



Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ
Worship Sunday, July 31, 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: O give thanks to our God who is good, Whose steadfast love endures forever!

People: The people God loves have been gathered in from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

L: Some have wandered, finding no safety, Hungry and thirsty.

P: In their trouble they cried out to God who delivered them from distress.

L: Let us thank our God for steadfast love for all humankind.

P: For God satisfies the thirsty, and fills the hungry with good things. O give thanks to our God who is good, Whose steadfast love endures forever!

*OPENING HYMN

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Hymnal #352

INVOCATION

Holy God, we gather this day to give thanks for your steadfast love and to experience afresh your desire to gather all people into communities of safety, justice and peace. With Christ as our guide, we seek to grow into "a new self" in your image: generous, compassionate, welcoming. Baptized into Christ, we seek to love all of our sisters and brothers with Christ's inclusive love that sees beyond difference and extends the hand of peace to strangers. Send your Spirit among us and inspire our imaginations and wills in the things that make for peace, for we pray in the name of the One who was called the Prince of Peace, Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us return to our God in confession, considering God's steadfast love.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Nurturing God, you continue to lead us in upright ways on account of your love for us.

Yet we do not always follow your call; we turn away from you and go our own way. Forgive us, and return us to our rightful home in you, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear these words from our God: I cannot give up on you—my compassion grows warm and tender. When my children come trembling, I will bring them home. Believe the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

SCRIPTURE : Luke 12: 13-21

SERMON: Soul Investment

HYMN

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Hymnal #26

PRAYERS of the people and pastoral prayer
Leader: Hear us, O God. **P: Your mercy is great.**

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

Through Jesus Christ, God cautions us against storing up riches for ourselves. Let us consider these things and give as our conscience directs us.

*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

Loving and merciful God, we offer these gifts in gratitude for all the ways in which you have blessed our lives. We offer these gifts to remember that you are the source of our hope and our peace. With these gifts we commit ourselves to serve you and to work for peace in this world. Bless these gifts that they might be used in ministries of restoration and reconciliation. Amen.

*HYMN

Dwell In Me

Dwell in me, O blessed Spirit, How I need Thy help divine!
In the way of life eternal, Keep, oh, keep this heart of mine.

Refrain: Dwell in me, oh, dwell in me; Hear and grant my prayer to Thee:
Spirit, now from heaven descending, Come, oh, come and dwell in me.

Let me feel Thy sacred presence; Then my faith will ne'er decline;
Comfort Thou and help me onward, Fill with love this heart of mine. REFRAIN

Round the cross where Thou has led me, Let my purest feelings twine;
With the blood from sin that cleansed me, Seal anew this heart of mine. REFRAIN

Dwell in me, O blessed Spirit, Gracious Teacher, Friend divine,
For the home of bliss that waits me O prepare this heart of mine. REFRAIN

BENEDICTION

Go now into the world, renewed in hope and dedication to serve God with all your heart and strength and to work for reconciliation among all of God's peoples until the whole human family can live in peace and security. Amen.

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE and THE POSTLUDE