



## **Spiritual Words & Thoughts from Our 167 Anniversary Celebration**

**“As is the case, each crisis brought the congregation of Mount Zion closer and stronger.**

**In its 167 year history, we have celebrated, and we have seen crises, yet as a church family, a family of believers, we have grown stronger. I hope that we can continue to flourish into the future.”**

**Joyce Mirfin, Anniversary Sunday**

**“This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made,  
Let us rejoice, let us rejoice and be glad in it”**

### **Congregation Singing in Unity**

**“Bind Us Together” (“The Faith We Sing” Song Book #2226**

**“Bind us together Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.  
Bind us together Lord, bind us together, bind us together in love.**

**There is only one God, there is only one Lord, There is only one body,  
that is why we sing.....(repeat “bind us together, Lord.....)**

*I love this church*

*I love its history and heritage! I love its vision and future!*

*I love the spirit of Jesus which is in the hearts and lives of our members and friends! We aren't perfect  
but we are pressing on to be more “Christ-like” every day! I love this church!*

*In 1857 the church was simply called The Finksburg Church. The name was changed to  
Finksburg Methodist Protestant Church. Somewhere along the way (no one  
seems to know when or why) it changed again to “Mount Zion.”  
Different names from different times but the same Spirit guiding us!*

## **OPENING PRAYER**



*Written by our own church musician Leslie Gabler.*

**“This is our happy place, our place of peace. Our place to worship Jesus, Christ our Savior and King. This  
is our happy place, our place of peace.**

**Where we can praise the Lord with ev'ry song that we sing.**

**We are God's people. We are the Church.**

**We feel the Holy Spirit's presence in this place. We care for others who need God's love. And offer hope  
and comfort to all in Jesus' name.**

**This is our happy place, our place of peace.**

**Our place to witness God's Almighty power and grace.**

**This is our happy place, our place of peace. (Over)**

We take God's love with us ev'ry time we leave this place.  
We welcome others in Jesus' name with cord's of love that make us one in sweet accord.  
Respect, compassion, and dignity is offered graciously to each one who enters these doors.  
Come to this happy place. This place of peace.  
And join our fellowship and feel our warm embrace.  
Come to this happy place, this place of peace.  
We hope this Holy place will become your happy place too.  
(Repeat last two lines)

**Leader+** We have gathered together this morning to celebrate our church anniversary but who are we

**+ WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF GOD! THE FAMILY OF FAITH! THE PEOPLE OF THE SPIRIT! THE BODY OF CHRIST JESUS! WE HAVE GATHERED ON THIS ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY TO WORSHIP GOD AND TO CELEBRATE THE LOVE AND GRACE OF GOD IN JESUS THE CHRIST!**

**+ WE ARE BOUND TOGETHER AS SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN THE BODY OF OUR LORD WITH CORDS THAT CANNOT BE BROKEN.**

**+ WHEN WE LEAVE THIS PLACE WE WILL TAKE GOD'S LOVE WITH US AND WHEREVER WE GO! THANKS BE TO GOD!**

## **Spiritual Thoughts from our worship service on Anniversary Sunday**

### **Congregation Singing in Unity**

**"We Are The Body of Christ" ("The Faith We Sing" songbook #2227)**

**"One heart, one Spirit, one voice to praise you, we are the body of Christ.**

**One goal, one vision to see you exalted, we are the body of Christ. And to - this – we give our lives, to see you glorified. One heart, one Spirit.....(above)**

### **Informal Moments and We Welcome Our Children & Youth**

**"Where Children Belong" (in the "Faith We Sing." Songbook #2233) This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng. Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer and song. This is where children belong."**

### **Reception of our Tithes & Offerings**

**Offering Response Hymnal #94 "Praise God From Whom....with Alleluia's**

### **Hymn for Men of Faith ("Father's Day") U.M. Hymnal #576 "Rise Up, O Men of God"**

### **Morning Prayer**

**Our Prayer Song + U.M. Hymnal #557 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds  
"Blest be the tie that binds, our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above."**

**We thank you for fathers near, Fathers with strong arms  
And fathers with feeble knees  
Present at table and at bathtub and at bedtime for prayers.**

**Thank you, God, for fathers near.**

**We thank you, O God, for fathers far away, Fathers who ache for their families  
(Over)**

Fathers absent because of war,  
Or disease, Or despair,  
Fathers who are present and absent at the same time.  
Thank you, God, for fathers far away.

We thank you, O God, for caring communities  
Where mothers fill in for fathers - and fathers fill in for mothers  
And grandparents put on the apron and the towel.  
Where aunts and uncles, and those who are absolutely no kin at all  
Make our communities a home, fit for habitation.  
Amen.

+ We sing the Lord's Prayer Together+

**\*Closing Hymn "God of the Generations"**

*This hymn written by Delia E. Berry from Syracuse, New York, was the first place award winning Hymn for the 1966 Bicentennial of American Methodism held in Baltimore, Md.  
It is sung to the tune "Lancashire" UM Hymnal # 580 "Lead On, O King Eternal."*

1. God of the generations, we offer thee our song - Of praise and adoration for through the centuries long. Thy grace has led our people on life's ascending ways,  
And now, God of the ages, we lift our hymn of praise.
2. We thank you for the high road, our faithful people trod - For witness of the Spirit that they were born of God. For circuit riders called by you, who traveled far and wide  
To tell the matchless story of Jesus crucified.
3. We now seek other planets, we walk in stellar space - We plumb the ocean's darkness, all knowledge to embrace. But yet we yearn to find you, to hear your voice so still,  
How shall your Church make answer, her mission to fulfill?
4. Where greed and envy flourish, where hate holds evil sway - Where poverty and sorrow delay God's holy day. There let your Church speak boldly, reach out her saving hand - And lead those of all nations to find the Promised Land.

**Closing Video** "We Are The World" Medley



**We would like to thank you for the very nice luncheon last Anniversary Sunday and especially for the cake and cards and gifts of appreciation.**

**Judy & Lou**

### **What is Juneteenth?**

According to the official website of the historic event, Juneteenth is “the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States.

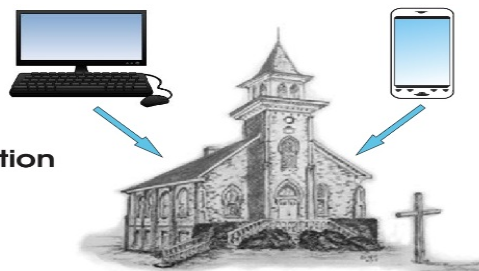
Other than marking a pivotal date of significance in American history, Juneteenth also serves as an opportunity for African Americans to cherish their culture and heritage.

More than 155 years ago, Juneteenth celebrates the liberation of African Americans from slavery in the U.S. The reason for it being celebrated on June 19<sup>th</sup> is because, on this day in 1865, when Major General Gordon Granger of the Union Army landed in Texas, he brought the news that the Civil War had ended and all slaves were free. The proclamation declaring the abolishment of slavery was issued by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, in the nation’s third year of an ongoing civil war known as the Emancipation Proclamation, it declared that ‘all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State.....shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free.’ Grangers arrival at Texas was to force this decree, which had originally gone into effect two years earlier.

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