



February 1, 2026

**Zion Reformed
United Church of Christ**

*To share the gospel of Christ
in such a way that we find God,
grow our faith,
discover our purpose
and make a difference.*

GATHERING MUSIC AND BELLS

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: People of God, who do you come to worship?

All: We come to worship the one true God.

One: How will you worship?

All: Not with words alone, but by living lives of justice and love.

One: Come, you who belong to God.

Come, you who are foolish in the eyes of the world.

All: Come and abide in God's tent and in God's heart, now and forever. Amen.

*** HYMN Purple 265**

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

PRAYER OF HOPE

One: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the realm of Heaven.

All: Forgive us our spiritual arrogance.

One: Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

All: Forgive us our false independence.

One: Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth,

All: Forgive us our misplaced aggression.

One: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst, for they shall be satisfied.

All: Forgive us our gluttony.

One: Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

All: Forgive us our half-hearted commitment.

One: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.

All: Forgive us for waging war.

One: Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the realm of heaven.

All: Forgive us for not taking a stand.

Silence

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The mercy of the Lord is deeper than the depths of the sea and wider than the whole of the earth. Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, healed and made whole. Alleluia. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

Let There Be Peace on Earth

**Let there be peace on earth,
and let it begin with me;
let there be peace on earth,
the peace that was meant to be.**

**With God our creator,
family all are we.
Let us walk with each other
in perfect harmony.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of wonder, awaken us! As we hear your Word read and proclaimed, open us to be surprised! Enliven us with the power of the Word and the presence of your Spirit. Transform us for our walk with you. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Matthew 5:1-12, The Inclusive Bible

Lector: Jean Simmons

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on the mountainside, and after he sat down and the disciples had gathered around, Jesus began to teach them:

Blessed are those who are poor in spirit: the kin-dom of heaven is theirs.
Blessed are those who are mourning: they will be consoled.
Blessed are those who are gentle: they will inherit the land.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice: they will have their fill.
Blessed are those who show mercy to others: they will be shown mercy.
Blessed are those whose hearts are clean: they will see God.
Blessed are those who work for peace: they will be called children of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted because of their struggle for justice:
the kin-dom of heaven is theirs.

You are fortunate when others insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of slander against you because of me. Be glad and rejoice, for your reward in heaven is great; they persecuted the prophets before you in the very same way.

One: Word of God. Word of Love.

All: **Word of Life.**

WORD FOR CHILDREN

ANTHEM

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

SCRIPTURE Micah 6:1-8, The Inclusive Bible

Lector: Jean Simmons

Hear now what YHWH says:

“Come, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice!

Listen to YHWH’s indictment, you mountains
and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for YHWH has a dispute with the people,
and is putting Israel on trial.

O my people, what have I done to you?

How have I wearied you?

Give me an answer!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent Moses to lead you,
and Aaron, and Miriam!

My people, call to mind the plans
devised by the ruler Balak of Moab,
and how Balaam ben-Beor answered him!
Remember the journey from Shittim to Gilgal,
and recall how YHWH brought you justice!”

“What shall I bring when I come before YHWH,
and bow down before God on high?” you ask.

“Am I to come before God with burnt offerings?
With year-old calves?

Will YHWH be placated by thousands of rams
or ten thousand rivers of oil?

Should I offer my firstborn for my wrongdoings—
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

Listen here, mortal:

God has already made abundantly clear
what “good” is, and what YHWH needs from you:
simply do justice,

love kindness,
and humbly walk with your God.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Quizzed by the Holy

Rev. Dr. E. Scott Winnette

***HYMN Purple 730**

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION

People will come from east and west and north and south to sit at table in the Kin-dom of God.

They will come with hope and they will come with doubts.

They will come with faith and they will come with fears.

They will come with love and they will come with regrets.

They will come from all over.

They will come across all sorts of barriers and boundaries.

They will come. They will all come for God longs for it to be so.

Joining God's people across the globe and joining the saints of every time and place, we come to this table today. Everyone is welcome. God longs for it to be so. God longs to feed with us – all of us – with the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts!

