

ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, January 5, 2025 – 11:00am Worship



GATHERING MUSIC AND BELLS *Sonate K457* Mozart

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Communion Sunday. Undecorating next Sunday.

PRELUDE *Once in Royal David's City* Gantlet

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Grace to you and peace in this new year.

All: *We will bless God who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.*

One: In Christ we have obtained an inheritance.

All: *We have been redeemed as God's own people. Praise be to God!*

***HYMN** *Christians Awake* Red 115

PRAYER OF HOPE (in unison)

God of gold, we seek your glory:

the richness that transforms our drabness into color,
and brightens our dullness with vibrant light;
your wonder and joy at the heart of life.

God of incense, we offer you our prayer:

our unspoken and unspeakable longings,
our questioning of truth,
our search for your mystery deep within.

God of myrrh, we cry out to you in our suffering:

the pain of all our rejections and bereavements,
our baffled despair at undeserved suffering,
our rage at continuing injustice;

And we embrace you, God-with-us,

In our wealth, in our yearning, in our anger and loss. Amen.

By Janet Morley

SPECIAL MUSIC

We Three Kings
Molly Dwyer, oboe

SCRIPTURE Sirach 24:1-12 NRSV

Burnie Clutz

Wisdom praises herself and tells of her glory in the midst of her people. In the assembly of the Most High she opens her mouth, and in the presence of his hosts she tells of her glory: "I came forth from the mouth of the Most High and covered the earth like a mist.

I encamped in the heights, and my throne was in a pillar of cloud. Alone I compassed the vault of heaven and traversed the depths of the abyss. Over waves of the sea, over all the earth, and over every people and nation I have held sway."

Among all these I sought a rest place; in whose inheritance should I abide? "Then the Creator of all things gave me a command, and my Creator pitched my tent. He said, 'Encamp in Jacob, and in Israel receive your inheritance.' Before the ages, in the beginning, he created me, and for all the ages I shall not cease to be. In the holy tent I ministered before him, and so I was established in Zion.

Thus in the beloved city he gave me a resting place, and in Jerusalem was my domain. I took root in an honored people in the portion of the Lord is my inheritance.

One: Listen to what the Spirit teaches us.

All: Thanks be to God.

WORD FOR CHILDREN**ANTHEM**

March of the Kings

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-12 NRSV

Burnie Clutz

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Kissing the Hand***HYMN**

As with Gladness Men of Old

GG 150

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

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 *Good Christian Men Rejoice*
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 (in unison)

O Star of Wonder, Beauty Bright
We turn our faces to Your light.
Bringing our gifts of love and hope,
we ask You to lead us through the night.
With gratitude and praise
with hope and delight,
we offer You our lives.
In Jesus' name. Amen.

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF THE CONSISTORY CLASS 2025-2027

Susie Clutz, Calvin Livingston, Rich Owens, Tina Shafer, Rick Waters and Alyn Wilson

Greeting
Introduction
Presentation
Covenant

*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

*Prayer

**Eternal God, you have called these beloved siblings 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 them that they may serve among us with honor and faithfulness. Help them to be diligent in their duties that your church may prosper in the mission you place before it. May their 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
Greeting of Christian Love

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION

One: Here, at this table, under the welcoming light of a morning star, the God of epiphanies waits to be encountered. So – though you may be weary and worn by your journey or stained and sore with travel – look up and see the star, lay aside your packs,
bend beneath the lintel, and enter with joy
for God waits within – to refresh and renew,
to comfort and restore, to challenge and transform, to know ... and be known.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: So now, gathered round his table, we recall and recount how the Epiphany God was made known in the actions and words of Jesus as he shared a last supper with his friends: We remember how the humble service of washing feet revealed the shape of God's Beloved Community; how the blessing, breaking and sharing of bread revealed the pattern of God's life; how the blessing, pouring and sharing of wine revealed the depth of God's love; and recalling and treasuring these things we join our voices with those of all creation in recognition and celebration of the grace and goodness of God at work in the world.

All: **Holy, holy, holy Love, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of God's Love. Hosanna in the highest!**

One: Epiphany God, send down your Holy Spirit now on us, and on these gifts of bread and wine – that we might recognize and know you present with us here, and in receiving the gifts of your love find ourselves renewed.

All: **May the peace of the Epiphany God – the joyful peace of finding, the enlightening peace of seeing, the challenging peace of understanding, the radical peace of following a different route – energize and encourage us as we travel onwards.**

One: Under the welcoming light of a morning star the table is set, and God waits for us to bend beneath the lintel and come into the Holy's house to see God's face and share the feast.

