



Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ

Worship Sunday, September 4, 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: We come with praise for the wonderful works of God.

People: Even before we speak, God knows us completely.

L: The Holy One knows us and sustains us, even in our moments of confusion and doubt.

P: Who can count the thoughts of God? They are more than all the sands of the desert.

L: Like clay in the hand of the potter, we are shaped into vessels of divine will.

P: We come with praise for the wonderful works of God.

***OPENING HYMN**

Come, Thou Almighty King

Hymnal #8

INVOCATION

Boundless Shaper of people and nations, you are beyond our knowing, yet closer to us than our every breath. You are before us and behind us, surrounding us with your love, and fashioning all of creation in the secret depths of your heart. With every thought, with every song, and with every prayer, turn these fragile, earthen vessels of our lives, into the Spirit-filled body of Christ. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God, abounding in steadfast love toward us, healing the sick and raising the dead, showering us with every good gift.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Just and gracious God, We come to you for healing and life. Our sins hurt others and diminish us; we confess them to you. Our lives bear the scars of sin; We bring these also to you. Show us your mercy, O God. Bind up our wounds, Forgive us our sins, And free us to love, For the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The apostle Paul assures us: "When we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive together with Christ, Nailing the record of our sins to the cross." Jesus says to you, "Your sins are forgiven." Be at peace, and tell everyone How much God has done for you. Amen.

SCRIPTURE : Philemon 1-21

SERMON: A New Identity

HYMN

Softly and Tenderly

Hymnal #431

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

It is time to share a portion of our earnings. Let us get excited for God has blessed us to make a deposit into the Kingdom. Remember, we can't beat God's giving no matter how we try.

Let us cheerfully share our gifts, tithes, and free will offerings.

*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

Gracious God we thank you for the opportunity to give our time, talent, and treasure for the building of your Kingdom on earth. Bless every gift, tithe, and offering that's deposited into your Kingdom today; we offer this prayer in your mighty name. Amen

*HYMN

Love Lifted Me

Hymnal #27

BENEDICTION

Now leave this place knowing that all things are possible in the Potter's House! Go into the world, walk in love, share the healing power of God with everyone, and allow the peace of God that is beyond all understanding keep your hearts and minds in perfect peace. Amen.

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE and THE POSTLUDE

Citations for Worship

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