



Did you know John Zundal...

John Zundal became the organist at Plymouth Congregational Church in Brooklyn New York. John's music was almost as popular as his well-known minister, H.W. Beecher. John published several hymn collections, his best-known hymn being "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling."

He was born in the village of Hochdorf an der Enz, Kingdom of Wurttemberg, Germany. He attended the Royal Academy at Esslingen, Wurttemberg, from 1829 to 1831, then he began teaching in the local school in Berkach, Germany. In 1833, he was appointed teacher of music in Esslingen.

He studied organ building at the factor of Eberhard Friedrich Walcker, and in 1840 he traveled to St. Petersburg, Russia, to give a concert on the Walcker organ at the Lutheran Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul. It was the first organ concert ever given on Russian soil. He remained in St. Petersburg for seven years as organist at Saint Anne Lutheran Church and as bandmaster of the Imperial House Guards.

He came to the U.S. in 1847 with the intent to give organ concerts. Unable to find suitable instruments for concerts, he settled in as a church organist. Employed first at the Unitarian Church of Brooklyn under Reverend Farnley in 1848, he was then hired by Henry Ward Beecher in 1850 as music director and organist for Brooklyn's Plymouth Church. Zundel remained at Plymouth Church a total of 28 years, interrupted twice to travel and to serve briefly in nearby churches.

John returned to his homeland before his death in Kirchheim inter Teck, Germany, in May, 1882.

...was a Congregationalist?

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400 YEARS OF *Faith*
AMERICAN
CONGREGATIONALISM
SINCE 1620

Call To Worship

L: Pilgrims are we, O Lord God we come

C: 400-year old travelers with Your Son

L: When we have been weary, You have restored our souls

C: And set us on the path again, of redemption

L: We come to this hour seeking refreshment, courage, and the will

C: To continue this journey toward the community of heaven

Invocation (in unison)

We remember this day our Pilgrim forebears, whose constant prayers and unshakable courage brought them to this land we now call home.

They brought their sins, their cares, their temptations, too, and found their help and strength from you. We approach You with the same needs and the hope that this hour may be for us a time of grace and empowerment to live with courage as Christ's new pilgrims. Amen

Historical story by: Rev. Garry Fisher

Liturgy by: Rev. Tom Richard