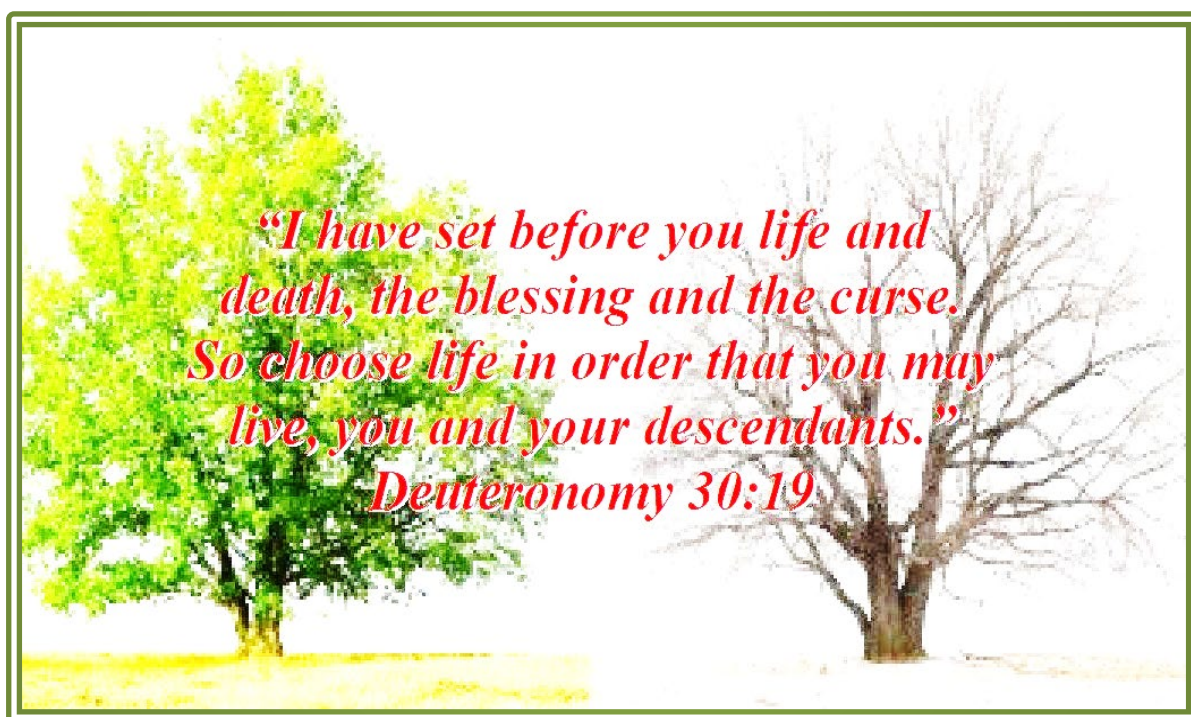


# ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 12, 2023 11:00am



**A LIGHT SHINES!**



### **Our Mission Statement**

To share the gospel of Christ in such a way that we find God, grow our faith, discover our purpose, and make a difference.

# Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

## A Light Shines!

### February 12, 2023 ☞ 11:00 A.M.

*Meditation of the Week:* "It is not enough to say 'We must not wage war.' It is necessary to love peace and sacrifice for it. ~Martin Luther King Jr~

#### ***WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD***

*\*All who are able may stand*

Gathering Music "Schmucke dich, o Liebe Seele" ("Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness"). J. S. Bach

Ringling of the Bells

Prelude "All Glory be to God on High" J. S. Bach

Words of Welcome

\*Call to Community *based on Psalm 119 & Deuteronomy 30*

Happy are those who are blameless, who walk in the law of God.

**If we follow God's Commandments, God will bless us.**

Happy are those who keep God's decrees, who seek God with their whole heart, who do no wrong, but walk in God's ways.

**Choose life, so that we all may live.**

O, may our ways be steadfast in keeping your statutes and we will praise you with an upright heart.

**We love the Lord God. Hold fast to God, for that means life to us.**

God's law is righteous and we will learn them and follow God's Word.

**The law of God is to love God and to love each other**

Come, let us join together in our love of God to worship and follow Jesus.