Communion Music *Like a River Glorious*
Fairest Lord Jesus

Prayer of Commitment

One: Emmanuel – bright Morning Star:

All: **Give us the perseverance and courage to seek out and approach you, wherever you are to be found.**

One: Emmanuel – bright Morning Star:

All: **Grant us the vision and understanding to see and recognize you, whenever we might meet you.**

One: Emmanuel – bright Morning Star:

All: **Gift us the grace and generosity to respond freely and fully, whatever you might ask of us. So may our loving and living become, in their turn, places of epiphany where you can be recognized and known, and the transforming life of your Beloved Community unleashed.**

Communion liturgy from *Enter with Joy* by Pat Bennett

*HYMN

Immortal Love, Forever Full

NCH 166

*BENEDICTION

One: Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly, leave the rest to God.

All: **We will love simply, live generously, deeply care, kindly speak, and rest in God.**

POSTLUDE

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, Lon Bender, Brenda Bowers, Naomi Brackett, **Pat Brackett**, Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, Kim & Bill Cook, Donna France, Avery Goodrich, Michael Graff Jr. (son of Sue and Mike), Sue Graff, Beth Gross, Jim Hatfield, Beth Hauver, Elwood Hauver, Lyn Hoffmaster (Claire-Marie's sister), Dee Krause, Jerri Livingston, Susan Lohman, Peggy Lowman, Darrin Miller, Bonnie Minoglio-Toms (friend of Barb & Charley Ware), Heather Morgan, The Family of Mary O'Malley (friend of Wells & David Ridenour), Linda Pittman (friend of Barry Landis), **Michael Prayer**, Crystal Reed (Lori Schmidt's daughter-in-law), David Ridenour, Daisy Schlotterbeck, Ralph & Scherry Sellers, Staci Shafer, Jessica Stark, Thelma Summers, Tracy Roach Walls.

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

Worship Leaders

The lector this week is Burnie Clutz

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

Acolyte for this week is Gia Delosier

Next Week's Worship & Calendar

The lector next week is Barb Hendershot

Next week's ushers are Bill Brewer, Calvin Livingston, Gerry Saum, Jean Simmons

- 1/5 Children' Sunday School 9:45am
Children's Choir Rehearsal 10:30am
- 1/6 Christian Education Committee 5:30pm
- 1/6 Consistory 7:00pm
- 1/7 Staff Meeting 11:00am
Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30pm
- 1/8 Potluck and Study 6pm
- 1/9 Choir Practice 5:30pm
- 1/11 Easy-cise Class 9:00am

Other Announcements

Wednesday Night Devotional and Potluck – 6pm. We will continue with the video series, Living the Questions following the potluck.

Chili Cook-Off and Quiz Bowl - Zion Youth invite you to support this fundraiser for the Youth's Summer Mission Trip. On January 18th from 6:00-9:00pm we gather in the Chapel for the First Annual Chili Cook-Off and Quiz Bowl.

Outreach and Service Opportunities

Micah's Backpack will be collecting **Noodle Soup and Vegetable Soup** during the month of January.

Tuesday Night Ministry is collecting **Peanut Butter** for the month of January.

Thank you for your help in these outreach ministries.

Service Credits CCLI Number: 6212519 January 5

Gathering music:	Sonata K457. Composed by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.
Prelude:	Once in Royal David's City. Composed by Gantlet. Arr. by Alice Jordan. Ó 1980 by Broadman Press. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.
Hymns:	Christians Awake. Red 115. As with Gladness Men of Old. GG 150. Immortal Love, Forever Full. NCH 166. Source(s): Hymnary (hymnary.org).
Choir Anthem:	March of the Kings.
Special music:	Molly Dwyer, oboe. We Three Kings.
Offertory:	Good Christian Men Rejoice. Traditional German Carol. Arr. by Alice Jordan. Ó 1998 by Van Ness Press. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.
Communion:	Like a River Glorious. Composed by James Mountain. Arr. by Bob Walters. Ó 1985 by Hope Publishing Co. Fairest Lord Jesus. Composed by Schleishe Volkslieder. Arr. by Becki Slagle Mayo. Ó 1985 by Hope Publishing Co. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.
Postlude:	I Saw Three Ships. Ó 2007 by Richard Elliot. 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

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

To Give Electronically



Rev. Dr. E. Scott Winnette, Pastor

Email: pastorwinnette@gmail.com