



April 5, 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.*

GATHER AROUND THE EASTER CROSS

SONG

In the Garden

I come to the garden alone,
While the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,
The Son of God discloses.

Refrain:
And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.

He speaks, and the sound of His voice
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing;
And the melody that He gave to me
Within my heart is ringing. [Refrain]

I'd stay in the garden with Him
Tho' the night around me be falling;
But He bids me go; thro' the voice of woe,
His voice to me is calling. [Refrain]

POEM

Kindness, by Naomi Shihab Nye, a Palestinian

Before you know what kindness really is
you must lose things,
feel the future dissolve in a moment
like salt in a weakened broth.

What you held in your hand,
what you counted and carefully saved,
all this must go so you know
how desolate the landscape can be

between the regions of kindness.
How you ride and ride
thinking the bus will never stop,
the passengers eating maize and chicken
will stare out the window forever.

Before you learn the tender gravity of kindness
you must travel where the Indian in a white poncho
lies dead by the side of the road.
You must see how this could be you,
how he too was someone
who journeyed through the night with plans
and the simple breath that kept him alive.

Before you know kindness as the deepest thing inside,
you must know sorrow as the other deepest thing.
You must wake up with sorrow.
You must speak to it till your voice
catches the thread of all sorrows
and you see the size of the cloth.

Then it is only kindness that makes sense anymore,
only kindness that ties your shoes
and sends you out into the day to gaze at bread,
only kindness that raises its head
from the crowd of the world to say
It is I you have been looking for,
and then goes with you everywhere
like a shadow or a friend.

FINDING THE ALLELUIA BANNER

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: As we celebrate this holy day of victory, let us not be strangers to one another,
but siblings in Christ. As God's redeemed people, please stand and
greet one another with the peace of Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

EASTER PRAYER and ACCLAMATION

One: God of resurrection, you are waiting for us at the tomb of our despair. Break upon
us with the brilliance of a new day. Color our grayscale lives with a joy no one can
take. Paint the horizon of our hope with brilliance. Mark us indelibly, forever
beloved. Christ is risen! Alleluia!

All: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

PROCESS TO THE SANCTUARY



GATHERING MUSIC AND BELLS

*Three Easter Chorales
Fanfare for Easter Day*

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Salty Dog

PRELUDE

The Trumpet Shall Sound

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Out of the darkness of grief and despair comes a message of hope.

All: **For Easter Day is here!**

One: We run to the tomb to see for ourselves.

All: **For Easter Day is here!**

One: We hear a voice call our name, and we know our risen Lord is with us now and always.

All: **For Easter Day is here! Let us worship the God of love and hope. For Jesus Christ is risen today! Amen and Alleluia!**

*HYMN Purple 232

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

PRAYER OF HOPE (in unison)

God of grace, you cause the sun to rise and chase away the shadows of death. Now we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. As we celebrate this triumph may we also make it the model for our living. Help us to leave behind that in our lives which should rightly die: the pain that traps us, the anxious uncertainty that confines us, the tired habits that slow us, the fruitless longings that lead us astray. Resurrect in our lives faith, hope, and love as surely as you raised Jesus Christ from the grave. We believe the good news. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

CHORAL REFRAIN

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.

SCRIPTURE 1 Corinthians 15:19-26, NRSV

Lector: Jean Simmons

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. for since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. but each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. for he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. the last enemy to be destroyed is death.

One: Listen to what the Spirit is teaching.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Sing and Shout Praises!

WORD FOR CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE Matthew 28:1-10, NRSV

Lector: Jean Simmons

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. 5 But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."*

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Easter's Full Hearts

Rev. Dr. E. Scott Winnette

SERMON RESPONSE

Low in the Grave He Lay

***HYMN** Purple 233

The Day of Resurrection!

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Easter teaches us that generous love is at the heart of God's work. Joyfully we are able to give knowing that our gifts will help others to see the blessed miracle of God's creative joy.

OFFERTORY

I Know That My Redeemer Liveth

* 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.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Divine Sustainer, receive these gifts that we gladly give. May they be used to revive and restore those in need. Amen.

*HYMN Purple 236

The Strife is O'er

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

The Invitation

One: This is the joyful feast of the people of God. People will come from north, south, east, and west to sit at the table in the realm of God.

All: Here in this place, the communion table is open to all people.

One: Gather around this resurrection table where all are welcomed and the good earth is affirmed. From her generosity, we bring these gifts of bread and wine.

All: Witnesses to Hope, we participate in Christ's liberation.

One: This is Christ's table, we are invited to share in the feast of promise.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God most high.

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

One: Be still and know that I am God.

All: We are still in your presence you are still with us.

One: In Christ you accompany us, embodied among us, sharing our birthing our living our dying

All: sharing our dreams of hope and liberation, offering us new life and the shattering the tomb.

One: In Christ you appear as the host at the ebbing and the flowing of our lives

All: You beckon us to share your hospitality, your challenge of love.

One: In Christ you sit as the guest at the table of the stranger

All: You bless us with your presence, your awakening of love.

One: In Christ you stand among us as host and guest at the heart of this community

All: You share with us your vulnerability, your unwrapping of love.

One: As hosts with Christ, we bless this bread. As guests with Christ, we pour this wine. as welcomed strangers, united in Christ's life, death, and embodied liberation, we hear the words of promise:

Words of Institution

One: This is my body given for you; take and eat to remember me.

