



Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ

Worship
Sunday, February 28, 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

Pastor: There have always been those who have said there is no resurrection, but we come to worship You: not the God of the dead, but of the living.

People: You are the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all others who have loved You.

Pastor: Come do the most important thing in your life: love God with all your heart, all your understanding, and all your strength, and love your neighbor as you love yourself.

People: We come to listen to Your Word with delight, to hear You and to know Your power.

Pastor: You are the Life-giver, our Hope and Source and Provider. You are One and there is no other but You.

All: With all the saints and angels gathered around Your throne, we bless Your Name today, tomorrow and forever.

*HYMN

We Have Come to Join in Worship

**¹ We have come to join in worship and adore the Lord our God.
Let us come in prayer, expecting God to speak His mighty Word.
All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down.
Christians, pray and holy manna will be showered all around.**

**² See them gather all around you, those He bought at such a cost;
See the weary, see the hurting, see the lonely, see the lost.
Be His hand and touch the needy. Be His gospel, let it sound!
Be His body and sweet manna will be showered all around.**

**³ Let us love our God supremely. Let us love each other, too.
Let us care for all His people till our God makes all things new.
Christ will call us home to heaven. At His banquet we'll sit down.
Christ Himself will rise and serve us living manna all around.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Rules

SCRIPTURE: Mark 12:18-37

CONFESSION

Call to Confession

[Acts 3: 19]

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

Responsive Confession

[Today's text]

Pastor: We confess, Holy God, how hard it is to love You with all our heart and soul and mind and strength.

People: Our planners and credit cards prove that we have not put You first.

Pastor: Sometimes we follow a multiplicity of gods, forgetting that the Lord our God, the Lord is One.

People: We have sort of doubted that the dead rise, but You, Jesus, say "when" not "if".

Pastor: We don't come to the places where You are teaching – we don't hear You. We don't listen with delight.

People: We have been in error, badly mistaken, because we do not know the Scriptures or Your power.

Pastor: Our questions, which You welcome, are not always sincere.

People: We give You our modern equivalent of burnt offerings and sacrifices but withhold our full selves.

All: We often love ourselves before we love our neighbors.

Assurance of Pardon

[1 John 1:9]

If we confess our sins, [Jesus] is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

SONG

Knowing You

**¹ All I once held dear, built my life upon, all this world reveres, and wars to own,
All I once thought gain, I have counted loss spent and worthless now, compared to this:**

Refrain

***Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You, there is no greater thing.
You're my all. You're the best. You're my joy, my righteousness. And I love You, Lord.***

**² Now my heart's desire is to know You more, to be found in You and known as Yours.
To possess by faith what I could not earn: the all-surpassing gift of righteousness. [Refrain]**

**³ O, to know the power of Your risen life and to know You in Your sufferings,
To become like You in Your death, my Lord, so with You to live and never die. [Refrain]**

SERMON: The Way of the Cross ~ Jesus, The Disputer

ANTHEM

He Lives

John Moyer, soloist

GOD'S WORD ON GIVING

[Mark 12:33]

To love Him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.

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

May the Mind of Christ, My Savior

**¹ May the mind of Christ, my Savior, live in me from day to day,
By His love and pow'r controlling all I do and say.**

**² May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,
So that all may see I triumph only through His pow'r.**

**³ May the peace of God, my Father, rule my life in ev'rything,
That I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing.**

**⁴ May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea.
Him exalting, self-abasing: this is victory.**

**⁵ May we run the race before us, strong and brave to face the foe,
Looking only unto Jesus as we onward go.**

BENEDICTION

Saint Anselm (1033-1109)

O Lord, our God, grant us grace to desire You with our whole heart, that so desiring, we may seek; and so seeking we may find You; and so finding You, we may love You; and so loving You that we may hate those sins from which You have redeemed us.

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE

POSTLUDE

For this reason Jesus had to be made like them, fully human in every way,
so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God to make atonement for the sins of the people.
Because he himself suffered when He was tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted.

Hebrews 2:17-18

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