



# Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ

## Worship

Sunday, May 29, 2022

Ministers: All the Faithful Members

Guest Preacher: Wendy Buffington

1588 Mount Zion Road, Lebanon, PA 17046 717-865-3286 [www.ziongosherts.org](http://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

L: Come to this place of prayer; God is calling us. Come, all who are burdened; there is healing here.

**P: We have come to hear the Word of God. We have brought with us all that weighs us down.**

L: Let voices of praise greet the one who calls us, Be glad together and sing for joy.

**P: Our hearts respond with hope for a new day. Our voices join in thankful prayers and praise.**

L: God reigns among us and fills the world with light. We are invited to make our home with the living God.

**P: May God's ways be known within and among us. May God guide all nations in ways of peace.**

### INVOCATION

Make of all things, Ruler of all peoples of the earth, we bring our prayers of thanksgiving and praise. You have provided the water of life for our baptism. You have fed us with the fruits of the earth and nourished us through your Word. Meet us again in the joyous encounter of worship, lest we forget the source of all we have and all that we are. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you! Amen.

### SPECIAL MUSIC:

*Battle Hymn of the Republic*

John Moyer & Tara Zimmerman

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### CALL TO CONFESSION

All who keep God's Word know God's love and live by it. But obedience is not easy amid all the world's distractions, and the gift of love is not incorporated into our lives without effort. There is gap between intention and reality, a chasm we create between ourselves and God. That is why we observe a time of confession.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God, we have wandered far from your love. We have neglected your Word in the torrent of words that we hear and read every day. Our hearts are troubled amid the conflicts and violence of our world. Sometimes we find it easier to withdraw from everything, to resist change, lest it require more of us. We know you are reaching out to heal us; help us to respond. We know we are surrounded by your love. Let us feel it deep within, that we may reflect that love to all we meet. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jesus invites us to stand, to feel our own strength, to understand our own power, to sense the changes that love is accomplishing within us and among us. The Holy Spirit has come to teach us all that we need in order to be faithful. We are loving servants of God, who claims us and sends us on a journey of peace. Praise God, who has blessed and forgiven us.

SPECIAL MUSIC:

*Courageous* by Casting Crowns

Wendy Buffington

SERMON: BE COURAGEOUS!

SCRIPTURE (Read throughout Sermon): Acts 9:10-22 and Acts 22:12-16

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.**

OFFERING

GOD'S WORD ON GIVING

What do we have to give? Only what we have received. The earth has yielded its increase. God has blessed us in more ways than we can count. Let us offer to God more than support of a church. Let us offer ourselves for the healing of the nations.

\*OFFERTORY

**We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be:**

**All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee. AMEN.**

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

For the hospitality of your good earth, for the people you have given us to love, for the tasks you have called us to do, we give thanks, gracious God. Our offerings are a measure of our faith and an evidence of our gratitude. We dedicate ourselves with our gifts, that your reign of light may be realized in the places where we live and work and far beyond our personal reach. Amen.

\*HYMN

*Trust and Obey*

Hymnal #205

BENEDICTION

L: Worshippers of God, we are called into the world. We cannot stay here; God has work for us to do.

**P: God invites us to follow where Jesus leads. Our presence is needed in unexpected places.**

L: If we love God, we will live by God's Word. If we have met God here, our lives are being changed.

**P: God's Word of love is finding a home in our hearts. God's light is leading us on new ventures of service.**

L: The peace of God goes with you, today and always; let not your hearts be troubled or afraid.

**P: God is blessing us every day; praise God! We will carry God's saving power to all nations.**

**All: AMEN.**

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE and THE POSTLUDE