



Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ
Worship Sunday, July 3, 2022

Ministers: All the Faithful Members

Preacher: Rev. Joel Risser

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**

Leader: Let us sing praises to God, all you faithful ones,

People: and give thanks to God's holy name.

L: God does not abandon us in our distress.

P: God's healing presence restores us to life.

L: Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

P: Indeed, God turns our mourning into dancing; God takes off our sackcloth & clothes us with joy.

L: Let the peoples praise you, O God, and not be silent.

P: O Lord, our God, we will give thanks to you forever!

***OPENING HYMN**

God of our Fathers

Hymnal #288

INVOCATION

Gracious and loving God, we give you thanks for all the blessings we experience—the freedom to worship you without fear, the bounty and diversity of your creation, and the precious gift of unexpected joy. As we draw near to you this hour, may we immerse ourselves in your healing presence. Refresh us and renew us that we might become faithful laborers in your harvest of peace, justice, and joy. We pray in the name of our great Healer, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we know that Jesus sent out his disciples without purse, luggage, or sandals.

All too often, we find ourselves clinging to possessions we don't need, looking for safety by avoiding risk, and bearing heavy burdens that slow us down. Forgive us for our reluctance to travel lightly and heal us of our pain and guilt. We are broken.

Forgive us and heal us, O God.

Holy One, the Apostle Paul encouraged the Galatians not to grow weary, but to use every opportunity to work for the good of all. And yet, hectic schedules, competing demands, cynicism, and doubt erode our commitment and leave us feeling burned out. Forgive us for any hollow excuses we are tempted to make and heal us of our exhaustion. We are broken

Forgive us and heal us, O God.

O God, we confess that, like the warrior Naaman, we sometimes think you only perform great complicated acts in flashy and dramatic ways. We then fail to see how you are at work in the simple tasks and ordinary experiences of everyday life. Forgive us for our misunderstanding and heal us of our sightlessness. We are broken.

Forgive us and heal us, O God.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

There is no pain that God cannot heal. There is no wrong that God cannot forgive. Come, immerse yourselves in the healing waters of God's forgiveness. Come and be restored.

Let God make you whole.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

SCRIPTURE : Galatians 6:1-16

SERMON: Thrift Shop Rules

HYMN *America the Beautiful* Hymnal #292

PRAYERS of the people and pastoral prayer

Response when indicated: Lift us out of the depths!

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

Jesus sent out seventy disciples to share in his ministry by healing the sick and proclaiming that the kingdom of God has come near. As Jesus' disciples in this time and place, We hear Christ's call to consider how we can continue this ministry. Each of us has so much that we can offer. Let us share what we have joyfully so that our generosity may demonstrate how God's realm of justice and healing has come near.

*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

We give thanks to you, O God, for you have blessed us with all we need to do your work.

Empower and embolden us to use our gifts in your service. May our sharing be a sign of your inbreaking realm and a source of healing and hope to a world in need. We pray this in the name of the One who sends us out, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

*HYMN *We've a Story to Tell to the Nations* Hymnal # 11

BENEDICTION

Go forth from this place refreshed and empowered to do the ministry to which God calls you: Travel lightly, for you carry within you all that you need. Notice God's presence in simple, everyday experiences. Whenever opportunity arises, labor for the good of all. And the blessing and joy of God, our Creator, Healer, and Life-Giver go with you today and always. **Amen.**

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE and THE POSTLUDE

Citations for Worship

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