

ZION'S REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Rev. June Boutwell, Senior Pastor
Lori Seinar-Roknick, Director of Music Ministries

January 24, 2021 10:30 a.m.
Celebrating the 160th Anniversary of Zion's Reformed Church

*Where the past and the future with Jesus Christ are celebrated
so the present can be lived abundantly.*

Welcome and Announcements

Welcome to worship all those joining us on-line and those in the sanctuary. It is good to gather as the body of Christ.

The Altar flowers are placed in memory of my grandparents Mr. and Mrs. John Smith, by Carol Ann Cash.

See more announcements on Page 6.

A Time of Gathering

THE SOLEMN DECLARATION

Bob Fischer, Lector

Leader: And now may we prepare our hearts and minds for worship as we are gathered in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES AND THE ENTRANCE OF THE LIGHT

Kellen Ritzert, Acolyte

PRELUDE

"Steadfast Faith"

arr. by Molly Ijames

(CCLI#6299783)

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP Deuteronomy 32:7

Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations. Ask your father, and he will show you; your elders, and they will tell you.

OPENING HYMN

"We Love Your Realm, O God" (verses 1, 2, 3 & 6) (bulletin page 4)

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 62)

Bob Fischer, Lector

Leader: For God alone my soul waits in silence

People For my hope is from God.

Leader: God alone is my rock and my salvation;

People: My fortress; I shall not be shaken.

Leader: On God rests my deliverance and my honor;

People: My mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

A Time of Prayer

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, forgive us when we fail to respond to your call with faith. Forgive us when we are hemmed in by our narrow understandings of discipleship and our clouded sense of purpose. Forgive us when we are frightened of the future or pull back from the demand of your calling. Forgive us when we fail to sense your presence in our past, to acknowledge your grace in the present moment, and to trust you for our future. Hear now our prayers...

A MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION AND PRAYER

THE ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS AND LOVE

A SONG OF ASSURANCE (CCLI #31803)

**Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
Listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
Resting in my Savior as my all in all,
Standing on the promises of God.
Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
Standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

**Hear our prayer, O God. Hear our prayer, O God.
Incline your ear to us and grant us your peace.**

Dwelling in the Word

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Mark 1:14-20 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

¹⁶ As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” ¹⁸ At once they left their nets and followed him.

¹⁹ When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. ²⁰ Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

SERMON *Growth Factors*

SPECIAL MUSIC “The Summons” John Bell/Traditional Scottish Music
Lori Seinar-Roknick, Soprano Soloist

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

When we read the history of this church, we see we have always been a generous people, both in terms of supporting the expenses of ministry and in our benevolence to the world. Today may we give generously on behalf of the needs of the church and the world. You may drop off your offering in the office, mail your gift, use a bank bill pay service or use the “give” button on the website. Thank you for your continued support of Zion’s ministries. Let us praise God who has provided for us all these years.

The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above you heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “O Savior, Let Me Walk with You” (bulletin page 5)

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE “I Know Whom I Have Believed” arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

Our worship is ended and our service begins.

MEDITATION: Frederick Buechner

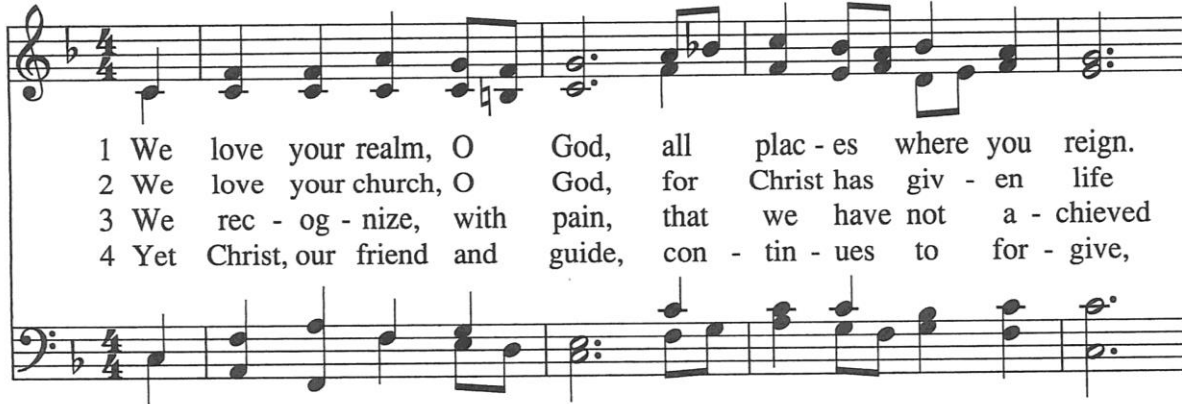
The time is ripe for looking back over the day, the week, the year, and trying to figure out where we have come from and where we are going to, for sifting through the things we have done and the things we have let undone for a clue to who we are and who, for better or worse, we are becoming.