\*Opening Hymn "In Christ There is no East or West" Black #395

Children's Time

Choral Anthem "We are Singing, for the Lord is Our Light" Zion Choir

## ***WE HEAR GOD'S WORD***

First Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Lector: Jean Simmons

"See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

Choral response

### **On Eagles Wings**

**And God will raise you up on eagles' wings  
Bear you on the breath of dawn  
Make you to shine like the sun  
And hold you in the palm of Gods hand.**

Second Reading

Matthew 5:21-37

Rev. Katie Penick

"You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder,' and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment, and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council, and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, causes her to commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

"Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' But I say to you: Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

The Message

Choose Life!

Invitation to Give

Offertory

"Rhosymedre" (or "Lovely")

R. Vaughan Williams

Choral Response

**Let There Be Peace On Earth**

**Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me  
Let There Be Peace on Earth  
The peace that was meant to be  
With God as our Father  
Family all are we  
Let us walk with each other  
In perfect harmony.  
Let peace begin with me  
Let this be the moment now.  
With ev'ry step I take  
Let this be my solemn vow  
To take each moment and live  
Each moment in peace eternally  
Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me**

Blessing Our Gifts

**We offer these gifts in thanksgiving, O God. Each of us has made the choice between life and death, blessings and curses. We choose blessing. We choose life. May God's promises be fulfilled today and every day. Amen**

## ***SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION***

\*Hymn of Preparation

"As We Gather at Your Table"

Black #332

### Invitation

God is with us!

**We are not alone!**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### Communion Prayer

Holy Mystery that is Wholly Love,  
you are beyond complete knowledge,  
above perfect description.

Creator. Christ, and Holy Spirit;  
Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love,  
you are creative and self-giving,  
generously moving.

In all the near and distant corners of the universe.  
nothing exists that does not find its source in you.  
(based on *A Song of Faith*)

Even when we turn away from you, you are with us;  
your presence never fails us,  
your gifts of hope and new life transform us.

We praise you for Jesus Christ,  
eternal as your love, our bond to one another.  
We rejoice with all your people of every time and place,  
and with angels and archangels,  
to proclaim the glory of your name:

*Sanctus and Benedictus*

**Holy, holy, holy are you.**

**Holy, holy, blessed are you.**

It is Jesus, God incarnate, the Risen Christ,  
who joins us together as a community of broken but hopeful believers:  
loving what he loved  
living what he taught, and  
striving to be his faithful servants  
in our time and place.

In this meal we remember Jesus, his promises,  
and the price he paid for who he was, what he said, and what he did.  
feed and strengthen our souls anew. We lift our voices with shouts of praise.

## The Story

On the night before Jesus died,  
he took a loaf of bread,  
gave thanks, broke it, and said,  
"Take and eat; whenever you do this, remember me."  
After supper, Jesus took the cup, and poured, saying,  
"This is the new covenant, remember me."

**We do remember.**

**We remember his life of love, his friendship, his teaching, his dying, and his rising to life again.**

In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith:

*Memorial Acclamation*

**Christ has died**

**Christ will arise**

**Christ will come to us again**

## Blessing the Meal

Holy Mystery, God the Spirit,  
we call on you to transform these familiar things,  
as you continually transform the world around us.

Bless this bread and this cup,  
the wheat and the grape,  
the farmer and the harvest,  
the seed and the sower.

So that in the sharing of these simple elements in community,  
we may taste and see your goodness,  
so that we might catch a glimpse of what it is to be in communion with you and with one another.

Through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory is yours, God most holy,  
now and forever.

The Gifts of God for the People of God!

**Thanks be to God!**

## Sharing the Meal

Prayer after Communion

**Thank you, O Christ, for this abundant feast.**

**We are fed by your love;**

**we are strengthened by your life.**

**We are sent forth into this world to live into the visions God has laid on our hearts.**

**We are now commissioned to:**

**feed as we have been fed,**

**forgive as we have been forgiven,**

**love as we have been loved.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**Amen.**

Prayer of Our Savior

**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 and ever. Amen.**

\*Closing Hymn

"Great is Your Faithfulness"

Black #423

\*Sending Forth

Postlude to Service

"To God by the Glory"

