



Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ

Worship Sunday, July 18, 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 (Ringing of the Bell)

ANTHEM

Majesty

Piano solo: Tara Zimmerman

*CALL TO WORSHIP

[Isaiah 26:8-9; Habakkuk 3:2; James 5:13]

Pastor: Lord, walking in the way of your laws, we wait for You.

People: Your Name and renown are the desire of our hearts.

Pastor: Our souls yearn for You in the night.

People: In the morning, our spirits long for You.

Pastor: Lord, we have heard of Your fame.

People: We stand in awe of Your deeds, Jesus.

Pastor: Renew them in our day.

People: In our time, make them known; remember Your mercy.

Pastor: Is anyone among you suffering? We will pray. Are you cheerful? Let us sing praise to our God.

*HYMN

O God our Help in Ages Past

**¹ O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.**

**² Under the shadow of Your throne, Your saints have dwelt secure.
Sufficient is Your arm alone and our defense is sure.**

**³ Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame,
from everlasting, You are God, to endless years the same.**

**⁴ A thousand ages in Your sight are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.**

**⁵ Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away.
They fly forgotten as a dream dies at the op'ning day.**

**⁶ O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come.
Still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Advice from Friends

CONFESSION

Call to Confession

[James 4:8-10]

Come near to God and He will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.

Responsive Confession

[Today's texts]

Pastor: We do so many things in our lives that You say make us make us foolish rather than wise.

People: A funeral better than a party? We don't think of funerals making us wiser and better.

Pastor: We don't remind ourselves that our destiny is death.

People: We fall for flattery and won't listen even to a wise person's rebuke.

Pastor: Even as adults we are influenced by peer pressure.

People: We are enthusiastic about new tasks and can lack the patience to finish them.

Pastor: We are easily annoyed and vexed.

People: We're more likely think about giving money and things rather than wisdom to our children.

Pastor: We ask for "the good old days" not thinking that it's a fool's errand.

All: We forget to enjoy the good times and to remember that You are responsible for all that happens in this life.

Assurance of Pardon

[Romans 6:21-22]

What fruit did you reap [from when you were slaves to sin]...? Those things result in death! But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you reap leads to holiness and its end – eternal life.

SCRIPTURE: Ecclesiastes 7:1-14

A SEASON OF PRAISE

He is Exalted

[Twice]

He is exalted. The King is exalted on high. I will praise Him. He is exalted, forever exalted, and I will praise His name.

*Chorus He is the Lord. Forever His truth shall reign. Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name.
He is exalted. The King is exalted on high.* [Repeat this line the second time.]

Humble Thyself in The Sight of The Lord

[Twice]

**Humble thyself in the sight (echo) of the Lord. Humble thyself in the sight (echo) of the Lord.
And He (echo) shall lift (echo), you up higher and higher. And He (echo) shall lift (echo) you up.**

Open The Eyes of My Heart

Chorus Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart. I want to see You. I want to see You. [Repeat]

Verse To see You high and lifted up, shining in the light of Your glory.

Pour out Your power and love as we sing holy, holy, holy. [Chorus with repeat and verse twice]

Bridge Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy. I want to see You. [Repeat]
Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy. We want to see You.

I Love You, Lord.

[Three times; second: a Capela]

**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: Living Life Backwards

GOD'S WORD ON GIVING

[from Ecclesiastes 7:12]

The protection that wisdom gives is better than that of wealth.

PRAYERS of the people and pastoral prayer

[Matthew 18:20]

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

The Soul's Best Portion

¹ **Almighty Maker of my frame teach me the measure of my days!
Teach me to know how frail I am and spend the remnant to Your praise.**

² **My days are shorter than a span, a little point, my life appears.
How frail at best is dying man! How vain are all my hopes and fears.**

³ **Vain my ambition, noise, and show! Vain are the cares which rack my mind.
I heap up treasures mix'd with woe and die and leave them all behind.**

⁴ **O be a nobler portion mine; my God, I bow before Your throne.
Earth's fleeting treasures I resign and fix my hopes on You alone.**

BENEDICTION

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE and the POSTLUDE

Citations for Worship 2021.7.18

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