

Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

February 4, 2024

11:00 A.M.

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany



*That each ill
be released from you
and each sorrow
be shed from you
and each pain
be made comfort for you
and each wound
be made whole in you
that joy will
arise in you
and strength will
take hold of you
and hope will
take wing for you
and all be made well.*

Jan Richardson

Gathering Music and Bells

Four Chorale Settings

Dietrich Buxtehude

Greetings, Announcements

Prelude

Lobe den Herren (Praise to the Lord, the Almighty)

***Call to Worship**

One: Breath of God, you are the one
in whom we live and move and have our being.

All: ***And we are the ones in whom you live and move and have your being, for you made us in your image and likeness.***

One: May your unifying energy be felt here among us,

All: ***And rekindle the fire within,
that makes us feel alive when we care for others.***

One: Let us draw from the well of living water,

All: ***And be attentive to that which needs nourishing in ourselves and
in our world.***

One: Come, let us worship where all are welcome in the house of God,

All: ***And find safe haven in the heart of the Divine.***

***Hymn**

Come We, Who Love the Lord

Red #30

Prayer of Hope

One: Blessed be the works of your hands, O Holy One

All: ***Blessed be these hands that have touched life.
Blessed be these hands that have nurtured creativity.***

One: Blessed be these hands that have held pain.

Blessed be these hands that have embraced with passion.

All: ***Blessed be these hands that have tended gardens.
Blessed be these hands that have closed in anger.***

One: Blessed be these hands that have planted new seeds.

Blessed be these hands that have harvested ripe fields.

All: ***Blessed be these hands that have cleaned, washed, mopped, scrubbed.
Blessed be these hands that have become knotty with age.***

One: Blessed be these hands that are wrinkled and scarred from doing justice.

Blessed be these hands that hold the promise of the future.

All: ***Blessed be the works of your hands, O Holy One.***

Amen.

— Diann Neu in Earth Prayers

***Choral Response**

Take, O Take Me As I Am

The image shows a musical score for a choral response. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Take, O take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be; set your seal up - on my heart and live in me." The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for a choral group.

Scripture

Isaiah 40:28-31

Lector: Amber Nilson

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Holy One is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth—
Who does not faint or grow weary;
whose understanding is unsearchable.
Who gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
but those who wait for the Holy One shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

One: Listen to what the Spirit is teaching.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Word for Children

Mogie: The Heart of the House

by Kathi Appelt, illustrated by Marc Rosenthal

Anthem

Dona Nobis Pacem

Zion Choir

Scripture

Mark 1:29-39

Lector: Amber Nilson

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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

All: *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon

Demons, Deacons, Desserts, Deserts

*Hymn

Immortal Love, Forever Full

Black #166

Presentation of Our Tithes & Offerings

Call to the Offering

"Consider the lilies...look at the birds of the air": Jesus pulls our attention away from our worries about scarcity, and turns our gaze toward the beautiful gifts of God's creation, signs of abundance and grace surrounding us always. Trust may be difficult for us, as it was for those early disciples, yet we bring our gifts this morning with the assurance of God's care for us every morning of our lives. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

Offertory

Basse de Trompette

Louis Marchand

***Doxology** **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.

Sacrament of Communion

The Invitation

One: Come all who give thanks for the gift of life.
Come all who long for a just and joyful world.
Come all who seek peace and pursue it;
And together we will work to transform pain into hope, fear into love,
sorrow into rejoicing. This is Christ's table; all are invited to share the feast.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God most high.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

One: Let us continue in prayer...

Dear God, you enter into our hurt, our sorrow, our fear—
all the ways that we are ill with disease or ill at ease.

You come along side us to be with us—
to heal us and reveal to us
the fullness of your love.

Through the touch of your grace
you lift us up and restore us to wholeness
so we can be our best selves
and aspire to be your beloved community
with and for one another.

Through the power of your Spirit,
you transform all that is before you,
and so in this moment
and through this sacrament
we come again with awareness and humility
into your presence—
that we may be healed,
that we may be transformed,
that through the gifts of this bread and this cup
we may be ushered into the presence of the living Christ
in us and in the world.
Holy One, make us whole.
Holy One, make us one
with you, our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.
Amen.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

*Great is Thy Faithfulness
Oh, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus*

William Runyan
Thomas J. Williams

Prayer of Commitment (in unison)

Gracious God, nourished in our bodies, restored in our minds, healed in our spirits,
we feel your generous presence as salve on our wounds and wind under our wings.
You call us forth to a life of abundance through mutual sharing. May we call upon the strength we have
together to create a way where there is no way. Even as we journey through isolation and distance,
may we claim ourselves united in the body of Christ. Spirit of the Living God, immerse us in your healing
presence, uplifted in the joy of your enduring love. Amen.

*Hymn

Eternal Ruler of the Ceaseless Round

Red #411

*Blessing

What we choose changes us.
Who we love transforms us.
How we create remakes us.
Where we live reshapes us.
So in all our choosing, O God, make us wise;
In all our loving, O Christ, make us bold;
In all our creating, O Spirit, give us courage;
in all our living, may we become whole.
And the blessing of God almighty:
be upon you, and those you love,
and those for whom you pray
this day and forever more. Amen.

Postlude

Fugue in D Major

J. S. Bach

Congregational Fellowship



Outreach and Service Opportunities

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

Our Tuesday Night Ministry is in need of 20 cans of Cream of Mushroom Soup. We are also collecting Individual packets of Oatmeal during the month of January.

