



Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ

Worship
Sunday, November 21, 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 (Ring of the Bell)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

[from Psalm 95:1-2, 6; Colossians 1:15-20]

Pastor: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

People: We come before You now with thanksgiving and extol You with music and song.

Pastor: For Jesus Christ, the Son, is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. In Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things and in Him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the Church. He is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything He might have the supremacy.

People: For You God were pleased to have all Your fullness dwell in Him.

Pastor: The Lord is a great God, the great King above all gods. Come, kneel in worship before the God of Truth and Love. Rejoice, give thanks, and triumph evermore.

*HYMN

Rejoice, the Lord is King

¹ Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore: [Refrain]

Refrain: ***Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!***

² Jesus the Savior reigns, the God of truth and love.
When He had purged our stains, He took His seat above: [Refrain]

³ God's Kingdom cannot fail, Christ rules both earth and heaven.
The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given: [Refrain]

⁴ Rejoice in glorious hope for Christ the Judge shall come
to gather all His saints to their eternal home: [Refrain]

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Do you know your letters and numbers?

CONFESSION

Call to Confession

[Colossians 1:13-14]

"For [God] has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves, in Whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins". Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence to confess our sins, to receive God's mercy and share in that abundant grace.

Responsive Confession

[today's texts]

Pastor: The words "Jesus is King" come easily to our lips, yet we often fail to grasp their significance for us.

People: We have not bowed before You and can be slow to acknowledge Your rule.

Pastor: We sometimes don't listen to You, but only to what others say about You.

People: We try to make Your Kingdom of this world.

Pastor: Our loyalty is divided: we give allegiance to worldly powers and fail to be governed by Your justice and love.

People: We kneel before other kings: money, power, relationships, gossip, self-righteousness, and so many others.

Pastor: You have called us all to be priests; yet we shirk our priestly service.

People: You came to testify and witness to the Truth; we're often not much for testifying.

Assurance of Pardon

[Revelation 5:5, 9-10]

Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. With his blood he has purchased people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. He has made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth. **Thanks be to God!**

SCRIPTURE: John 18:33-37; Revelation 1:4b-8

MEDLEY

I Love You, Lord

**I love You, Lord, and I lift my voice to worship You. O my soul rejoice.
Take joy my King in what You hear. May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear.**

Majesty

**Majesty, worship His majesty. Unto Jesus be all glory, honor and praise.
Majesty, Kingdom authority flow from His throne unto His own, His anthem raise.
So exalt, lift up on high the Name of Jesus. Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus the King.
Majesty, worship His majesty. Jesus, Who died, now glorified, King of all kings!**

All Hail King Jesus

**All hail King Jesus. All hail Emmanuel. King of kings. Lord of lords. Bright Morning Star.
And through all eternity, I'll sing Your praises and I'll reign with You throughout eternity.**

We Exalt Thee

**For Thou, O Lord, art high above all the earth. Thou art exalted far above all gods. [Repeat]
We exalt Thee! We exalt Thee! We exalt Thee, O Lord.**

I Love You, Lord

**I love You, Lord, and I lift my voice to worship You. O my soul rejoice.
Take joy my King in what You hear. May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear.**

SERMON: Lessons for a Healthy Church #6 ~ In Christ Alone

GOD'S WORD ON GIVING

[from John 18:33-37]

The God of majesty and power has dominion over all the universe, and yet chooses to rule in love not power. Bring your gifts not from duty or to gain favor, but in the deepest gratitude for all God's blessings that keep and sustain us. May our whole lives reflect to the world that there is One who rules us with love and compassion, above all this world's nations and principalities.

THE BLESSING OF THE SNOWBIRDS

Pastor: Lord, thank You for the variety of people in our church at Zion Goshert's –

People: **young families, retirees, singles and married and more.**

Pastor: Thank You for places new and old which can draw us together –

People: **for being able to join in worship in our beautiful sanctuary and grove or on the phone or the internet.**

Pastor: Thank you for all the freedoms we enjoy and today especially for the freedom to travel.

People: **Keep our snowbirds safe as they travel and healthy wherever they are.**

Pastor: Jesus, lead them to the ministries You have for them.

People: **Help us stay connected in fellowship and bless our reunion in the spring.**

PRAYERS of 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

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found. He is my light, my strength, my song.

This Cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!

My Comforter, my All in All. Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone – Who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe.

This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save:

Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied –

For every sin on Him was laid. Here in the death of Christ I live.

**There in the ground His body lay, Light of the World by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine – bought with the precious blood of Christ.**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death; this is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand:
Till He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.**

BENEDICTION

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE and THE POSTLUDE

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