

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

February 7, 2021 10:30 a.m.
Sacrament of Holy Communion

*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 our mother, grandmother and great grandmother Elizabeth "Betty" Williams, by her Family.

A Time of Gathering

THE SOLEMN DECLARATION

Josie Harbaugh, 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

Presley Menold, Acolyte

PRELUDE

Chopin Prelude in E Minor OP.28, No. 4

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP Colossians 2:6-7 New International Version

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

CALL TO WORSHIP (written by Joanna Harader)

Josie Harbaugh, Lector

Leader: Have you not known?

People: Our God is the everlasting God, Creator of the ends of the earth.

Leader: Have you not heard?

People: God does not faint or grow weary.

Leader: Have you not known?

People: God's understanding is unsearchable.

Leader: Have you not heard?

People: God gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless.

Leader: Have you not known?

People: Those who wait for God will renew their strength they shall mount up with wings like eagles. Thanks be to God.

OPENING HYMN "O How Glorious, Full of Wonder" (bulletin page 6)

A Time of Prayer

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, as you once again call us to your table, help us to respond in faith. Forgive our failures and help us to learn from them. Change our hearts and minds as we hear your good news proclaimed. Help us to taste and see the goodness you have prepared for us and for the world. Lift us to our feet so we may walk with you; fill us with your strength so we may serve your people; touch us with your healing so we may proclaim to everyone the Good News that has come in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. 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 LESSON Isaiah 40:21-31 The Message

Have you not been paying attention? Have you not been listening? Haven't you heard these stories all your life? Don't you understand the foundation of all things?

God sits high above the round ball of earth. The people look like mere ants. He stretches out the skies like a canvas—yes, like a tent canvas to live under.

He ignores what all the princes say and do. The rulers of the earth count for nothing. Princes and rulers don't amount to much. Like seeds barely rooted, just sprouted, they shrivel when God blows on them. Like flecks of chaff, they're gone with the wind.

"So—who is like me? Who holds a candle to me?" says The Holy. Look at the night skies: Who do you think made all this? Who marches this army of stars out each night, counts them off, calls each by name—so magnificent! so powerful!—and never overlooks a single one?

Why would you ever complain, O Jacob, or, whine, Israel, saying, "God has lost track of me. He doesn't care what happens to me"?

Don't you know anything? Haven't you been listening? God doesn't come and go. God lasts. He's Creator of all you can see or imagine. He doesn't get tired out, doesn't pause to catch his breath. And he knows everything, inside and out. He energizes those who get tired, gives fresh strength to dropouts. For even young people tire and drop out, young folk in their prime stumble and fall. But those who wait upon God get fresh strength. They spread their wings and soar like eagles, They run and don't get tired, they walk and don't lag behind.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"On Eagle's Wings"
Lori Seinar-Roknick, soloist

Michael Joncas

SERMON

Beauty and Bread

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Words of Remembering

Communion Prayer

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Leader: Let us in our many places receive the gift of the bread of heaven.

People: We are one in Christ in the bread we share.

Leader: Let us in our many needs and many blessings, receive the cup of blessing.

People: We are one in Christ in the cup we share.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We have been fed, Holy One, by your presence. We have been led, Eternal One, by your light. Christ Jesus, at this table we have feasted on your very life and are strengthened for our journey. Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good news and serve others in your name. Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

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 strengthens us that we might serve.

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

“Surely No One Can Be Safer” (bulletin page 7)

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

“With Peace and Joy”

J. S. Bach

MEDITATION: Vincent van Gogh

Love many things, for therein lies the true strength, and whosoever loves much performs much, and can accomplish much, and what is done in love is done well.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY!

Dorothy Armour, a resident of The Ridgewood, St. Paul's will be celebrating her 100th birthday on February 20. If you would like to send her a card, her address is 339 E. Jamestown Road, Greenville, PA 16125.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the backpack program on Tuesday. You did a great job, as always!
-Leslie Graul, Min. of Service and Missions



The Good Shepherd Center requests for February are

CANNED FRUIT AND CANNED VEGETABLES

Please bring your donations to the church! Thank you!

STEWARDSHIP AND CREATION

O How Glorious, Full of Wonder

558

*Curtis Beach, 1958, rev. 1980; alt.**Ps. 8*

1 O how glo-rious, full of won-der is your name o'er all the earth,
 2 When we see your lights of heav-en, moon and stars, your power dis-played,
 3 You have set us in com-mu-nion with the won-ders of your hand,
 4 O how won-drous, O how glo-rious is your name in ev-ery land,

God, who wrought cre-a-tion's splen-dor, bring-ing suns and stars to birth!
 Who are we that you should love us, crea-tures that your hand has made?
 Made us fly with ea-gle pin-ion, pil-grims o-ver sea and land.
 God, whose pur-pose shines be-fore us toward the goal that you have planned!

Rapt in rev-erence we a-dore you, mar-veling at your mys-tic ways.
 Born of earth, yet full of yearn-ing, mix-ture strange of good and ill,
 Soar-ing spire and ru-ined cit-y, these our hopes and fail-ures show.
 Yours the will our hearts are seek-ing, con-scious of our hu-man need.

