



Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ

Worship
Sunday, January 31, 2021

Pastor: Bruce Farrell
Ministers: All the Faithful Members

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

Tara Zimmerman

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

[Today's texts and Job 37:5-6]

Pastor: It's time to leave all that is in our lives to focus specially on God, Who laid the earth's foundation and marked off its dimensions, Who determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.

People: The morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy. We come to do the same

Pastor: Your voice thunders in marvelous ways. You say to the snow, "Fall on the earth," and to the rain shower, "Be a mighty downpour."

People: You are great, Lord, and mighty in power. Your understanding has no limit.

Pastor: Your only Child, Jesus, was with You in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made.

People: We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Pastor: You have searched us, Lord, and You know us. You know everything – when we sit and when we rise; You perceive our thoughts from afar.

All: Yet to all who receive You and believe in Your name, You give the right to become Your children. Alleluia! We come to give You glory, our hearts, and our love.

*HYMN

How Great Thou Art

**¹ O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the works Thy hands hath made.
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder; Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.**

Refrain:

***Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee: How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee: How great Thou art, how great Thou art!***

**² When through the woods and forest glades I wander, I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze, [Refrain]**

**³ And when I think that God, His Son not sparing, sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in –
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died to take away my sin. [Refrain]**

**⁴ When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration and there proclaim, "My God, how great Thou art!" [Refrain]**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: How smart are You?

SCRIPTURE: Job 38:1, 4, 7, 12, 18, 22, 33; Psalm 139:1-4, 147:4-5; John 1:1-5, 9-14

CONFESSION

Call to Confession

[Matthew 9:4; Hebrews 4:12-13]

Jesus knows our hearts... Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to Whom we must give account. In far too many times, Lord...

Responsive Confession

[Today's texts and others]

Pastor: The vast sum of Your thoughts is not precious to us.

People: Though You are in the world, we do not recognize and receive You.

Pastor: You speak to us, even out of storms, but we don't always listen.

People: We try to hide from You, but our sins cannot be secret in the light of Your presence.

Pastor: We tend act as if we know and understand more than we really do.

People: We forget to live knowing there is no where we can flee from Your presence.

Pastor: We don't say "Thank You" enough for the work You're doing in us.

Assurance of Pardon

God demonstrates His own love toward us in that when we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

[Romans 5:8]

SONG

I Stand in Awe

**You are beautiful beyond description, too marvelous for words,
Too wonderful for comprehension, like nothing ever seen or heard.
Who can grasp Your infinite wisdom? Who can fathom the depth of Your love?
You are beautiful beyond description – majesty enthroned above.**

Chorus

**And I stand I stand in awe of You. I stand I stand in awe of You.
Holy God to Whom all praise is due I stand in awe of You.**

SERMON: Snow ~ Living the Prepared Life

ANTHEM

Be Thou My Vision
Roberto Marti, soloist

GOD'S WORD ON GIVING

[Psalm 147:4-5]

God determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name. Great is our Lord and mighty in power; His understanding has no limit.

PRAYERS for the people and pastoral prayer

[Matthew 6:8]

Your Father knows what you need before you ask.

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

Forth in Your Name

TUNE: *Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak*

- ¹ Forth in Your Name, O Lord, I go, my daily labor to pursue,
You only, Lord, resolved to know in all I think or speak or do.**
- ² The task Your wisdom has assigned here let me cheerfully fulfill;
In all my work Your presence find and prove Your good and perfect will.**
- ³ You, may I set, at my right hand, whose eyes my inmost secrets view,
and labor on at Your command and offer all my work to You.**
- ⁴ Help me to bear Your easy yoke, in ev'ry moment watch and pray,
and still to things eternal look and hasten to that glorious day.**
- ⁵ Then with delight may I employ all that Your bounteous grace has given,
and run my earthly course with joy, and closely walk with You in heaven.**

BENEDICTION

[Job 37: 2, 5, 6, 22-24, 1; 42:1-2]

Pastor: Are you prepared for the snow in your life? Listen as you leave: God's voice thunders in marvelous ways. You come in golden splendor. You do great things beyond our understanding. You say to the snow, "Fall on the earth". In Your justice and great righteousness, You, Almighty, do not oppress. Therefore, people revere You. Listen to this; stop and consider God's wonders. And the people replied to the Lord:

All: Our hearts pound and leap from their place. We know that You know and can do all things; no purpose of Yours can be thwarted. May we leave this place in the comfort and challenge of Your omniscience – You, the all-knowing God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE

POSTLUDE

In [Jesus] was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
John 1:4-5

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