

ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, November 24, 2024 – 11:00am Worship



Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Amos 5:24

GATHERING MUSIC AND BELLS

Let All Things Now Living Welch folk tune David Cherwien
Prelude on "Netherlands" (We Gather Together) Mary McDonald
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come Mary McDonald

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome all in person and online
Youth Friendsgiving Event
Putting up Christmas Trees
Congregation Meeting Dec 8th

PRELUDE

Open Now the Gates of Beauty

Paul Manz

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come! Come into the place where God listens!
Where you need no money, no status, no fine clothes!

All: We come as we are
Broken, whole
Sick, well
Satisfied or with deep needs

One: Come to sing
Come to cry
Come to hear
Come to see
Come and be ready or
Come to be made ready

All: We are here
God is here too

CHORAL REFRAIN

More than Words



1. When twi - light leaves the even - ing sky and night re - veals the
2. When bit - ter days and bar - ren ground sap strength and pow - er and
3. When rough ter - rain makes prog - ress hard, God lev - els what's in the



stars, the far ho - ri - zon hope of God comes sing - ing to our hearts.
voice, ten - a - cious faith will hold us fast; God's hope will say, re - jice!
way; a ten - der jus - tice will car - ry us, and care will not de - lay.

Refrain



Your love is more than words, O God, a flame you kin - dle, a seed you sow, a



rose that blooms in the snow, and we will mag - ni - fy your love.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Delosier Family

One: Each of our Advent candles
represents God's generous goodness,
the advent of Jesus, God's greatest gift,
the Spirit's fluttering flicker of joy.
As we light each candle,
we recognize the gifts
God has given us this week.

**All: God, your justice upends this broken world.
Use your mercy to transform everything that harms.**

One: Jesus, we want to balance the scales
so everything weighs even,
but you invite us to listen
more for what is loving
than what is fair.
Recalibrate our sense of justice
as we dwell in your presence today.

All: Amen.

*HYMN

For the Fruit of All Creation

GG 36

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 119:1-3; 41-47

Lector: Missie LaBombard

Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of God. Happy are those who keep God's decrees, who seek God with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in Holy ways. Let your steadfast love come to me, O Abba, your salvation according to your promise. Then I shall have an answer for those who taunt me, for I trust in your word. Do not take the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for my hope is in your ordinances. I will keep your law continually, forever and ever. I shall walk at liberty, for I have sought your precepts. I will also speak of your decrees before rulers, and shall not be put to shame; I find my delight in your commandments, because I love them.

One: Listen to what the Spirit is teaching us.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Give Thanks!

Zion Choir

WORD FOR CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE

Luke 8:16-18 4:18-19

Lector: Missie LaBombard

Luke 8:16-18

"No one after lighting a lamp hides it under a jar, or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light. For nothing is hidden that will not be disclosed, nor is anything secret that will not become known and come to light. Then pay attention to how you listen; for to those who have, more will be given; and from those who do not have, even what they seem to have will be taken away."

Luke 4:18-19

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Comfort the Afflicted and Afflict the Comfortable

***HYMN**

Now Thank We All Our God

GG 643

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

God is the giver of all good things, the one who fashioned each of us with unique gifts that together make the Body of Christ whole. In gratitude for all we have received, we offer our lives back to God — we share our time, our skills, our money and in so doing, we say "yes" to God's invitation to join in building the Beloved Community here on earth.

OFFERTORY

Now Thank We All Our God

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

***DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Praise God above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

One: Holy Spirit, please bless these small gifts we give.

All: You set the table with plenty of love.

One: Prepare room in your home

All: for my neighbor and me.

One: Prepare a place in your vision

All: for my neighbor and me.

One: Prepare a seat at your table

All: for my neighbor and me.

One: Holy Spirit, you have blessed these gifts we give.

All: You set the table with plenty of love.

MORNING PRAYER

THE PRAYER 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 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.

*HYMN

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

GG 265

SENDING

One: Where is the care in this world?
Where is the faith we were promised?
Where is the hope we desired,
when peace moves into our homes,
and joy is a constant presence,
and justice is for everyone?

**All: God, this world waits to know
that your love is more than words.**

One: People of God,
you have already shared the advent
of God's goodness.

**All: You carry the blessing of God,
God, the First Whisper,
Jesus, the Living Promise,
Spirit, the Speaker of Hearts.**

One: Now go into this world
expecting God's justice
and nurturing God's peace.

All: God, we will magnify your love.

Liturgy is from, *More Than Words*, © 2024 Barn Geese Worship. Used by permission. We are utilizing their materials providing for an extended Advent as we prepare for Christmas.