Hum-bly now we bow be-fore you, lift-ing up our hearts in praise.
 From your ways so of-ten turn-ing, yet your love does seek us still.
 Teach us more of hu-man pit-y, that we in your im-age grow.
 Spir-it in our spir-it speak-ing, make us yours, O God, in-deed.

United Church of Christ minister Curtis Beach submitted this hymn to the editorial committee of the Pilgrim Hymnal (1958). It was one of two psalm paraphrases by Beach to be accepted. The hymn was also included in The Hymnal of the United Church of Christ (1974).

Tune: IN BABILONE 8.7.8.7.D.
 Traditional Dutch melody
 Arr. Julius Röntgen, c. 1906
 Alternate tune: HYMN TO JOY

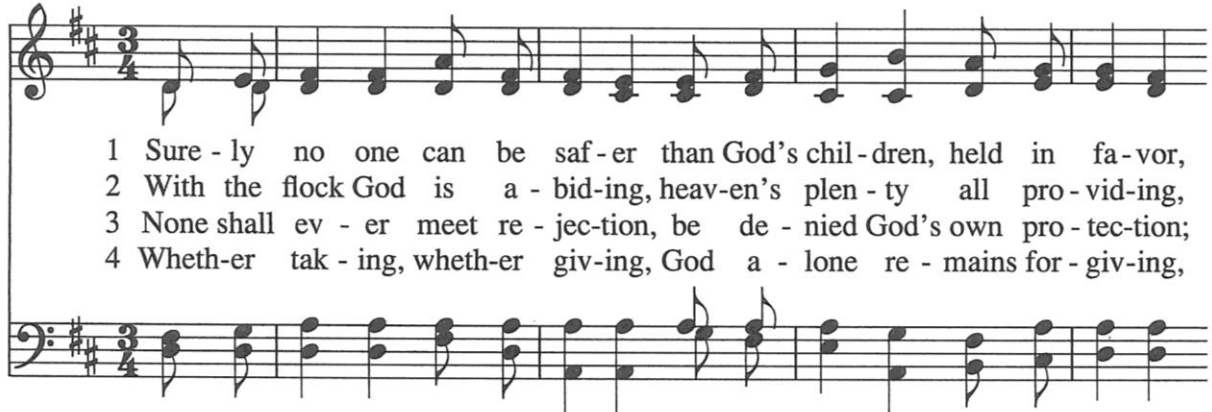
Surely No One Can Be Safer

487

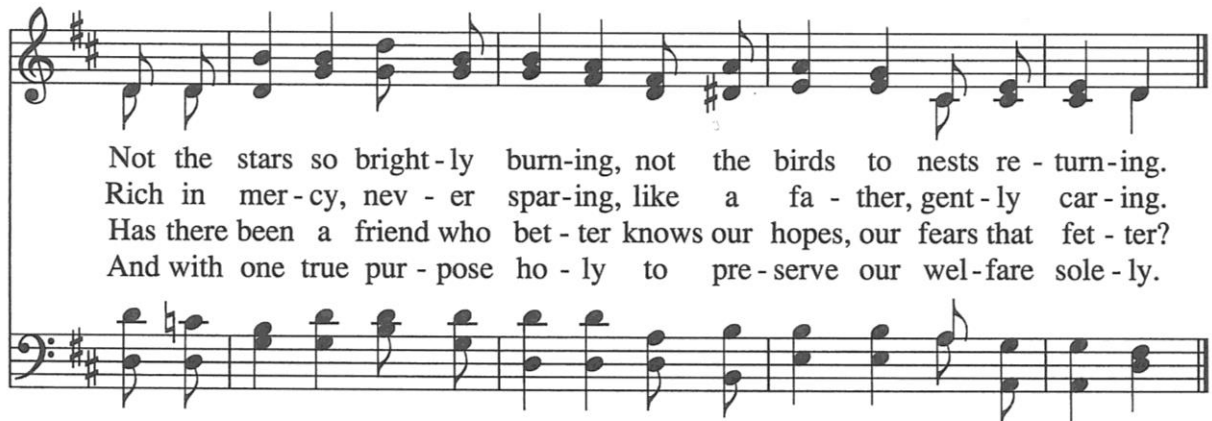
Lina Sandell, 1855

Rom. 8:38-39

Transl. The New Century Hymnal, 1994



1 Sure - ly no one can be saf - er than God's chil - dren, held in fa - vor,
 2 With the flock God is a - bid - ing, heav - en's plen - ty all pro - vid - ing,
 3 None shall ev - er meet re - jec - tion, be de - nied God's own pro - tec - tion;
 4 Wheth - er tak - ing, wheth - er giv - ing, God a - lone re - mains for - giv - ing,



Not the stars so bright - ly burn - ing, not the birds to nests re - turn - ing.
 Rich in mer - cy, nev - er spar - ing, like a fa - ther, gent - ly car - ing.
 Has there been a friend who bet - ter knows our hopes, our fears that fet - ter?
 And with one true pur - pose ho - ly to pre - serve our wel - fare sole - ly.

Lina Sandell endured many hardships in her early years, including illness, the death of a child, and the drowning of her father, who was a Swedish Lutheran pastor. She maintained a deep piety and strong commitment to mission, and wrote more than 650 hymns and poems.

Tune: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA L.M.
 Swedish folk melody
 Harm. Song Book for Sunday School, 1871