

ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Third Sunday of lent

March 12, 2023 11:00am

“Whoever drinks of the water I give them will never thirst;”

John 4:14



**Walking in the
Wilderness!**



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.

Third Sunday of Lent

Walking in the Wilderness

March 12, 2023 ☞ 11:00 A.M.

~*Meditation of the Week*: If you don't have any shadows, you're not in the light.~ Lady Gaga~

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

** All who are able may stand*

Gathering Music "Blessed Jesu at Thy Word" by J. S. Bach

Ringling of the Bells

Prelude "An Wasserflussen Babylon (By the Waters of Babylon)" by J. S. Bach

Words of Welcome

*Call to Community

Jesus bids us welcome. He brings peace and forgiveness.

Still we dwell in the midst of doubt and fear.

Jesus bids us welcome. He brings hope and healing.

But we persist in our ways of stubbornness and greed

Jesus, come among us once more. Bring us your word of love and peace.

Open our hearts, our spirits, our souls to receive your healing Word.

*Opening Hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy" Red #1

Call To Reconciliation

Prayer of Brokenness

God of living waters, too often we have turned from you and wandered in our own wildernesses of fear and doubt. Our thirst grows daily, seeking to be quenched by your redeeming love. Yet, when that love is offered to us, we again turn away, unable to truly believe that you would actually heal and love us. We have behaved in very unloving ways. We have chosen to ignore those in need or to deal only passively with them. Our hearts are not placed in service to others, but rather in self-serving motives. Heal us, merciful God. Wash us again in the living water. Help us be faithful servants. Amen.

~silence is kept~

Words of Blessing

Children's Time

Walking in the Wilderness

Musical Interlude

"Adagio Cantabile (from Sonata No. 8 (Patetica))"

Ludwig van Beethoven

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

First Reading

Genesis 17:1-7

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face, and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

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

John 4:5-42

So, he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain,

but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So, the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows, and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So, when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

The Message

Living Waters

*Hymn of Praise

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

Black #224

Invitation to Give

Offertory

"Improvisation on Danny Boy (Londonderry Air)"

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

May these blessings flow down like ever flowing streams, O God, and may they multiply and be a blessing to all who are touched by them. May they restore hope and wholeness; justice and peace; faith and hope. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Sacrament of Communion

*Hymn of Preparation

"Let Justice Flow Like Streams"

Black #588

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.**

Prelude to Service

"Allegro assai Vivace From First Sonata"

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

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, Danny & Julia Springer, 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 Carol Mooers, next week is Amber Nilson.

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 Christine Coleman 3/14, Brooks Heyser 3/16, Halie Green 3/18.

Happening this week:

3/13 Search & Call Team Meeting 5:30

3/14 Tuesday Supper and 1 Stop Shop 5:00-6:00 downstairs in Fellowship Hall

3/15 Wednesday Lunch Bunch Study Group 11:30

Lenten Bible Study at Christ Reformed 12:00

Lenten Potluck and Service 6:30

3/16 Staff Meeting 1:00

Choir Practice 4:00

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

Choir practice starts this week. If you like to sing, you don't have to be a professional, why not join the choir. See Byron for more information

Service Credits

March 12

Adapted from <https://www.ucc.org/what-we-do/justice-local-church-ministries/local-church/worship-resources/worship-ways-2>, / <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4556/worship-connection-march-23-2014>

Gathering music: Blessed Jesu at Thy Word. Composed by J. S. Bach. © 1949 by G. Schirmer, Inc. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Prelude: An Wasserflussen Babylon (By the Waters of Babylon). Composed by J. S. Bach. © 1967 by G. Schirmer. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Hymns: Holy, Holy, Holy. Red 1. Tune: Nicea. Composed by John B. Dykes (1861). Words by Reginald Heber (1826). Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross. NCH 224. Tune: Hamburg. Composed by Lowell Mason (1825). Words by Isaac Watts (1707). Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Let Justice Flow Like Streams. NCH 588. Tune: St. Thomas. Words and music by Jane Parker Huber (1984). Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

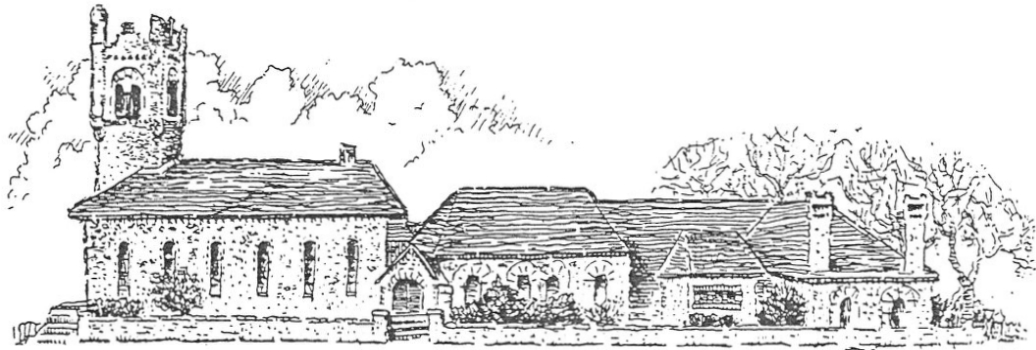
Source(s): Hymnary (hymnary.org).

Special Music: Adagio Cantabile (from Sonata No. 8 (Patetica). Composed by Ludwig van Beethoven. © 1949 by Belwin Mills. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Offertory: Improvisation on Danny Boy (Londonderry Air). Traditional Irish melody. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Communion: Shall We Gather at the River? Tune: Hanson Place, quoting "Reverie" by Claude Debussy. Composed by Robert Lowrey. © 2022 by Lorenz Publishers. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Postlude: Allegro assai Vivace. From First Sonata. Composed by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy. © 1939 by G. Schirmer, Inc. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.



Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

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