kingdom, the peace of Christ, will not come until He comes again. Go, struggle against the powers of this dark world and forces of evil. Put on the whole armor of God so that you may stand firm as Christ's ambassadors acting to bring Christ's good news to the poor, freedom for the prisoners, recovery of sight for the blind, and freedom for the oppressed. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE

POSTLUDE

**... Show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written, not with ink,  
but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone, but on tablets of human hearts.  
2 Corinthians 3:3**

CCLI: 273164

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Father's Day Prayer partially adapted from <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/scotty-smith/a-prayer-for-fathers-day/>

Confession phrases adapted from: <https://www.reformedworship.org/article/june-2015/lament-america> and <http://worldinprayer.org>