

Genesis 15:1-6

After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward. But Abram said, "Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir." Then the word of the LORD came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir." He took him outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for. By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore. All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

## WELCOME TO ZION'S REFORMED CHURCH

United Church of Christ  
260 Main Street, Greenville, PA 16125  
Phone: 724-588-6940  
Church e-mail: [info@zionsucc.org](mailto:info@zionsucc.org)  
Julie's cell: 724-815-3291

Faith  
is the substance of things  
Hoped  
for the evidence of things not  
Seen.

-Hebrews 11:1



## Welcome to Zion's Reformed Church

*We're glad you're here!*

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! We welcome Rev. Dr. Tim Morrison to the pulpit. Thank you for being here!

We extend a special welcome to Ruth Herrick who will provide special music today. Thank you for sharing your talent, Ruth!

The Altar Flowers are placed in memory of my mother Rena King, by Carol Ann Cash.

Ushering this month are Elaine Wilkins, Carol Herrick, John Enterline, and Vanessa Saylor.

Serving Communion today are Teri Swartzbeck, Vikki Young, Lori Tofani, Chalmer Ritzert and Linda Seeley.

Everyone is invited to the Anderson Lounge after the service for refreshments.

There is no Church Happening in the summer. Children are encouraged to stay for the entire service.

## Rock of Ages

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1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me  
 2 Not the labors of my hands can ful-  
 3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring, sim - ply  
 4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when my

hide my - self in thee; let the wa - ter and the blood,  
 fill thy law's de - mands; could my zeal no res - pite know,  
 to thy cross I cling; na - ked, come to thee for dress,  
 eyes shall close in death, when I soar to worlds un - known,

from thy wound - ed side which flowed, be of sin the  
 could my tears for - ev - er flow, all for sin could  
 help - less, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the  
 see thee on thy judg - ment throne, Rock of A - ges,

dou - ble cure, save from wrath and make me pure.  
 not a - tone; thou must save and thou a - lone.  
 foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die!  
 cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

WORDS: Augustus M. Toplady (1740-1778)  
MUSIC: Thomas Hastings (1784-1872)

TOPLADY  
7.7.7.7.7.

\*UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this Holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by Christ's body and blood that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that your universal church may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ our redeemer. Amen.

\*CLOSING HYMN "Old Time Religion"

*(Refrain)* Give me that old time religion, give me that old time religion, give me that old time religion, it's good enough for me.

It was good for my mother, it was good for my mother, it was good for my mother, and it's good enough for me. *(Refrain)*

It was good for the Hebrew children, it was good for the Hebrew children, it was good for the Hebrew children, and it's good enough for me. *(Refrain)*

It was good for Paul and Silas, it was good for Paul and Silas, it was good for Paul and Silas, and it's good enough for me. *(Refrain)*

It was good for my old father, it was good for my old father, it was good for my old father, and it's good enough for me. *(Refrain)*

\*THE BENEDICTION

\*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

\*THE POSTLUDE "Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho"  
African American Spiritual

ZION'S REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Rev. Dr. Tim Morrison  
Lori Seinar-Roknick, Director of Music Ministries

\*Please rise in body or spirit, as you are able.  
August 7, 2022 10:30 a.m.

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Andrea Colaiaco, Lector

THE SOLEMN DECLARATION

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

THE ENTRANCE OF LIGHT Sophie Powell, Acolyte

*~Please use prelude time for thought, reflection and prayer~*

PRELUDE "Do Lord" Traditional Gospel

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Andrea Colaiaco

Leader: Our Creator God resides in the midst of creation.

**People: God calls us to be a part of this rich community.**

Leader: God gazes upon the beloved with delight and concern.

**People: The Spirit of the Living God greets us with fresh winds and new mercies.**

\*OPENING HYMN "Rock of Ages" (bulletin page 7)

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: Loving God, we wait for you with longing hope and anticipation.

**People: We ask that your love will be a beacon to guide us in the paths we should go.**

Leader: Hear us, O Lord, as we come before you with humble hearts.

**People: Hear our prayer and grant us forgiveness.**

\*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, you have created a world of abundance. Every resource and gift come from your generosity. Forgive us for our misuse and overuse of your gifts. Forgive our neglect of the gifts and abilities in others. Sow generosity in us, reveal abundance to us, and enable flourishing through us. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Every good and perfect gift comes from above.

**People: Grace is such a gift; mercy is another.**

Leader: Transformation and new life descend freely from God to all who would receive it.

**People: We celebrate the assurance of God's grace and compassion as a precious gift made available to all.**

*~before you sit down, please greet someone near you~*

WORD FOR THE FAMILY "Try a Little Kindness: Take Two"

SPECIAL MUSIC Hymn Medley - What a Friend we have in Jesus/  
In the Garden/Just a Closer Walk with Thee  
Ruth Herrick, soloist

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.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS (back of bulletin)

Genesis 15:1-6

Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16

SERMON "Living Into the Promise"

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Invitation

Offertory Music "How Great Thou Art"

\*Doxology No. 780

\*Unison Prayer of Dedication

**Generous God, receive the gifts we bring as we return a portion of your treasure to the use of your creation. May your will be manifested and your creation restored through sharing these offerings. Amen.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

During the distribution of the cup, we will sing:

**"Let Us Break Bread Together"**

**Let us break bread together on our knees;**

**Let us break bread together on our knees:**

**Refrain: When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.**

**Let us drink wine together on our knees;**

**Let us drink wine together on our knees:**

**Refrain.....**

**Let us praise God together on our knees;**

**Let us praise God together on our knees:**