William H. Doane

## ***GO FORTH IN PEACE & SERVE!***

### ***PRAYING WITH ONE ANOTHER***



Prayer is one of the most important spiritual disciplines of our faith, promoting communication with God, and love for God and neighbor. Submit your prayer requests to the church office to be included on the prayer list. Join with us in prayer as we pray for all those in our communities that we have touched or that have touched us and those that simply crossed our paths. Let us also remember to pray for peace and safety around the world and to pray with and for our Zion siblings: Holly Bell, Naomi Brackett, Brenda Bowers, Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, Kim & Bill Cook, Ronald Curry Sr., Shawnee Forciho, Garber Family, Michael Graff Jr. (son of Sue and Mike), Beth Gross, Sherry Hockman, Lyn Hoffmaster, Jane Hollabaugh, Paul Hose, Ann Kalinoski, Rhonda Kane, Alyssa Kline, Dee Krause, Jerri Livingston, Sofia Martinez, Dee McGlauckin, Mary Murphy, Barry & Amy Newlin, Annie Penick, James Penick, Sue Penick, Mark Plotner, Michelle Porter, Colleen Rand, David Ridenour, Betsy Roulette, Verna Rosenfield, Jeff Shade, Ralph & Scherry Sellers, Staci Shafer, Thelma Summers, Tracy Roach Walls, Eleanor Wible, Eric Wolbring, Robert Yeoman

*\*Prayer Requests remain active on the prayer list for 4-weeks unless renewed.*

Lector for this week is Jean Simmons, next week is Missie LaBombard.  
Ushers for this week are Burnie Clutz, Susan Clutz, Becky Hohman, John Schnebly.  
Next week ushers are Frank Ebersole, Carol Mooers, Becky Owens, Rich Owens.

Happy Birthday to Angie Shaff 2/18

**Like to walk?** The Coldest Night of the Year event is being held on Saturday, February 25 at HCC. The Zion Walkers will be out there helping to raise funds for REACH of Washington County. If you would like to be part of the group walking or make a pledge, please contact Carroll Sager at [carroll.sager@gmail.com](mailto:carroll.sager@gmail.com) or go to CNOY.com. Click on Coldest Night of the Year 2023 USA. Find the ZION Walkers listed under the Maryland/REACH/Teams and sign up to walk or to make a donation. This is a family friendly event that we hope will become an annual event to assist those who are homeless in our community.

### **Happening this week:**

2/14 HARC Monthly Meeting 12:30 at HARC Office  
2/14 ONA Team Meeting 12:30  
2/14 Tuesday Supper and 1 Stop Shop 5:00-6:00 downstairs in Fellowship Hall  
2/15 Wednesday Lunch Bunch 11:30  
2/15 Tuesday Supper, 1 Stop Shop Team Leader Meeting 4:30  
2/16 Staff Meeting 1:00  
2/16 Choir Practice 4:00-5:30  
2/16 4-H Club meeting 4:30-6:00

### **Service Credits February 12**

Adapted from <https://www.ucc.org/what-we-do/justice-local-church-ministries/local-church/worship-resources/worship-ways-2/> and [Liturgical Resources | United Church of Canada - Gathering Worship](#)

**Gathering music:** Schmucke dich, o Liebe Seele (Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness). Composed by J. S. Bach. © 1967 by G. Schirmer. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Prelude:** All Glory be to God on High. Composed by J. S. Bach. © 1967 by G. Schirmer. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Hymns:** In Christ There is no East or West. NCH 395. Tune: St. Peter. Composed by Alexander R. Reinagle (1836). Words by John Oxenham (1908). Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

As We Gather at Your Table. Tune: Beach Spring. NCH 332. From the Sacred Harp (1844). Words by Carl P. Daw (1989). Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Great is Your Faithfulness. NCH 423. Tune: Faithfulness. Composed by iWilliam M. Runyan (1923). Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Source(s): Hymnary (hymnary.org).

**Choral anthem:** We are Singing, for the Lord is Our Light. A traditional Zulu Song. Arr. by Hal H. Hopson. © 1994 by Agape Publishing Co.

**Offertory:** Rhosymedre (or "Lovely"). Composed by R. Vaughan Williams. © 1920 by Stainer & Bell Ltd. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Communion:** In the Garden. Composed by Franz Liszt and Austin Miles. Arr. by Mark Hayes. © 2022 by Lorenz Publishing House. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Postlude:** To God by the Glory. Composed by William H. Doane. Arr. by Mark Thallander. © 1993 by Tarzana Music Company. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.