

# ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## First Sunday of lent

February 26, 2023 11:00am

*“As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus’  
thirst...’Repent and believe.”* Blessed Teresa of Calcutta



**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.

**First Sunday of Lent**  
**Walking in the Wilderness**

# February 26, 2023 ☞ 11:00 A.M.

*Meditation of the Week: "Deep listening is about drawing close to someone's story" ~Valerie Kaur~*

## **WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD**

*\*All who are able may stand*

Gathering Music

"Praeludium in D"

by Dietrich Buxtehude

Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC

Ringling of the Bells

Prelude

"All Hail the Power: A Trilogy of Praise Tunes"

Coronation, by Oliver Holden (1793), Diadem, by James Eliot (1838), and Miles Lane by William Shrubsole.

Words of Welcome

\*Call to Community

**Jesus began his ministry to the world, led by the Spirit into the wilderness.**

We begin our Lenten journey, led by the Spirit. Let us be willing to enter into even the most uncomfortable places.

**In those forty days, and in that difficult place, Jesus was faced with hunger, doubt and temptation.**

As we seek to follow Jesus, we would be led, even into the uncomfortable choices.

**Jesus left the wilderness, faithful and obedient to God, rejoicing in the One in whom he trusted.**

As we continue on our path to faithfulness, we will be led by our Christ, rejoicing in the Lord our God.

\*Opening Hymn

"Come Thou Almighty King" Red #4

by Felice De Giardini 1769

Prayer of Approach (inspired by Genesis 2)

God, help us say no when the voices speak of building up investments in the things of the world when you want us to invest ourselves in the ways of heaven.

**Help us say no to the world and yes to you**

God, help us say no to what the world tells us we need in the gathering up of more and more stuff when you want us to let go of the stuff and rely on you instead.

**Help us say no to the world and yes to you**

God, help us say no to the easy answers and quick fixes when you long for us to take a lifetime to live and explore the questions.

**Help us say no to the world and yes to you**

God help us say no to using power and money to deal with the problems of hunger in our community when you wish we would live in a more equal relationship with those who are hungry throughout the

world.

**Help us say no to the world and yes to you**

God help us say no to the easy way the world wants that involves no pain or hardship when you call us to carry crosses and trust the love that bears all.

**Help us say no to the world and yes to you**

God help us say no to conflicts that show humanity at its worst in violence and repression when you know we can live into ways that demonstrate the overflowing blessings of your love and the abundant grace of humanity.

**Help us say no to the world and yes to you**

God help us say no to a faith that speaks empty words and is shown by hollow actions when we know of a word that brings the fullness of life and is carried by actions shaped by justice, mercy and love.

**O God of Blessings, help us say no to the world and yes to you. Always and forever. Amen.**

~silence is kept~

Children's Time

Walking in the Wilderness

Musical Interlude

"Four Impromptus in A flat Major Op.142"

by Franz Schubert

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

First Reading

Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7

Lector: Rae Smith

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.' " But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Choral Response

"Jesus Remember Me"

**Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom**

**Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom**

Second Reading

Matthew 4:1-11

Rev. Katie Penick

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. The tempter came and said to

him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."

But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' "

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me."

Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.' "

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

\*Hymn of Praise "Praise ye the Lord" Red #8 Stralsund Gesangbuch 1665

The Message Tempting!

Invitation to Give

Offertory "Nicaea" by John B. Dykes (1861) Arr. by Robert Hebble 1982 by Dreena Music

Choral Response "We Praise Thee O God" Red #19 verse 1

**We praise Thee, O God, our Redeemer, Creator,  
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.  
We lay it before Thee, we kneel and adore thee,  
We bless Thy holy Name, glad praises we sing.**

Blessing Our Gifts

**Faithful God, let these gifts be like food and drink in the wilderness for those who have suffered and longed for your presence. May these offerings strengthen those who are resisting temptation and lead us to attend to all who need your healing touch. This we pray in the name of Jesus, our example and savior. Amen.**

Sacrament of Communion

\*Hymn of Preparation "Forty Days and Forty Nights" Black #205 by George Hunt Smyttan 1856

Invitation

The Story

Blessing the Meal

Prayer after Communion

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

"Sanctuary"

John Thompson and Randy Scruggs

**Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary,  
pure and holy, tried and true  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for You.  
Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary,  
pure and holy, tried and true  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for You.**

Postlude to Service

Sending Forth  
"Paeon (Hymn of Praise)"

by Robert Lau 2016

***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 McGlauchkin, 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 Rae Smith, next week is TBD.