We Love Your Realm, O God

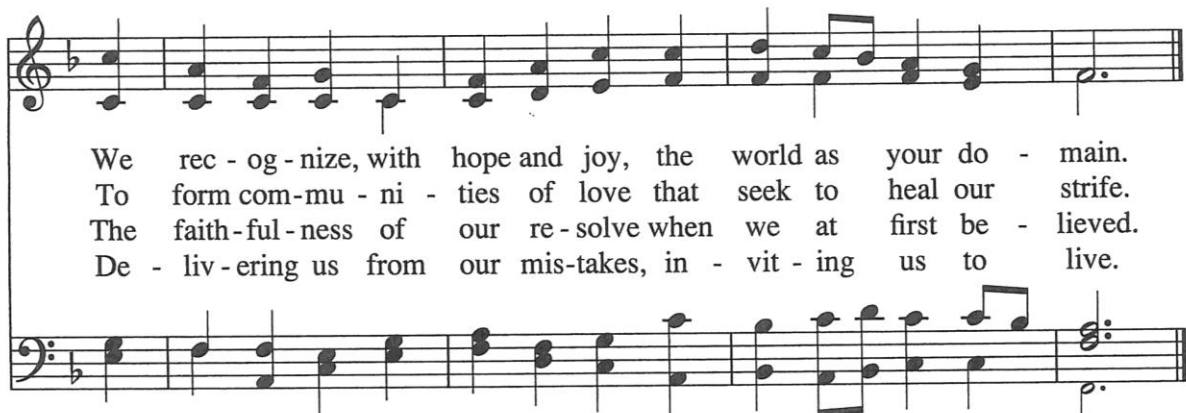
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Timothy Dwight, 1801
Adapt. Lavon Bayler, 1992

Ps. 26:8



1 We love your realm, O God, all plac - es where you reign.
2 We love your church, O God, for Christ has giv - en life
3 We rec - og - nize, with pain, that we have not a - chieved
4 Yet Christ, our friend and guide, con - tin - ues to for - give,



We rec - og - nize, with hope and joy, the world as your do - main.
To form com - mu - ni - ties of love that seek to heal our strife.
The faith - ful - ness of our re - solve when we at first be - lieved.
De - liv - ering us from our mis - takes, in - vit - ing us to live.

5 Be - yond our bro - ken - ness,
we seek to know your ways
Of deep com - mu - nion, sol - emn vows,
and hymns of love and praise.

6 We know your truth will last.
We trust your reign is sure.
E - quip us for those dai - ly tasks
that help your world en - dure.

This poem by Lavon Bayler, a United Church of Christ minister, was inspired by and modeled after the oldest commonly used American hymn, "I Love Thy Kingdom" by Timothy Dwight.

Tune: ST. THOMAS S.M.
Williams' New Universal Psalmist, 1770

DISCIPLESHIP

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O Savior, Let Me Walk with You

Washington Gladden, 1879; alt.

1 O Sav - ior, let me walk with you in earth - ly
 2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear
 3 Teach me your pa - tience; let me be in clos - er,
 4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the

paths of ser - vice true; Tell me your se - cret,
 win - ning word of love. Teach me the way - ward
 dear - er com - pa - ny, In work that keeps faith
 fu - ture's broad - ening way, In peace that on - ly

help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
 feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
 sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong.
 you can give, with you, O Sav - ior, let me live.

Washington Gladden was a Congregational minister, distinguished preacher and lecturer, and author of over thirty works. Gladden wrote extensively on civic and social affairs of his day. This hymn was penned in 1879 and published in his periodical, The Sunday Afternoon.

Tune: MARYTON L.M.
 H. Percy Smith, 1874

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Good Shepherd Center request for January is **pancake mix, syrup, cereal and toilet paper**. Barrels are located in the front and back lobbies of the church.

The Good Shepherd Center Executive Committee will meet Tuesday, January 26 at 7:00 at the center.

The Ministry of Service and Missions is holding a **FLEECE BLANKET WORK DAY** on Sunday, February 7 immediately after worship. Bring good scissors and a ruler, the fleece will be provided. Blankets are for The Good Shepherd Center and AWARE. You'll be home in time to watch the Superbowl!

The Backpack Program, Feb 2, 2021

The second of Zion's three turns to pack snack foods for Greenville elementary children this year takes place the first week of February, unless an upsurge in the pandemic causes them to have school virtually again. We will meet at First Methodist Church on Shenango street at 6:30 pm, Tuesday February 2nd. If you are transporting bins to the school that evening, park near the entry ramp in Bond Alley. Otherwise, park in the parking lot on the east side of the church, and enter by the dumpster at the side of the building.

We will wear masks, carefully maintain a distance from each other as we pack the bags, and clean the area when we have finished packing. The packing area is very roomy, and equipped with hand sanitizer.

If you are able to help, phone Leslie Graul at 724-588-7686 or leave a text message at 724-456-3947. I hope to hear from you!

The Ash Wednesday Communion Service will be February 17 at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary.

During Lent we will hold Worship/Bible Study in the sanctuary at 6:00 pm on Wednesday evenings, February 24, March 3, March 10, March 17 and March 24.