

ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
ASCENSION DAY**

May 21, 2023 11:00am

“Jesus went away but he never left. He is still there, taking care of us, protecting us, and showering his love on us.”

Anonymous



SHINING WITH THE GOOD NEWS



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.

Seventh Sunday of Easter Ascension Day Shining With the Good News

Meditation of the Week: "The final forming of one's character lies in their own hands." ~ Anne Frank~

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

** All who are able may stand*

Gathering Music

Ringling of the Bells

Prelude

"In dir ist Freude" (In Thee is Gladness)

J. S. Bach

Words of Welcome

*Call to Community

Within each of our lives there is a longing for community and the Presence of God.

Sometimes we worry that we will walk alone, unnoticed and afraid.

This day Christ tells us that we will never be alone. He will share our journey.

And this journey calls for us to continue to keep to the teachings of our Lord.

May the ever-present love of God be with you.

And may the joy of Christ surround you.

May we know the presence of God as we gather in this community of peace, continuing to share the cost of discipleship with deeds of bold mercy and courageous justice.

As an Easter People following a Risen Lord, may the life of Jesus live on in us and through us. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"Christ, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor"

Black #258

Prayers of the People

~silence is kept~

Children's Time

Anthem

"A Call to Silence"

Zion Reformed Choir

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

First Reading

John 17:20-26

Lector: Wells Ridenour

'I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent

me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

'Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.'

Choral Response

"I Love to Tell the Story"
**I love to tell the story, and when I am in glory
I'll tell the old, old story of Jesus' endless love**

Second Reading

Luke 24:44-53

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.'

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Message

To Be One

Invitation to Give

Offertory

Choral Response

"Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart"

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks, because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks, because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.**

**And now let the weak say 'I am strong',
let the poor say 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for
us;**

**And now let the weak say 'I am strong',
let the poor say 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks**

Blessing Our Gifts

May these gifts, O God, become action and intention, fulfilling Christ's commandment to love. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*Hymn of Preparation

"Crown With Your Richest Crowns"

Black #301

Invitation to the Table

The Story

The Meal

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

"A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing"

Black #259

*Sending Forth

GO FORTH IN PEACE & SERVE!

Prelude to Service

"Fuge in E flat Major" (St. Anne)

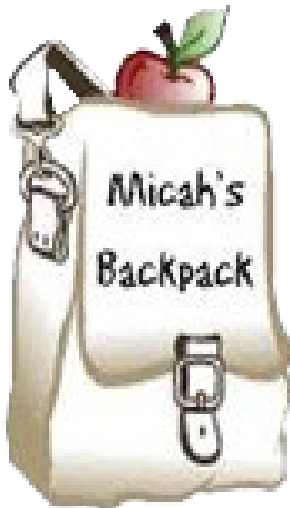
J. S. Bach



****** Are there any Hymns that you really love? ******

We are planning a Hymn Sing for May 28th. Today is the last day to submit your requests for a Hymn you would like to sing. Please fill out the enclosed form and put it in the collection plate or in the box on the table in the chapel.

**MICAH'S BACKPACK
SAYS
"THANK YOU FOR
EVERYTHING YOU DO"**



*Bob Barnhart
Burnie Clutz
Randy Schultz
John Schnebly
Frank Gerlando
Missie LaBombard
Downtown 4-H Club
Michael Mooers*

Your help has been invaluable in keeping the Micah's Backpack program running.

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, Jane Bowen, Brenda Bowers, Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, Kim & Bill Cook, Tony Cooper, Ronald Curry Sr., Garber Family, Michael Graff Jr. (son of Sue and Mike), Teddy Grogan, Beth Gross, Lyn Hoffmaster, Jane Hollabaugh, Paul Hose, Friends of Joe Hurst, Ann Kalinoski, Rhonda Kane, Alyssa Kline, Dee Krause, Jerri Livingston, Anthony Martin, Sofia Martinez, Dee McGlauckin, Mary Murphy, Barry & Amy Newlin, Annie Penick, James Penick, Sue Penick, Mark Plotner, Michelle Porter, David Ridenour, Betsy Roulette, Verna Rosenfield, Brianna Russell, Jeff Shade, Ralph & Scherry Sellers, Staci Shafer, Danny & Julia Springer, Family and 4-H Family of Duean Stiles, Jovan Summers, Thelma Summers, Martha Tallant, Tracy Roach Walls, Haywood Watts, Eleanor Wible, Eric Wolbring, Robert Yeoman

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

The lector this week is Wells Ridenour. The lector next week is Amber Nilson.