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: Blessed are you, O God our Creator, whose image dwells in every face of the human family. In the faces of the matriarchs and patriarchs of Israel, we see your desire to raise up a chosen people. In the faces of judges and rulers, we behold the sanctity of your law. In the faces of your priests and prophets, we witness your passion for justice and righteousness. So now, joined with the global chorus of our siblings in Christ around the world, we glorify you and pray for the day when the earth will be filled with the knowledge of you as waters upon the face of the sea. When the world could wait no longer, you sent your Son into the world to show us your many faces: unexpected child, unwelcomed refugee, unhoused wayfarer, courageous teacher and rebel, compassionate

healer and provocateur, welcoming lover of the unlovable, soothing toucher of the untouchable, graceful forgiver of the unforgiveable, loved by the least, feared by authority, friend of the weak, foe of the strong. In all of these faces, we beheld love's true form until the world could stand him no longer, so we made him a cross. When heaven could wait no longer, O God, you broke powers of death and raised Christ to new life.

Come, Mighty Spirit, upon this bread and cup that they may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. As once you set your face to Jerusalem to relieve your people's suffering once and for all — send now your Holy Spirit to the people of Palestine, starving and tired of being starved... the people of Burundi, impoverished and tired of being impoverished... the people of Ukraine, war-ravaged and tired of being war-ravaged... the people of El Salvador, corrupted and tired of being corrupted... the people of North Korea, silenced and tired of being silenced... the people of the United States, divided and tired of being divided. By your Spirit unite all peoples in Christ until we feast with him and all the saints in light. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

Amen. With the confidence of the children of God, let us pray as Jesus taught, saying,

**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.
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.**

SHARING THE FEAST

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus
River Flows in You*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourishing God, thank you for inviting us to your table where all are welcome, and for feeding us with the bread of life and the cup of blessing. As you have filled our lives with love and hope, may we be a source of your love and hope for those who hunger for your good news. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

We have been called to lives of justice, love, and truth. We have been blessed to be a blessing. Let us generously offer all that we are and all that we have to further this beloved community of love, justice, truth, and blessing.

OFFERTORY

Balm in Gilead

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

O God, you bless us in so many areas of our lives—
in places we often fail to recognize as blessing.
Help us have eyes to see and hearts to understand
the depth of your love and blessing.
Today, we give out of that blessedness,
dedicating ourselves to lives of justice and love,
giving all that we are and all that we have
to bring about your beloved community,
here and now. Amen.

*BENEDICTION

Let us depart in peace, and in love and charity with our neighbors.
May we be joined together in the common goal of service to our God.
Let us walk, ride and drive safely and carefully to our homes,
and may God's blessing be with us all. Amen.

*POSTLUDE

Processional on an Old English Melody

Please remain seated until the altar candles are doused.
The asterisk (*) indicates an invitation to stand in body or spirit.
The **BOLD FACE** indicates when the congregation is invited to speak in unison.

WORSHIP LEADERS

The lector this week is Jean Simmons.

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

NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP & CALENDAR

The lector for next week is Rae Smith.

Next week's ushers are William Brewer, Calvin Livingston, Lisa Saum, and Jean Simmons.

Next Week's Children's Church Leader is Becky Hohman.

- 2/2 CE Team Meeting 5:30pm
Consistory Meeting 7:00pm
- 2/3 Staff Meeting 11:00am
Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30pm
- 2/4 Potluck and Study 6:00pm
- 2/5 4*H Club Meeting 4:30pm
Choir Practice 5:30pm

BIRTHDAYS

2/1	Judy Hess	2/2	Ivan Dwyer	2/5	Lenzie Franks
2/2	Finn Delosier	2/2	Michael Schultz	2/5	Blaine Dockery
2/2	Rowan Delosier	2/3	Barry Landis	2/7	Peggy Lowman