Ushers for this week are Domenick Gerlando, Barb Hendershot, Matt McDonald, William Wantz.

Next week ushers are William Brewer, Calvin Livingston, Gerald Saum, Jean Simmons.

Happy Birthday to Kristin Kelly 02/28, Jim Rhodes 03/02, Page Wise 03/03

**The Coldest Night of the Year** event was held on Saturday, February 25 at HCC. The Zion Walkers team joined a number of other walkers from the area to raise funds for REACH of Washington County.

### **Happening this week:**

2/27 CE Team Meeting 4:00

2/28 ONA Team Meeting 12:30

Tuesday Supper and 1 Stop Shop 5:00-6:00 downstairs in Fellowship Hall

3/1 Wednesday Lunch Bunch Study Group 11:30

Lenten Bible Study at Christ Reformed 12:00

Executive Board Meeting 2:00

Lenten Potluck and Service 6:30

3/2 Staff Meeting 1:00

4-H Club meeting 4:30-6:00

**Service Credits  
February 26**

Adapted from <https://www.ucc.org/what-we-do/justice-local-church-ministries/local-church/worship-resources/worship-ways-2>, / <http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/> and <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca/>

**Gathering music:** Praeludium in D. Composed by Dietrich Buxtehude. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Passacaglia in d. Composed by Dietrich Buxtehude. Both © 1994 by Barenreiter-Verlag Publishers. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Prelude:** All Hail the Power: A Trilogy of Praise. Tunes: Coronation, by Oliver Holden (1793), Diadem, by James Eliot (1838), and Miles Lane by William Shrubsole. © 2006 by Lorenz Publishing co. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

### **Hymns:**

Opening Hymn "Come Thou Almighty King" Red #4. Felice de Giardini 1769. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Hymn of Praise "Praise ye the Lord" Red #8. Stralsund Gesangbuch 1665 Arr. In Praxis Pietatis Melica 1668. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Hymn of Preparation "Forty Days and Forty Nights" NCH #205. By George Hunt Smyttan 1856. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC

Closing Hymn Sanctuary by John Thompson and Randy Scruggs. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC

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

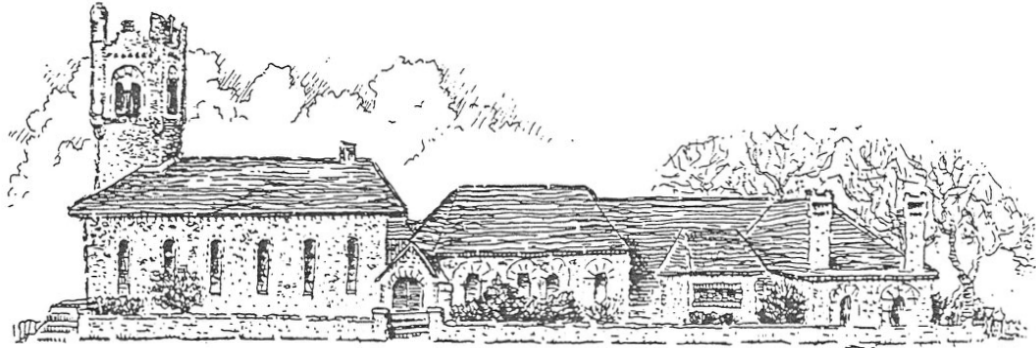
**Special music:** Andante Cantabile, from Sonata No. 8 (Patetica). Opus 13. Composed by Ludwig van Beethoven. © 1949 by Belwin Mills. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Offertory:** Nicaea. Composed by John B. Dykes (1861). Arr. by Robert Hebble. © 1982 by Dreena Music. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Communion:** Let Us Break Bread Together. Traditional spiritual. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Softly and Tenderly. Composed by Will L. Thompson. Both Arr. by Mark Hayes. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Postlude:** Paean (Hymn of Praise). Composed by Robert Lau. © 2016 by Paraclete Press. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.



## Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

201 North Potomac Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740

Office Hours: 8:30-12:30, Monday through Friday

Facebook: @ZionRUCC | YouTube: Zion Reformed UCC

Web: [www.zionreformed.church](http://www.zionreformed.church)

Email: [zionrucc@myactv.net](mailto:zionrucc@myactv.net) Phone: 301.739.7244



Rev Katie Penick, Interim Minister

Phone: 240.418.8028 | Email: [zionruccpastor@myactv.net](mailto:zionruccpastor@myactv.net)

Rae Smith, Church Administrative Assistant

Phone: 301.739.7244 | Email: [zionrucc@myactv.net](mailto:zionrucc@myactv.net)