

Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ

Worship Sunday, May 8, 2022

Ministers: All the Faithful Members Guest Preacher: Rev. Joel Jackson

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 ${\bf bold}$.

PRELUDE

Tara Zimmerman

WELCOME (Ringing of the Bell)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Sing praises to God, O you saints of God. Give thanks to God's holy name.

People: Praise God for the joyous gift of a new day. Thank God for healing and ever-present help.

L: Extol the one who lifts us up from defeat. Praise the one who upholds us when we are discouraged.

P: God sees and hears our weeping. God lifts our souls from the pit of despair.

L: Give thanks to God who turns mourning into dancing. Praise God who hears our cries and answers our prayers.

P: We have cried to you in our need, O God. We believe you are working to make us whole.

HYMN of PRAISE

Now Thank We All Our God

Hymnal #307

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CALL TO CONFESSION

What questions is God asking us as we examine our faith and faithfulness? Have our attitudes been rigid or flexible? Have we been motivated by self-sacrificing love or self-serving lies? Do we live by a self-limited agenda or by a God-given mission? Surely we have much to confess.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we admit to attitudes that exclude rather than embrace. We prefer to associate with others who think and act as we do. We turn away from those who are different from us. We identify some as enemies to be avoided or even destroyed. Forgive us, God, for seeking to limit your family. Awaken us to the limits of our understanding and the narrowness of our dealings. Show us the better ways you intend and make us bold to respond, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Let the scales fall from your eyes. God has offered you new sight. Unplug your ears. God is claiming you as a beloved servant. Warm to the community that surrounds you. God has given you sisters and brothers to love. Reach out to feed and care and follow where Christ leads. You are forgiven and claimed and sent.

SCRIPTURE: II Timothy 1:3-14

SERMON: "Rekindle the Flames"

SONG Faith of Our Mothers Hymnal #295

OFFERING

GOD'S WORD ON GIVING

Who will carry the name of Christ into the marketplace? Who will try new ways of faithfulness? Our offerings involve all who give. They empower those who serve. They express our praise and thanksgiving while witnessing to the reign of love in our midst.

OFFERTORY

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be: All that we have is thine along, a trust, O Lord, from thee. AMEN.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

We bring our offerings to feed your lambs and tend your sheep, gracious God. May these gifts extend love in the form of food, pure water, shelter, and acceptance. Let them provide outreach to the world and opportunities for growth within this congregation. Help us focus on what is important, that we may work together to make a difference in the world. Amen.

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 Revive Us Again Hymnal # 454

BENEDICTION

L: Rise and go where God directs. Your caring may be the answer to someone's prayer.

P: We will extol our God in word and deed. We will reach out to our neighbors with love.

L: Be alert to the needs of people you meet. You may be God's chosen instrument of healing.

P: We will praise God's faithfulness day by day. We will listen with compassion to those who suffer.

L: Blessed are those who believe without seeing. Blessed are those who trust without proof.

P: We will follow where Christ leads us. Blessing, honor, glory, and power be to our God. ALL: Amen.

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE and THE POSTLUDE