This cup poured out: take and drink remember me.

In this action of justice-making, we recall broken minds and bodies and blood shed through lust for power and nature's turn of hand.

All: Restore and heal all that is wounded be present in the stillness of the waiting roll back the stone of prejudice and fear release the signs of spring.

One: Breaking of bread we gently break this bread of fragile life

All: Our breaking down becomes our breaking through.

One: As we eat this living bread and drink the new wine of resurrection, let us celebrate the cosmic Christ, our liberator and sustainer

All: with divine tenderness you remake us by transforming pain you heal us – your passionate energy empowers us.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Clair de Lune

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (in unison)

Generous God,
the meal is over.
The tomb is empty.
and the unfinished work of creation stretches before us.

Send us from this place,
full of your grace
and called by your Spirit
to be the Resurrected Body of Christ in the world.
May it be so! Amen!

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 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.

*HYMN Purple 234

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

*BENEDICTION

One: "Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"

Go in peace and love and serve the Lord in the power of the resurrection.

All: Alleluia!

One: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: Amen.

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen!

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen!

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen! Indeed!

Alleluia, alleluia!

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

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

Hallelujah Chorus

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, Becky Arnemann, 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), Linda & Tom VanMetre, Traci Van Vogelpoel, Margaret Wagner, Randy Waters (Rick Waters' brother), Christel Wolbring, and Barry Yingling.

WORSHIP LEADERS

The lector this week is Jean Simmons.

Ushers for this week are Frank Ebersole, Carol Mooers, TBD, and Rick Waters.

NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP & CALENDAR

The lector for next week is Wells Ridenour.

Next week's ushers are Jamie Coates, Tina Shafer, Barb Ware, and Kathleen Wood.

Next week's Children's Church Leader is Megan Shroyer.

- 4/6 CE Tem Meeting 5:30pm
Consistory Meeting 7:00pm
- 4/7 Staff Meeting 11:00am
Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30pm
- 4/8 Potluck/Bible Study 6:00pm
- 4/9 Choir Practice 5:30pm
- 4/11 Easy-cise Class 9:00am

BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 4/9 Randy Hendershot | 4/10 Kim Ridenour |
| 4/9 David Rhodes | 4/10 Jean Simmons |
| 4/10 Lynda Graves | |

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
- 12:30 Dinner Theater Rehearsal

We would love to be texting you information about the church. Please give us permission by writing your name and cell phone number.

Name _____

Cell phone number _____

Place this form in the collection plate.

Thank you.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesday Night Ministry is collecting Cereal – Boxes or Individual Servings - for the month of April. We are also in need of empty Egg Cartons and Zip Lock Storage Bags in all sizes. Micah's Backpack is collecting Juice Boxes for the month of April. Thank you for your help in these outreach ministries.

WEDNESDAY EVENING POTLUCK AND STUDY GROUP

Join us each Wednesday for food and Bible Study. This Wednesday we will be starting a new study series. 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.

Zion Senior Day Center

Are you a senior looking for a welcoming place to enjoy meals, companionship, music, exercise, and activities? The Zion Senior Day Center offers a warm and engaging environment where you can connect and thrive.

How can you be part of this program?

1. Participate! If you are interested in joining, please fill out a registration form available in the chapel. An electronic form will also be available soon. Our soft launch is Friday, April 24 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come all day or just some of the day!
2. Share Your Gifts. Do you have a special skill, hobby, or talent you could teach or share with our participants? We would love to have you involved!
3. Support a Participant. If you are not able to attend but would like to help, consider sponsoring a participant. As the program grows, a daily fee will be introduced—your financial support can help someone in need take part.

We look forward to building this community together! Please reach out to Megan Shroyer with questions.

Salty Dog

A manic tale of a stolen treasure chest, sensational swashbuckling, mayhem, mischief, and MURD-ARRR!!!

A one act deadly dinner play by Zion UCC Dramatic Arts.

April 25, 2026 at 5:00pm. \$15 per ticket or 2 for \$25.

Service Credits
CCLI Number: 6212519
April 5, 2026
Easter

Gathering music: Three Easter Chorales by J. S. Bach. © 1940 by G. Schirmer. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Fanfare for Easter Day. Arr. by Jack H. Ossewaarde. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Prelude: *The Trumpet Shall Sound.* Composed by G. F. Handel. Arr. by Lani Smith. © 1984 by Lorenz Publishing Co. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Hymns: *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today.* Purple 232. Tune: Easter Hymn. From the Compleat Psalmodist (1749). Words by Charles Wesley (1740). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

The Day of Resurrection! Purple 233. Tune: Lancashire. Composed by Henry Thomas Smart (1815). Words by John of Damascus (8th C). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

The Strife is O'er. Purple 236. Tune: Victory. Composed by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1591). Latin hymn. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain Purple 234. Words by John of Damascus (8th cent). Music by Arthur S. Sullivan (1872). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

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

Sermon response: *Low in the Grave He Lay.* Composed by Robert Lowry (1874).

Choir Anthem: *Sing and Shout Praises!* Composed by Eric Stover. © 2007 by Laurel Press.

Communion: *Clair de Lune.* Composed by Claude Debussy. © 1961 by California Music. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Offertory: *I Know That My Redeemer Liveth.* Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Postlude: *Hallelujah Chorus.* Composed by G. F. Handel. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.