



# Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ

Worship  
Sunday, September 12, 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)

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

[Today's texts]

Pastor: Come worship our Sovereign God Who gives us a new heart and spirit.

**People: You make us Your people; You are our God.**

Pastor: You made Your light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of Your glory displayed in the face of Christ, Who is the image of Yourself.

**People: You cleanse us from all our impurities and idols.**

Pastor: Fix your eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

**People: Our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.**

Pastor: Come adore the One who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead and Who will also raise and present us with Him to Yourself.

**All: Your grace that is reaching more and more people makes us overflow with thanksgiving to Your glory!**

## \*HYMN

*Shine Jesus, Shine*

**<sup>1</sup> Lord, the light of Your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining.  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us. Set us free by the truth You now bring us.  
Shine on me. Shine on me. [Chorus]**

*Chorus*

***Shine Jesus, shine. Fill this land with the Father's glory. Blaze Spirit, blaze. Set our hearts on fire.  
Flow river, flow. Flood the nations with grace and mercy.  
Send forth Your Word, Lord, and let there be light.***

**<sup>2</sup> Lord, I come to Your awesome presence, from the shadows into Your radiance.  
By the blood I may enter Your brightness. Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.  
Shine on me. Shine on me. [Chorus]**

**<sup>3</sup> As we gaze on Your kingly brightness, so our faces display Your likeness.  
Ever changing from glory to glory, mirrored here may our lives tell Your story.  
Shine on us. Shine on us. [Chorus]**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Fixing things

## CONFESSION

*Call to Confession*

[from 2 Corinthians 4:7]

We have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

*Responsive Confession*

[Today's texts]

Pastor: Like our cars, we are outwardly wasting away, yet daily we shy away from your inward renewal.

**People: We fix our eyes on what is seen, the temporary, not on what is unseen, the eternal.**

Pastor: We aren't careful to follow You and Your Word.

**People: We can be hard hearted.**

Pastor: We have been hard pressed, crushed, perplexed, abandoned, struck down and still we have not sought You.

**People: We easily lose heart.**

Pastor: We don't keep Your perspective – that our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory.

**People: We haven't renounced secret and shameful ways.**

Pastor: We are not always convinced that You, Who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead, will also raise us with Him and present us to Yourself.

**People: We have preached ourselves or not at all, rather than You, Jesus.**

**All: Your grace is restoring, renewing, transforming us and many people but we don't overflow with thanksgiving to Your glory.**

*Assurance of Pardon*

[from Ezekiel 36:25-27]

I will sprinkle clean water on you and you will be clean. I will cleanse you from all your impurities and idols. I will give you a new heart and a new spirit... I will put my Spirit in you and move you to... be careful to keep my laws.

SONG

*Change My Heart, O God*

[Sing twice]

Chorus: **Change my heart, O God. Make it ever true. Change my heart, O God. May I be like You.**

**<sup>1</sup>You are the potter. I am the clay. Mold me and make me. This is what I pray.** [Chorus]

SCRIPTURE: Ezekiel 36:22b, 24-48; 2 Corinthians 4:1-18

SERMON: Jesus, the Ultimate Restorer

For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. [2 Cor. 4:5]

GOD'S WORD ON GIVING

[from 2 Corinthians 4:17]

The grace that is reaching more and more people causes thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

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

*Restore In Us O God*

Tune: *Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart*

**<sup>1</sup> Restore in us, O God, the splendor of Your love.**

**Renew Your image in our hearts and all our sins remove.**

Refrain: **Rejoice, Rejoice, give thanks and sing.**

**<sup>2</sup> O Spirit wake in us the wonder of Your power.**

**From fruitless fear unfurl our lives like springtime bud and flower.** [Refrain]

**<sup>3</sup> Bring us, O Christ, to share the fullness of Your joy.**

**Baptize us in the risen life that death cannot destroy.** [Refrain]

**<sup>4</sup>Three-personed God fulfill the promise of Your grace.**

**That we, when all our searching ends, may see You face to face.** [Refrain]

BENEDICTION

[2 Corinthians 4:17; 1 Peter 5:10; Zephaniah 3:17,]

Our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. God, Who called you through Christ Jesus to His eternal glory, will restore you, strengthen you, make you strong, and support you as you suffer for a little while. God is a hero Who saves you, Who happily rejoices over you, Who renews you with His love and celebrates over you with shouts of joy. Fix your eyes on Jesus.

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE and the POSTLUDE

God our Savior saved us, but not because of anything we had done to gain His approval. Instead, because of Your mercy, You saved us through the washing in which the Holy Spirit gives us new birth and renewal.  
Titus 3:5

*Citations for Worship 2021.9.12*

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