We are in need of volunteers on **Tuesday nights** to help in both the kitchen and the pantry. Contact Kim Ridenour or the office if you are interested.

Thank you for your help in these outreach ministries.

Painting the Nursery Bathroom: We are in need of volunteers to paint the Nursery bathroom. Contact Pastor Scott for more information.

The Coldest Night of the Year or CNOY fundraiser will be held on Saturday, February 24 at HCC benefiting REACH of Washington County. This fundraiser which is held all over Canada and in locations in the US is the only CNOY event being held in Maryland. In this family friendly event, walkers sign up to walk one, two, or three laps around the paved perimeter of HCC and solicit pledges of donations from friends and family members. So far there are four embers of the ZION Walkers team. Please consider participating in this fun event for a great cause. You can sign up at <https://cnoy.com/home> Scroll down to Maryland, Hagerstown, and you should see the ZION Walkers tab. Thank you.

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, Elizabeth Baseler, Holly Bell, **Maryann Bohn and Children**, Brenda Bowers, Naomi Brackett, Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, Steve Cavey, Kim & Bill Cook, **Courtney and Baby Vera, Diane on the loss of John**, Donna France, Brandon Graff, **Samantha Graff**, Sue Graff, Michael Graff Jr. (son of Sue and Mike), Beth Gross, Beth Hauver, Elwood Hauver, Brian Johnson, Bradley, Hanna & Ellie Jump, Maddison & Rexton Jump, Tena Kindle, Dee Krause, Paul Loveless, Shelly McKee, Joe McLaughlin, Marlin Martin, Gloria & John Moats, Heather Morgan, Brad Nigh, Annie Penick, James Penick, Mary Pietsch, Liam Reynolds, David Ridenour, Mackenzie Ridenour, Wells Ridenour, Betsy Roulette, Emma Schnebly, Ralph & Scherry Sellers, Felicity Shafer, Staci Shafer, Tina Shafer, Melanie & Wesley (granddaughter and great grandson of Danny Springer), Jessica Stark, Byron Stay, Jovan Summers, Thelma Summers, Tracy Roach Walls, The Family of Larry Weber, Nancy Weber.

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

Other Announcements

Easter Flowers

You will have two opportunities to honor and remember your loved ones. Altar flowers or our traditional Easter Cross, or you can do both.

See the order form in this week's bulletin.

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*.

Annual Reports and Congregational Meeting Reports are on the table in the vestibule. Please pick one up. On February 25th we will have our Annual Meeting following a potluck lunch. A sign-up sheet for the potluck is on the table in the Chapel and in the Friday What's Happening email. Zion will be providing Chicken and Drinks. Bring your favorite side or desert to share.

Annual Reports and Congregational Meeting, Annual Reports are on the table in the vestibule. Please pick one up. On February 25th we will have our Annual Meeting following a potluck lunch. A sign-up sheet for the potluck is on the table in the Chapel and in the Friday What's Happening email. Zion will be providing Chicken and Drinks. Bring your favorite side or desert to share.

Next Week's Worship & Calendar

The lector this week is Amber Nilson. The lector next week is Barb Hendershot. 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 – Calvin Livingston. Middle Door – TBD.

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

2/4 Dinner Theater Rehearsal 12:30

2/6 Staff Meeting 12:00 pm

Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30 pm (Downstairs in Fellowship Hall)

2/7 Wednesday Potluck 6:00pm

2/8 Choir Practice 5:30pm

2/10 Easy-cise Class 9:00am

Birthdays

2/5 Lenzie Weicht

2/7 Peggy Lowman

2/8 Brett Hendershot

Service Credits

February 4

CCLI Number: 6212519

Gathering music: Four Chorale Settings. Composed by Dietrich Buxtehude. © 1998 by Barenreiter-Verlag Karl Votterle. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organ) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Prelude: Lobe den Herren (Praise to the Lord, the Almighty. © 2000 by Augsburg Library November. Arr. by David Cherwien. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organ) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Hymns: Come We, Who Love the Lord. Red 30. Tune: St. Thomas. Composed by Williams' Psalmody. Words by Isaac Watts. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organ) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Immortal Love, Forever Full. NCH 166. Tune: Serenity. Composed by William T. Wallace (1856). Words by John Greenleaf Whittier (1867). Performed by C. M. Moblard (organ) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Eternal Ruler of the Ceaseless Round. Red 411. Tune: Yorkshire. Composed by John Wainwright. Words by John W. Chadwick (1864). Performed by C. M. Moblard (organ) of Zion Reformed UCC.

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

Choir Anthem: Dona Nobis Pacem. 1yth Century tune. Arr. by Hal Hopson. © 1976 by Hope Publishing Co.

Offertory: Basse de Trompette. Composed by Louis Marchand. Arr. by Robert L. Bedell. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organ) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Communion: Oh, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus. Composed by Thomas J. Williams (quoting Ludwig van Beethoven). Arr. by Mark Hayes. © 2022 by Lorenz Publishing Co. Performed by C. M. Moblard (piano) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Great is Thy Faithfulness. Composed by William Runyan. Arr. by Mark Hayes. © 2022 by Lorenz Publishing Co. Performed by C. M. Moblard (piano) of Zion Reformed UCC. CCLI number: 7161388

Postlude: Fugue in D Major. Composed by J. S. Bach. © 1940 by G. Schirmer. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organ) 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



Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

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To Give Electronically

