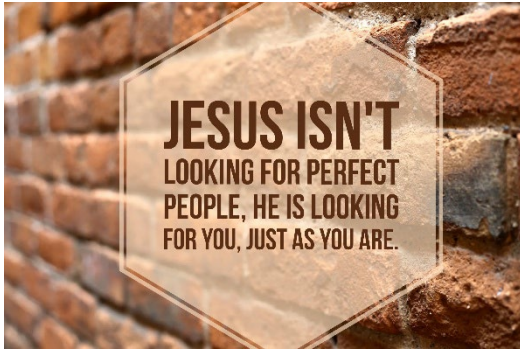


March 15, 2026

## 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.*

Fourth Sunday of Lent • 11:00 A.M.



### GATHERING MUSIC & BELLS

*Praeludium in g minor*

*The Heavens Declare the Glory of God*

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*How Great Thou Art*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Gracious God, so often we have missed your presence because we are looking for you clothed in a particular way. Let this time of worship be an encounter with you that will enable us to behold you in all the people we meet and all the situations we greet. You are from everlasting to everlasting, so we are confident that you are here; help us to be aware of your holy presence. O Lord, enrich this act of worship with the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

### \*HYMN Purple 839

*Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine*

### UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The words we speak all too often do not show you in our lives, God of our pilgrimage. We spend so much time boasting to others, they imagine we have no need for you. We grumble impatiently when you don't respond immediately to our requests but are slow to sing your praises. We mutter under our breath about the behavior of those around us, when we could be asking them if there is some way we could serve them.

It is on our journey to the cross and the tomb that you fill us with the riches of your mercy, Steadfast Love! You do so, not because of anything we have done, but because of the compassion which flows from your heart wounded by our failings. As we open our lives to receive your forgiveness, may we turn to the Light which brings us life, following Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, every step of the way.

Amen

*Silence is kept*

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: How much does God love us?

Enough to send the divine heart, hope, and spirit to us, not to condemn us, but to save us.

All: Not by our speaking or doing, but by God's good and precious grace are we saved. Thanks be to God! Amen.

## CHORAL RESPONSE

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, children all are we.  
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.  
With every step I take, may this be my solemn vow:  
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.  
And let it begin with me.

## SCRIPTURE MARK 8 31-37

Lector: Calvin Livingston

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes and be killed and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?"

## ANTHEM

*Peace In The Valley*

## WORD WITH CHILDREN

Barb Hendershot

## SCRIPTURE: PSALM 23

Lector: Calvin Livingston

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters,  
he restores my soul.  
He leads me in right paths  
for his name's sake.  
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil,  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.  
You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord  
my whole life long.

\*HYMN Purple 688

*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

MORNING PRAYER

Oh, Lord... Forgive my bustling and striving and stressing. Forgive me for neglecting to follow You into green pastures and beside still waters. Lead me, Lord, and help me to follow You. Help me to find rest in You and with You, full and replenishing rest for my mind, my soul, my body and my spirit. Thank You for the weekly Sabbath You have given for my rest and Your glory - help me to honor and keep it and draw me ever closer to You, my loving Leader. Thank You that no matter how crazy life is, I can be still in Your calm, inviting presence, and simply rest. Thank You, Lord, for Your goodness and grace, for Your protection and guidance. In Jesus's Name. Amen.

THE PRAYER THAT JESUS TAUGHT 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.  
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

OFFERTORY

*Adagio Cantabile, from Sonata No. 8, Op. 13*

DOXOLOGY RED 11

Then let us adore and give him his right:  
all glory and power, all wisdom and might,  
all honor and blessing with angels above  
and thanks never ceasing for infinite love.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord, you are the giver of every good gift. Accept these offerings we pray, that through them we may do justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly with you, our Sovereign and our God. Amen

\*HYMN Black 76

*Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

BENEDICTION

Go now with the knowledge that God the Father and Jesus the Son are with you in everything you do. May they guide you in the light of everything that is bright and beautiful in this world. Amen

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE** Purple 43 (refrain)

And God will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun,  
and hold you in the palm of his hand.

POSTLUDE

*Sonata for Organ*

Please remain seated until the altar candles are doused.

The asterisk (\*) indicates an invitation to stand in body or spirit.

