



# Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ

## Worship

Sunday, September 19, 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

Violin duet: Jennifer Blystone and Sarah Wagner

WELCOME (Ringing of the Bell)

THE TULPEHOOKEN CONFUSION 1735

\*PASTORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

[Galatians 1:3-5; James 4:8a]

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to Whom be glory for ever and ever. Come near to God and He will come near to you.

\*OPENING PASTORAL PRAYER

\*HYMN

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

**<sup>1</sup>Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!  
Come, all who hear; now to His temple draw near, join me in glad adoration!**

**<sup>2</sup>Praise to the Lord, Who o'er all things is wondrously reigning,  
sheltering you under His wings, O, so gently sustaining.  
Have you not seen all that is needful has been sent by His gracious ordaining?**

**<sup>3</sup>Praise to the Lord, Who will prosper your work and defend you;  
surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do as with His love He befriends you.**

**<sup>4</sup>Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!  
Let the amen sound from His people again. Gladly forever adore Him!**

*Words: Joachim Neander 1677 – born in Bremen, Germany, the first important hymn writer of the German Reformed Church. Public Domain.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: God is a Rock

HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

Question and Answer 1

Side 1 is closest to the road; Side 2 is closest to the cemetery

Pastor: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**Side 1: That I am not my own,<sup>1</sup> but belong – body and soul, in life and in death<sup>2</sup> – to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.<sup>3</sup>**

*Side 2: He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood,<sup>4</sup> and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.<sup>5</sup>*

**Side 1: He also watches over me in such a way<sup>6</sup> that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven;<sup>7</sup>**

*Side 2: In fact, all things must work together for my salvation.<sup>8</sup>*

**All: Because I belong to Him, Christ, by His Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life<sup>9</sup> and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him.<sup>10</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> 1 Cor. 6:19-20. <sup>2</sup> Rom. 14:7-9. <sup>3</sup> 1 Cor. 3:23; Titus 2:14. <sup>4</sup> 1 Pet. 1:18-19; 1 John 1:7-9; 2:2. <sup>5</sup> John 8:34-36; Heb. 2:14-15; 1 John 3:1-11. <sup>6</sup> John 6:39-40; 10:27-30; 2 Thess. 3:3; 1 Pet. 1:5. <sup>7</sup> Matt. 10:29-31; Luke 21:16-18. <sup>8</sup> Rom. 8:28. <sup>9</sup> Rom. 8:15-16; 2 Cor. 1:21-22; 5:5; Eph. 1:13-14. <sup>10</sup> Rom. 8:1-17

Authors: Caspar Olevianus and Zacharias Ursinus, 1563, in the Palatinate

## CONFESSION

### *Call to Confession*

[Colossians 1:21-22]

Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now, He has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in His sight, without blemish and free from accusation. Let us confess our sins in this reality and assurance.

### *Responsive Confession*

[Today's texts]

Pastor: Our minds have been led astray from sincere and pure devotion to You.

**People: We have been alienated from You by our actions, even seeming to be Your enemies.**

Pastor: We have not consistently continued in faith in You, moving, at times, away from the hope held out in the Gospel.

**People: We have put up with and actually turned to people who preach a Jesus other than the One in the Gospel.**

Pastor: We are quick enough to desert You Who called us to live in Your grace.

**People: We have not been Your servants, but rather have spent our energy trying to please people.**

### *Assurance of Pardon*

[Colossians 1:19-20]

For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in [Christ], and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood, shed on the cross.

## SPECIAL MUSIC

### *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

Violin duet: Jennifer Bystone and Sarah Wagner accompanied by Ruth Ann Arnold

SCRIPTURE: Colossians 1:15-20; 1 Corinthians 11:1-4, 13-15; Galatians 1:6-9

## HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

Question & Answer 21

Pastor: What is true faith?

**Side 1: True faith is not only a sure knowledge by which I hold as true all that God has revealed to us in Scripture;<sup>1</sup>**

**Side 2: it is also a wholehearted trust,<sup>2</sup> which the Holy Spirit creates in me<sup>3</sup> by the gospel,<sup>4</sup> that God has freely granted, not only to others but to me also,<sup>5</sup>**

**Side 1: forgiveness of sins, eternal righteousness, and salvation.<sup>6</sup>**

**All: These are gifts of sheer grace, granted solely by Christ's merit.<sup>7</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> John 17:3, 17; Heb. 11:1-3; James 2:19. <sup>2</sup> Rom. 4:18-21; 5:1; 10:10; Heb. 4:14-16. <sup>3</sup> Matt. 16:15-17; John 3:5; Acts 16:14. <sup>4</sup> Rom. 1:16; 10:17; 1 Cor. 1:21.

<sup>5</sup> Gal. 2:20. <sup>6</sup> Rom. 1:17; Heb. 10:10. <sup>7</sup> Rom. 3:21-26; Gal. 2:16; Eph. 2:8-10 Authors: Caspar Olevianus and Zacharias Ursinus, 1563 in the Palatinate

SERMON: Don't Join the Cloister

Rev. John Phillip Boehm

## \*HYMN

### *The Church's One Foundation*

**<sup>1</sup> The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord; she is His new creation, by water and the word. From heaven He came and sought her to be His holy bride; with His own blood He bought her and for her life He died.**

**<sup>2</sup> Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth, her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth. One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food, and to one hope she presses with every grace endued.**

**<sup>3</sup> Though with a scornful wonder we see her sore oppressed, by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed: yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, "How long?" and soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.**

**<sup>4</sup> Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war, she waits the consummation of peace forevermore, till with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest, and the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.**

**<sup>5</sup> Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One, and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won. O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we, like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.**

## GOD'S WORD ON GIVING

[from James 2:14-17]

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? ... Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

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

*Now Thank We All our God*

**<sup>1</sup> Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done, in Whom this world rejoices,  
Who, from our mothers' arms, has bless'd us on our way  
with countless gifts of love and still is ours today.**

**<sup>2</sup> O, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,  
and keep us safe in grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.**

**<sup>3</sup> All praise and thanks to God our Maker now be given  
- to Christ and Spirit, too, Who reign in highest heaven,  
the one eternal God, Whom earth and heaven adore.  
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**

*Words: Martin Rinkart, 1636, written in Eilenburg, Germany, in the midst of the 30 Years War (responsible for the large emigration of Germans to America) and a plague/pandemic during which he was officiating at 40-50 funerals a day. Public Domain.*

## BENEDICTION

## NOTES ON PARISH LIFE and the POSTLUDE

### *Citations for Worship 2021.9.19*

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