

# Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

January 7, 2024

11:00 A.M.

## Baptism of Jesus / First Sunday After Epiphany



*All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.*

*Galatians 3:27*

**Gathering Music and Bells**                      *O Morning Star How Fair and Bright*                      Pachelbel

**Greetings, Announcements**

**Prelude**    *Good Christian Men, Rejoice*    Alice Jordan

### **\*Call to Worship**

**One:** Come, people of the Spirit who have gathered in the Spirit, and open your minds and hearts to the presence of God giver of life.

**All:** ***Breathe on us breath of God; fill us with life anew.***

**One:** May we silence the stream of thinking that distracts us from the Spirit of God living in the depths of minds and hearts.

**All:** ***Breathe on us breath of God; fill us with life anew.***

**One:** We know that a single conscious breath is enough to make space for us to become present to God's Spirit, the Holy Spirit that enables us to be whole, to be holy.

**All:** ***Great Spirit come and rest in us.***

**\*Hymn**    *As With Gladness*    Red #123

## Prayer of Hope (in unison)

**God of all blessings, you have blessed us with family that is ours through baptism and friendship; through blood and adoption. You have called us to make peace where there was once enmity or anger between us. You have taught us to love where there was once fear or alienation between us. Bless us now that we may expand the circle of your peace and love, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### \*Choral Response

*Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands*

**Put peace into each other's hands and like a  
Treasure hold it; protect it like a  
Candle flame, with tenderness enfold it.**

### Scripture

**Genesis 1:1-5** The Inclusive Bible

Lector: Sue Graff

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. But the earth became chaos and emptiness, and darkness came over the face of the Deep—yet the Spirit of God was brooding over the surface of the waters. Then God said, "Light: Be!" and light was. God saw that light was good, and God separated light from darkness. God called the light "Day" and the darkness "Night." Evening came, and morning followed—the first day.

One: This is the word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Word for Children

#### Anthem

*March of the Kings*

Zion Choir

### Scripture

**Mark 1:4-11** The Inclusive Bible

Lector: Sue Graff

And so John the Baptizer appeared in the desert, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to John and were baptized by him in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist, and he ate nothing but grasshoppers and wild honey. In the course of his preaching, John said, "One more powerful than I is to come after me. I am not fit to stoop and untie his sandal straps. I have baptized you in water, but the One to come will baptize you in the Holy Spirit." It was then that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan River by John. Immediately upon coming out of the water, Jesus saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. Then a voice came from the heavens: "You are my Beloved, my Own. On you my favor rests."

One: This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

#### \*Hymn

*You Are Salt for the Earth, O People*

Black #181

### Celebration of Communion

#### Invitation

One: Luke in his Gospel says that Jesus, while sharing a meal with two disciples, took bread, blessed and broke it and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened and they recognized the risen Christ. In company with all believers in every time and beyond time, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the breaking of bread.

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: God is with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us open our hearts.

**All: We open our hearts to God and one another.**

One: Let us give thanks.

**All: We thank God with joy.**

## Sharing the Elements

### Prayer of Commitment (in unison)

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you give of yourself to help us grow. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your blessing, to work in your name and rest in your grace, trusting your presence with us and with all creation. Amen.**

### Special Music

*We Three Kings*

Moly Dwyer, Baritone Sax

## Installation of the Consistory

### Greeting

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from Jesus Christ, the head of the church in heaven and on earth. To God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

### Introduction

Affirmation of ministry is the act whereby a local church of the United Church of Christ recognizes the diverse gifts of its members and celebrates the ministry of each person in the life of the church or in various settings in the life of the world. There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same God is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to each of us for our service. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all. Christ is like a single body, which has many parts. If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness. All of us are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it.

### Presentation

Becky Hohman has been called by God, in accordance with the faith and order of this church, to serve among us as a church officer on Consistory. She has accepted her call and is before us in witness to her willingness to serve.

### Covenant

Becky Hohman, sister in Christ, it is an honor to be entrusted with responsibility for service as a Consistory member in the ministry of this church, whether gathered or scattered.

Having prayerfully considered the duties and responsibilities of your ministry, are you prepared to serve with the help of God in Christ's name and for the glory of God?

***I am.***

Do you promise to exercise your ministry diligently and faithfully, showing forth the love of Christ?

***I do, relying on God's grace.***

Members of the Zion Reformed United Church of Christ, you have heard the promises of our sister in Christ who has answered God's call to service. Let us affirm our intention to live in covenant with her. Will those who are able rise and witness to the commitment we now make?

### **\*Congregational Response**

**We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.**

### **Laying on Of Hands**

The laying on of hands is the symbolic act whereby the church in every age recognizes God's call to ministry in the lives of faithful women and men and asks the Holy Spirit to confer upon them the gifts of ministry. We lay hands upon you, Becky Hohman, as you embark on a new calling for this congregation.

May the Holy Spirit strengthen you for the ministry of deacon in Christ's church and equip you with everything good to do God's will. Receive authority to execute the office of deacon in the name of Christ.

**Amen.**

### **Prayer**

Let us pray,  
Eternal God, you have called Becky Hohman to serve you in this household of faith and in the world, which you have entrusted to our care and keeping. Send your Holy Spirit on her that she may serve among us with honor and faithfulness. Help her to be diligent in her duties that your church may prosper in the mission you place before it. May her example prove worthy for all of us to follow, as we are united in Christ's ministry, to the glory of your name.

**Amen.**

### **Declaration**

In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of the people of Zion Reformed United Church of Christ, I rejoice to announce: You are hereby installed a Deacon on the Consistory.

### **Greeting of Christian Love**

In accordance with the faith and order of this church, I extend to you the greeting of Christian love.