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

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



Happy Birthday

Amber Nilson 5/21
Steve Burgan 5/22

Upcoming Events:

Today: Pot Luck and movie "The Shack" after church
Family & Youth Event at Yinglings Golf Center 4:pm, meet at Yinglings

5/22 CE Team Meeting 4:00pm

5/23 Tuesday Supper and 1 Stop Shop 5:00-6:30pm downstairs in Fellowship Hall

5/25 Thursday Lunch Bunch 11:30

Choir Practice 4:00pm

4-H Club 4:30pm

5/28 Sunday Service time changes to 10:00am

5/29 Office closed for Memorial Day



**** Wednesday Night Pot Luck will be on hiatus until June 7th.

Service Credits May 21

Adapted from <https://www.ucc.org/what-we-do/justice-local-church-ministries/local-church/worship-resources/worship-ways-2/>

Gathering music: Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise. Tune: Llanfair. Composed by Robert Williams. Arr. by Franklin D. Ashdown. © 2022 by The Sacred Music Press. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. CCLI number: 7211660

See the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph. Tune: In Babilone. A Dutch melody. Arr. by Franklin D. Ashdown. © 2022 by The Sacred Music Press. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. CCLI number: 7212316

Prelude: In dir ist Freude (In Thee is Gladness). Composed by J. S. Bach. © 1940 G. Schirmer. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Hymns: Christ, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor. Tune: Bryn Calfaria. Composed by William Owen. Words by George Hugh Bourne (1874). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Crown with Your Richest Crowns. Tune: Diademata. Composed by George J. Elvey (1868). Words by Matthew Bridges (1851) and Godfrey Thring (1874). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing. Tune: Deo Gracias. Traditional English melody. Latin words. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

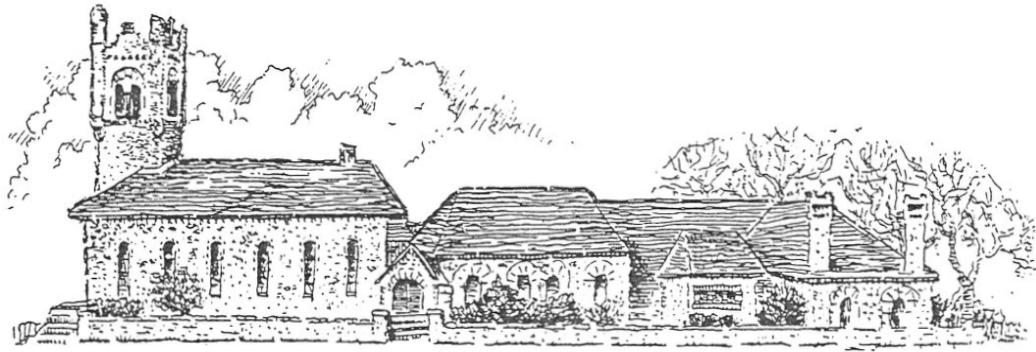
Source(s): Hymnary (hymnary.org).

Choral anthem: A Call to Silence. Words by Pamela Martin. Music by Craig Courtney. © 2003 by Beckenhorst Press.

Offertory: I Know Whom I Have Believed. (I Know Not Why God's Wondrous Grace). Tune: El Nathan. Arr. by David Lasky. © 2021 by Lorenz Publishing Co. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Communion: Amazing Grace. Composed by John Newton. Arr. by Mark Hayes. © 2020 by Lorenz Publishing Co. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC. CCLI number: 5024674

Postlude: Ascension Alleluias. Composed by Franklin D. Ashdown. © 2022 by The Sacred Music Press. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. CCLI number: 7211226



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