

# Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

February 11, 2024

11:00 A.M.



“To wish to learn from the Celtic Christian is to wish to sense the passionate presence of God in all of life. It is to find God in the ordinary events of life, love, eating, working, playing... It is also to perceive that time and place do not separate us from what we ordinarily do not see and sense. The ancient Celts believed that the other world was always close to us and became apparent in the ‘thin times’ and ‘thin places’ in which the veil that usually obscured them was lifted.” Timothy Joyce

**Gathering Music and Bells**      *Prelude and Fugue in e minor ("The Cathedral")*      J S Bach

## **Greetings, Announcements**

The rose on the altar is in honor of newborn, Oliver Finn Graff.

Annual Meeting, February 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Prelude**      *Fanfare*      G S Lang

## **\*Call to Worship**

One: The glory of God transfigures the everyday!

**All: At the height of our worship, may God's presence shine through the commonplace.**

One: At the depths of our pain and struggle, may God's presence give us courage and peace.

**All: May God's light, shining in the face of Christ, illumine all our days! Alleluia! Amen.**

**\*Hymn**      *Open Now the Gates of Beauty, Zion*      Red #23

## Prayer of Hope (in unison)

Holy and loving God, we come with grateful hearts, to hear again the truth of your love and to marvel that you have chosen to live and move among us. As disciples were awestruck by your radiance, we tremble with hope in your presence. By the power of your Spirit, turn any fear to courageous faith, and any hesitancy to confident witness. Shine in our hearts and lives and transform us with the light of your countenance this day. With hope we pray. Amen.

## \*Choral Response

*Take, O Take Me As I Am*

Gently ♩ = ca. 66

The musical score is written for two staves, treble and bass clef, in 4/4 time. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The tempo is marked 'Gently' with a quarter note equal to approximately 66 beats per minute. 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.—'

## Scripture

2 Kings 2:8-12 Inclusive Bible

Lector: Barbara Hendershot

Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry land. Once across, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?" Elisha replied, "Let me inherit two-thirds of your spirit," he said. "You ask a difficult thing," Elijah said. "If you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise not." As they were walking along and chatting with each other, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. Elisha saw this and cried out, "My father! My father! The chariots and cavalry of Israel!" And Elisha saw nothing more. Then he took hold of his clothes and tore them apart.

**One:** Listen to what the Spirit is teaching us.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**Word for Children**

The Invisible String by Patrice Karst &amp; Joanne Lew-Vriethoof

**Anthem***Wonderful Grace of Jesus*

Zion Choir

**Scripture**

Mark 9:2-9 Inclusive Bible

Lector: Barbara Hendershot

Six days after that, Jesus took Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. And there Jesus was transfigured before their eyes; the clothes Jesus wore became dazzlingly white—whiter than any earthly bleach could make them. Elijah appeared to them, as did Moses, and the two were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. "Rabbi," he said, "how wonderful it is for us to be here! Let us make three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah!" Peter did not know what he was saying, so overcome were they all with awe. Then a cloud formed, overshadowing them; and there came a voice from out of the cloud: "This is my Beloved, my Own; listen to this One." Then suddenly, when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore—only Jesus. As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until after the Promised One had risen from the dead. They agreed to this, though they discussed among themselves what "rising from the dead" could mean.

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

**All:** *Thanks be to God.*

**Sermon****\*Hymn***Your Ways Are Not Our Own*

NCH #170

**Morning Prayer****The Prayer that Jesus Teaches Us**

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 sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
And lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil  
for thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory forever.  
Amen.

**Presentation of Our Tithes & Offerings****Call to the Offering**

In the same way that Miriam, Moses, Aaron, and Samuel  
called on God's name in their need,  
so also do God's beloved ones call on God today.  
May the offerings received today serve as an example of God's loving response.

**Offertory***When in the Hour of Utmost Need*

J S Bach

**\*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.

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

Illumine our lives, O God,  
with the radiance of Christ's love,  
and inspire us to shine in faith and witness as his holy disciples.  
Receive now the gifts of our lives,  
and transform us into the light of the world.  
Give us strength to serve you faithfully,  
and when this life is over,  
transform us once again through the glory of resurrection.  
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen

**\*Hymn**

*God, You Have Set Us*

NCH #372

**\*Blessing**

The time has come to depart this holy place.  
Be not afraid.  
The Spirit of the Living God  
goes ahead of you, with you, guiding you.  
May God bless you and keep you  
May God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you  
May God look kindly upon you and give you peace.

**Postlude**

*Praeludium (C Major)*

George Bohm

**Please remain seated to enjoy the Postlude as the Acolyte douses the alter candles.**

**Congregational Fellowship**



## Outreach and Service Opportunities

**Micah's Backpack** is collecting Peanut Butter during the month of February.

**Our Tuesday Night Ministry** is in need of 20 cans of Cream of Mushroom Soup

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.

**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 members 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 and baby Oliver Finn**, 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 McGlauchlin**, 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.***

## Next Week's Worship & Calendar

The lector this week is Barb Hendershot. The lector next week is Calvin Livingston. Ushers for this week are William Brewer, Calvin Livingston, Gerald Saum, Jean Simmons. Next week's ushers are Burnie Clutz, Susan Clutz, Becky Hohman, John Schnebly.

Greeters for this week are: Front Door – Mark Bagby. 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.

- 2/11 Dinner Theater Rehearsal 12:30
- 2/12 CE Team Meeting 5:30pm  
Consistory Meeting 7:00pm
- 2/13 Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30 pm (Downstairs in Fellowship Hall)
- 2/14 Staff Meeting 12:00 pm  
Ash Wednesday Service 7:00pm in the Sanctuary
- 2/15 Newsletter Articles Deadline  
4-H Club Meeting 4:30pm  
Choir Practice 5:30pm

## 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.

**Lenten Devotion** – Let Pastor Scott know if you want a copy of this year's UCC Lenten Devotional, Bend.

### **Ash Wednesday and Potluck and Lenten Service**

Join us this Wednesday Evening for our Ash Wednesday service at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary.

Each Wednesday night during Lent we will gather in the Chapel at 6:00pm for a Lenten Service followed by a potluck dinner and fellowship.

**Annual Reports and Congregational Meeting,** Annual Reports are on the table in the vestibule. Please pick one up. On February 25<sup>th</sup> 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.



**Service Credits**  
**February 11**  
**CCLI Number: 6212519**

**Gathering music:** Prelude and Fugue in e minor ("The Cathedral"). Composed by J. S. Bach. © 1940 by G. Schirmer. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Prelude:** Fanfare. Composed by G. S. Lang. © 1961 by Novello & Company. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Hymns:** Open Now the Gates of Beauty, Zion. Red 23. Tune: Neander. Composed by Joachim Neander (1680). Words by Benjamin Schmolck (1731). Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Your Ways Are Not Our Own. NCH 170. Tune: Schumann. Composed by Lowell Mason and G. J. Webb (1850). Words by Lavon Bayler (1993). Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

God, You Have Set Us. NCH 372. Tune National Hymn. Composed by George William Warren (1892). Words by Jane Parker Huber (1993). Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Source(s): Hymnary ([hymnary.org](http://hymnary.org)).

**Choir Anthem:** Wonderful Grace of Jesus. Composed by Haldor Lillenas. © 1918 by Hope Publishing Co.

**Offertory:** When in the Hour of Utmost Need. Composed by J. S. Bach. © 1940 by G. Schirmer. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Postlude:** Praeludium (C Major). Composed by Georg Bohm. © Fr. Kistner & C. F. W. Siegel & Co. 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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To give electronically.