Please remain seated until the altar candles are doused



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, Koda Bell, Lon Bender, Brenda Bowers, **Naomi Brackett**, Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, Christine Coleman, Kim & Bill Cook, Ron DeYoung, Donna France, Avery Goodrich, Sally Glover, Michael Graff Jr. (son of Sue and Mike), **Sue Graff**, Beth Gross, Bonnie Gross (Aunt of Beth Gross), Jim Hatfield, Beth Hauver, Elwood Hauver, **Warren Hendershot** (Barb's father-in-law), Lyn Hoffmaster (Claire-Marie's sister), Brian Johnson, **Howard Kaylor**, Dee Krause, Barry Landis, Jerri Livingston, Peggy Lowman, Darrin Miller, Heather Morgan, **Susan Moscato** (Anthony's mother), Mary O'Malley, Linda Pittman (friend of Barry Landis), **Crystal Reed** (Lori Schmidt's daughter-in-law), **Stephanie Resetar**, David Ridenour, Wells Ridenour, **Betsy Roulette**, Daisy Schlotterbeck, Ralph & Scherry Sellers, Staci Shafer, Tina Shafer, Jessica Stark, Thelma Summers, Gina Tollini (friend of Pastor Katie Penick), Tracy Roach Walls, Erick Wellnitz.

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

Worship Leaders

The lector this week is Missie LaBombard.

Ushers for this week are Burnie lutz, Susan Clutz, Becky Hohman, John Schnebly.

Acolyte for this week is Gia Delosier

Children's Church leader this week is Megan Shroyer.

Next Week's Worship & Calendar

The lector next week is Rae Smith.

Next week's ushers are Frank Ebersole, Carol Mooers, Rich Owens, Rick Waters.

Please sign up to be a greeter on Sunday mornings. We are in need of greeters for Sunday mornings for both the front doors and the middle doors. Please see the sign-up sheet on the table at the middle door.

Mondays are Pastor Scott's day off and he doesn't check emails on this day. In an emergency, please call or text him.

11/24 Children's Choir Practice 9:45am

Put up Christmas Trees 12:00pm

Youth Friendsgiving Event 12:00pm

HARC Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service at Benevola United Methodist Church 4:00pm

11/26 Staff Meeting 11:00am

Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30pm

11/27 No Potluck and Devotional tonight

11/28 Thanksgiving – Office closed

11/29 Office closed for Thanksgiving

12/1 Children's Pageant Rehearsal 9:45am

Decorate Church & Trees after worship

Birthdays

Matt McDonald 11/26

Chris Emmert 11/30

Outreach and Service Opportunities

Micah's Backpack will be collecting **Single Serve cups of pasta meals. Spaghetti O's, Mac & Cheese, Lasagna, etc.** during the month of November.

Micah's Backpack is also in need of scarves and socks for the children we help.

Tuesday Night Ministry is collecting **individual packets of Hot Chocolate, Hot Apple Cider, and Canned Soup** for the month of November.

Give a Holiday Meal – We have purchased 20 holiday meals for those who cannot afford one for \$15 each. If you would like, you can support our ministry by paying for one or more of these meals by contacting the church office, dropping a check in the offering plate with Holiday Meals in the memo line, or through online giving.

Thank you for your help in these outreach ministries.

Other Announcements

Wednesday Night Devotional and Potluck –

We will not be meeting this week due to the Thanksgiving holiday. We will meet again next Wednesday evening 12/4 at 6:00pm for a potluck dinner, and discussions. We will be discussing “HOPE”, the theme of the following Sunday’s text.

If you would like to join online (Zoom), please let Pastor Scott know.

Congregational Meeting – December 8th after worship – Voting on the Proposed Budget for 2025 and members to the Consistory – Susie Clutz, Calvin Livingston, Rich Owens, Tina Shafer, Rick Waters, and Alyn Wilson.

Service Credits November 24

CCLI Number: 6212519

Gathering Music: Let All Things Now Living. Welch folk tune. Arr. by David Cherwien. Ó 1981 by A. M. S. I. CCLI number: 3918555

Prelude on “Netherlands” (We Gather Together). Settings by Mary McDonald. Ó 1938 by the E. W. Gray Co.

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come. Arr. by Mary McDonald. Ó 1938 by the E. W. Gray Co. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. CCLI number: 7024922

Prelude: Open Now the Gates of Beauty. Arr. by Paul Manz. Ó 1962 by Concordia Publishing House. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Hymns: Now Thank We All Our God. GG 643. Tune: Nun Danket Alle Gott. Composed by Johann Cruger (1647). Words by Martin Rinkart (1858). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

For the Fruit of All Creation. GG 36. Welch melody. Words by Fred Pratt Green (1970). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun. GG 265. Tune: Duke Street. Composed by John Hatton (1793). Words by Isaac Watts (1719). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

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

Choir Anthem: Give Thanks! Composed by Deborah Governor. Ó 2003 by Beckenhorst Press. Barbara Hendershot, chimes.

Offertory: Choral Improvisation on “Now Thank We All Our God.” Arr. by Sigfrid Karg-Elert. Ó 1959 by the H. W. Gray Co. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Postlude: Now Thank We All Our God. Composed by J. S. Bach. Arr. by Virgil Fox. Ó 1959 by the H. W. Gray Co. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and 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

To Give Electronically

Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

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Join us via Zoom: Meeting ID: 876 0291 7867 Password: Peace

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