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 who 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, Eddie Barr, Naomi Brackett, Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, **Kim Cook**, Steve Cavey (Uncle of Tina Shafer), Michael Graff Jr. (son of Sue and Mike), Jim Hatfield, **Beth Hauver**, Lyn Hoffmaster (Claire-Marie's sister), Dee Krause, Vicki Krouse (friend of Barb Ware), Mary Lorfing, Trish Lowman, **Family of John Miller**, Teresa Moats (friend of Christine Coleman), Craig Nilson (Curtis Nilson's father), **George & Mary Pietsch** (George is scheduled for surgery), Linda Pittman (friend of Barry Landis), David Ridenour, Wells Ridenour, Angie Schaff, **Tina Shafer**, Staci Shafer, Mary Stann (friend of Kim Ridenour), Traci Van Vogelpoel, Margaret Wagner, Randy Waters (Rick Waters' brother), Christel, Christoph, and Anna Wolbring (friends of Kim Ridenour), Eric Wolbring, and Barry Yingling.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesday Night Ministry is collecting Pudding Cups for the month of February. We are also in need of empty Egg Cartons and Zip Lock Storage Bags in all sizes.

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

Thank you for your help in these outreach ministries.

WEDNESDAY EVENING POTLUCK AND STUDY GROUP

Hungry for new information, insight, and of course good food? Then come on out on Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm. Bring a dish to share with others and join in the discussions, fellowship and good food.

SUNDAY LUNCH BUNCH

Every Sunday after worship a bunch of us get together and go out for lunch, fellowship and lots of laughter. Anyone and everyone are welcome to join us. We try to patronize a different local eatery each week. We meet up in the chapel right after worship and that is when we usually decide where we are going. Come join us whenever you can.

EASY-CISE CLASS

Join us at 9:00am on the second Saturday of each month for our Easy-cise Class. Easy-cise is a resistance-based fitness class that helps with core and arm workouts designed for beginners, those with limited mobility, or anyone who prefers seated exercises.

VALENTINE CONCERT

Saturday, February 14th at 2pm Claire Marie Moblard and Byron Stay will present a Valentine Concert. Join us for an afternoon of beautiful music and still have time for your Valentines evening plans.

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR

The ZION Walkers will be out raising money for REACH of Washington County during the Coldest Night of the Year Event on Saturday, February 28 at Hagerstown Community College. Walkers may check in at the ARCC beginning at 4 pm. The walk itself begins at 5 pm. It is followed by a light meal for the walkers. If you are not able to walk, please consider making a pledge or donation to the Zion Team. Questions? Ask Carroll Sager. Please use the following link to either register to be a participant or to donate to a member of the ZION Team: <https://cnoy.com/location/hagerstown>

CINDERELLA SHOP

March is right around the corner. That means it's Cinderella Shop time! The Shop will be open every Saturday morning in March from 9 am to 12 noon. Volunteers are needed to assist shoppers and to guard the door as visitors come and go. A volunteer sign-up sheet is located in the Chapel area.

Sunday Morning Schedule

- 9:45 Adult Sunday School – In-person and Zoom
Children's Sunday School Class
Young Adult Class/Bible Study - Second and Fourth Sundays of the month
- 10:30 Children's Choir in the Music Room
- 10:35 Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 11:00 Worship in the Sanctuary and virtually at www.zionreformed.church/worshiplive
Children's Church – every other week
- 12:00 Fellowship

Service Credits - - CCLI Number: 6212519 - February 1

Gathering music: *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*. Composed by J. S. Bach. Arr. by Lani Smith. © 1991 by Lorenz Publishing. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

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.

Prelude: *When Morning Gilds the Skies*. Composed by Joseph Barnby. Arr. by Anna Laura Page. © 2011 by Lorenz Publishing Co. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Hymns: *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun*. Purple 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.

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God. Purple 730. Tune: Grand Isle. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Lift High the Cross. Purple 826. Tune: Crucifer. Composed by Sydney Hugo Nicholson. Words by George William Kitchin. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.
Source(s): Hymnary (hymnary.org).

Choir Anthem: *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*. Composed by James K. Manley (1978).

Offertory: *Balm in Gilead*. Traditional spiritual. Arr. by Lani Smith. © 1991 by Lorenz Publishing Co. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. CCLI number: 3959916

Communion: *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*. Composed by Charles C. Converse. Arr. by Mark Hayes. © 2011 by Lorenz Publishing Co.

River Flows in You. Composed by Yiruma. © 2011 by Universal Music. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Postlude: *Processional on an Old English Melody*. The Sacred Harp (1844). Arr. by Alice Jordan. © 1977 by Broadman Press. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.