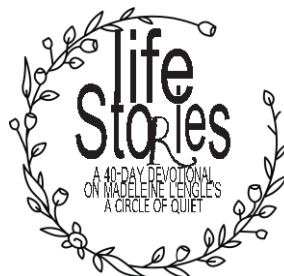
The **BOLD FACE** indicates when the congregation is invited to speak in unison.

### 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, Steve Cavey (Uncle of Tina Shafer), Christ Reformed Church (Pastoral transition), Kim Cook, Erin Corrado and her 7yr old son Branson (friends of Holly Bell), Michael Graff Jr. (son of Sue and Mike), Jim Hatfield, Beth Hauver, Lyn Hoffmaster (Claire-Marie's sister), Dee Krause, Trish Lowman, Teresa Moats (friend of Christine Coleman), Craig Nilson (Curtis Nilson's father), George & Mary Pietsch, Linda Pittman (friend of Barry Landis), David Ridenour, Wells Ridenour, Henry Rothrock (Missie LaBombard's father), 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.

Copies of **Life Stories** by Madeleine L'Engle, a 40-day Lenten Devotional, are on the table with today's bulletins. Please help yourself to a copy.



## WORSHIP LEADERS

The lector this week is Calvin Livingston.

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

## NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP & CALENDAR

The lector for next week is Carol Mooers.

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

Next week's Children's Church Leader is Susie Clutz.

- 3/17 Staff Meeting 11:00am  
HARC Meeting 12:00pm  
Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30pm
- 3/18 Potluck and Study 6:00pm
- 3/19 Choir Practice 5:30pm
- 3/21 Cinderella Shop 9:00am - 12:00pm

## BIRTHDAYS

- 3/16 Brooks Heyser
- 3/18 Kevin Bell
- 3/20 Kent Shaffer
- 3/22 Jim Ridgely

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 3/22 Barbara & John Schnebly

## 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](http://www.zionreformed.church/worshiplive)  
Children's Church - every other week
- 12:00 Fellowship
- 12:30 Dinner Theater Rehearsal

## SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

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

Micah's Backpack is collecting Pudding and Jello Cups for the month of March.

Thank you for your help in these outreach ministries.

## WEDNESDAY EVENING POTLUCK AND STUDY GROUP

Join us each Wednesday evening during Lent for food and Bible Study. This Wednesday we will be taking a closer look at Luke 9:1-6. 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.

## CINDERELLA SHOP

It's March Madness Rime AND 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





**Join us Maundy Thursday  
April 2, 2026 at 6:00pm**

**Zion Reformed United Church of Christ will be hosting a traditional Seder dinner and Maundy Thursday Service on Thursday evening, April 2, 2026 at 6:00pm in our chapel.**

**This is a wonderful way to experience Christ's last supper and learn where our Communion service originated.**

**There is a sign-up sheet in the chapel, or you can contact the church office to reserve your seats, as we are only offering 60 seats for this event. Deadline for reservations is Friday, March 28, 2026.**

**Tickets are \$15 per person and 2 for \$25.**



**Zion Reformed UCC  
201 N. Potomac St, Hagerstown, MD 21740  
phone: 301-739-7244 e-mail: zionrucc@**

Service Credits  
CCLI Number: 6212519  
March 15

Gathering music: *Praeludium in g minor*. Composed by J. S. Bach. © 1940 by G. Schirmer. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

*The Heavens Declare the Glory of God*. Composed by Benedetto Marcello. © 1982 by Dreena Music. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Prelude: *How Great Thou Art*. Swedish Folk Melody. Arr. by Dan Miller. © 2005 by Birnamwood Publications. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Hymns: *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!* Purple 839. Bunt: Assurance. Composed by Phoebe Palmer Knapp (1871). Words by Fanny Jane Crosby (1871). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*. Purple 688. Tune: Morecambe. Composed by Frederick Cook Atkinson (1870). Words by George Croly (1867). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

*Sent Forth by God's Blessing*. NCH 76. Tune: The Ash Grove. Welsh folk song. Words by Omer Westendorf. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

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

Choir Anthem: *Peace In The Valley*. Author: Thomas A. Dorsey (1939). © 1939 by Thomas A. Dorsey. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC, and the Zion Choir.

Offertory: *Adagio Cantabile, from Sonata No. 8, Op. 13*. Composed by Ludwig van Beethoven. © 1949 by Belwin Mills. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Postlude: *Sonata for Organ*. Composed by Robert Elmore. © 1980 by Harold Flammer, Inc. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.