### **Presentation of Our Tithes & Offerings**

#### **Call to the Offering**

When our eyes are heavy, we dream of another world.  
When our spirits are low, we turn to each other.  
When our anger flares, we need each other's gifts most.  
We give our gifts of tithes and offerings to create your kingdom of heaven.

### **Offertory**

*If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee*

Bach

### **\*Doxology**

*Praise God from who all blessings flow*  
**Praise God from who all blessings flow**

**Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, you heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication** (in unison)

**Dependable God, in whom we live and move and have our being, once again You have filled us with hope and blessed us with grace. And we are grateful. We now offer our very selves as an offering to You. Receive us, transform us, and use us for Your glory. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**\*Hymn**

*God of Change and Glory*

Black #177

**\*Blessing**

May you always be up to something good,  
inspired by something hopeful,  
drenched in something beautiful,  
embedded in something larger,  
made generous by something extravagant,  
and fired by the passion  
which one day will recreate the world  
in God's Love.

**Postlude**

*Psalm 19 - The Heavens Declare*

Benedetto Marcello

**Congregational Fellowship and undecorating trees. Soup and sandwiches will be served for lunch.**



## Outreach and Service Opportunities

**Micah's Backpack** is collecting Canned or Individual Soups during the month of January.

**Our Tuesday Night Ministry** is collecting Individual packets of Oatmeal during the month of January.

Thank you for your help in these outreach ministries.

## 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. Join 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:*

Bruce Albright, Janis Albright, Holly Bell, Brenda Bowers, Naomi Brackett, Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, Steve Cavey, Kim & Bill Cook, Donna France, Brandon Graff, Sue Graff, Michael Graff Jr. (son of Sue and Mike), Beth Gross, Elwood Hauver, Brian Johnson, Bradley, Hanna & Ellie Jump, Maddison & Rexton Jump, Tena Kindle, Dee Krause, Paul Loveless, Marlin Martin, Heather Morgan, Annie Penick, James Penick, Mary Pietsch, David Ridenour, Wells Ridenour, Betsy Roulette, Verna Rosenfield, Emma Schnebly, Ralph & Scherry Sellers, Felicity Shafer, Staci Shafer, Tina Shafer, Melanie & Wesley (granddaughter and great grandson of Danny Springer), Jessica Stark, Jovan Summers, Thelma Summers, Tracy Roach Walls.

***\*\*New additions to the Prayer List will be printed in bold for the first week.***

## Other Announcements

### **Do you or one you love need a Caregiver?**

Danny and Julia Springer were well cared for in their home 24/7. Many of their six dedicated caregivers are available. Please contact Pastor Scott if you want to contact one of the caregivers.

### **Offering Envelopes**

Offering envelopes are on the table with the bulletins. Please pick yours up. If you don't see one with your name on it, please contact the office - phone number 301-739-7244, e-mail [zionrucc@myactv.net](mailto:zionrucc@myactv.net)

### **Wednesday Night Potluck and Study (6PM in the Chapel)**

Come on Wednesday nights to enjoy a potluck meal (bring what you like). Following the meal we will study the video resource, Painting the Stars.

## Next Week's Worship & Calendar

The lector this week is Sue Graff. The lector next week is Rae Smith.

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.

Greeters for this week are: Front Door – Lisa Saum. Middle Door – Matt McDonald.

Please sign up to be a greeter on Sunday mornings. The sign-up sheet is on the table at the middle door.

- 1/8 CE Team Meeting 5:30pm  
Consistory Meeting 7:00pm
- 1/9 Staff Meeting 12:00 pm  
HARC Monthly meeting 12:30pm  
Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30 pm (Downstairs in Fellowship Hall)
- 1/10 Wednesday Potluck 6:00pm
- 1/11 4-H Club Meeting 4:30pm  
No Choir Practice
- 1/13 Easy-cise Class 9:00am
- 1/15 Annual Report Deadline

### **Service Credits January 7, 2024 CCLI Number: 6212519**

**Gathering music:** O Morning Star How Fair and Bright. Settings by Pachelbel, Gade, and J. S. Bach. © 1955 by Schirmer. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Prelude:** Good Christian Men, Rejoice. Traditional German Carol. Arr. by Alice Jordan. © 1998 by Van Ness Press. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Hymns:** As with Gladness. Red 123. Composed by Conrad Kocher. Words by William C. Dix (1861). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

You Are Salt for the Earth, O People. NCH 181. Composed by Marty Haugen (1986). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

God of Change and Glory. Tune: Katherine. Composed by Al Carmines (1973). NCH 177. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

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

**Choir Anthem:** March of the Kings. 13<sup>th</sup> century Provencal Carol.

**Offertory:** If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee. Composed by J. S. Bach. © 1955 by Schirmer. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Communion:** Once in Royal David's City. Composed by Cecil Frances Alexander. CCLI number 3491113

Rejoice! He is Here. 14<sup>th</sup> Century German melody. Both arr. by Mark Hayes. © 2001 by Word Music. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Postlude:** Psalm 19 "The Heavens Declare. Composed by Benedetto Marcello. © 1977 by Mercury Music Corp. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.



## 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.*



## Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

**Welcome** to the Zion Reformed United Church of Christ, an **Open and Affirming Church** striving to welcome and value all people and creation. I am glad you have joined us this morning. I believe you will find Zion Church an open and safe place to ask the difficult questions of life and a community that honors each spiritual journey. I encourage you to ask me or our members about our community, explore our bulletin and website and gift us with your contact information (phone, address, email) in our Guest Book or Pew Card. I/we are ready to answer any question or to help connect you to any program that we can. I hope to greet you in person after the service or that you'll contact me.

Many blessings, Pastor Scott

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