

ZION'S REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Rev. June Boutwell, Senior Pastor
Lori Seinar-Roknick, Director of Music Ministries

January 17, 2021 10:30 a.m.
Celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

*Where the past and the future with Jesus Christ are celebrated
so the present can be lived abundantly.*

Welcome and Announcements

Welcome to worship all those joining us on-line and those in the sanctuary. It is good to gather as the body of Christ.

The Altar flowers are placed to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gary G. Conover. See more announcements on Page 8.

A Time of Gathering

THE SOLEMN DECLARATION

Doug Anderson, Lector

Leader: And now may we prepare our hearts and minds for worship as we are gathered in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES AND THE ENTRANCE OF THE LIGHT

Iris Wentling, Acolyte

PRELUDE "If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee"
(CCLI#7026498)

Georg Neumark/Marianne Kim

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP I Thessalonians 1:11

With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith.

OPENING HYMN "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" (CCLI #101393) (bulletin pages 5 & 6))

CALL TO WORSHIP

Doug Anderson , Lector

Leader: God of the prophets, call to us today

People: Call us into your ways of love, justice and righteousness.

Leader: God of the poets, remind us again how much you love us

People: Sing to us your ways of love, justice and righteousness.

Leader: God of the disciples, teach us how to follow you

People: Teach us your ways of love, justice and righteousness.

A Time of Prayer

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you see deep into our hearts and know us better than we know ourselves. Forgive us, we pray, for the times we turn away from your word. Remind us that you are the Lord our God, calling in the night, our eternal protector and guide. For our impulses of anger and jealousy, scorn or spite, grant us your healing peace. For our resistance to forgiveness, generosity and mercy, inspire us with your compassionate love. Hear now our prayers...

A MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION AND PRAYER

THE ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS AND LOVE

A SONG OF ASSURANCE (CCLI #31803)

**Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
Listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
Resting in my Savior as my all in all,
Standing on the promises of God.
Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
Standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Martin Luther King said, "Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step." One way we walk with each other in faith is by praying for one another and for justice to prevail that all may have enough. I often pray for all that is needful because we don't know how God will enter our lives and we do not need all the details to lift our prayers. Today we pray for our nation, all who govern, for the new administration, for prophets among us. Please feel free during the week to let the office know if there are others you would like added to the prayer list.

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. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

**Hear our prayer, O God. Hear our prayer, O God.
Incline your ear to us and grant us your peace.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”
Allen Morrill, Tenor Soloist

James Weldon Johnson

Dwelling in the Word

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (The Message)

3 ¹⁻³ The boy Samuel was serving GOD under Eli’s direction. This was at a time when the revelation of GOD was rarely heard or seen. One night Eli was sound asleep (his eyesight was very bad—he could hardly see). It was well before dawn; the sanctuary lamp was still burning. Samuel was still in bed in the Temple of GOD, where the Chest of God rested.

⁴⁻⁵ Then GOD called out, “Samuel, Samuel!”

Samuel answered, “Yes? I’m here.” Then he ran to Eli saying, “I heard you call. Here I am.”

Eli said, “I didn’t call you. Go back to bed.” And so he did.

⁶⁻⁷ GOD called again, “Samuel, Samuel!”

Samuel got up and went to Eli, “I heard you call. Here I am.”

Again Eli said, “Son, I didn’t call you. Go back to bed.” (This all happened before Samuel knew GOD for himself. It was before the revelation of GOD had been given to him personally.)

⁸⁻⁹ GOD called again, “Samuel!”—the third time!

Yet again Samuel got up and went to Eli, “Yes? I heard you call me. Here I am.” That’s when it dawned on Eli that GOD was calling the boy. So Eli directed Samuel, “Go back and lie down. If the voice calls again, say, ‘Speak, GOD. I’m your servant, ready to listen.’” Samuel returned to his bed.

¹⁰ Then GOD came and stood before him exactly as before, calling out, “Samuel! Samuel!” Samuel answered, “Speak. I’m your servant, ready to listen.”

1 John 4:1-12 New International Version (NIV)

4 Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. ² This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³ but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.

⁴ You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. ⁵ They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶ We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

⁷ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into

the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

SERMON

Listening Skills

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

*Use me, God. Show me how to take who I am, who I want to be,
and what I can do, and use it for a purpose greater than myself.*

May our hearts be opened in compassion that we may give generously on behalf of the needs of the church and the world. You may drop off your offering in the office, mail your gift, use a bank bill pay service or use the “give” button on the website. Thank you for your continued support of Zion’s ministries.

The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above you heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “O Grant Us Light” (bulletin page 7)

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” William Croft/Larry Shackley

Our worship is ended and our service begins.

MEDITATION: Martin Luther King Jr., Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?
Today, our very survival depends on our ability to stay awake, to adjust to new ideas, to remain vigilant and to face the challenge of change.”

HYMNS OF THE SPIRIT

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Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

Unison, brightly
*Refrain**James K. Manley, 1978; alt.*

Spir - it, spir - it of gen - tle-ness, blow through the

wil - der-ness, call - ing and free,

Spir - it, spir - it of rest - less-ness, stir me from

plac - id-ness, wind, wind on the sea.

1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the
 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the
 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a
 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient

*Reduced-size notes may be played with organ pedals in lieu of or in combination with the other notes.

HYMNS OF THE SPIRIT

deep, then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the
 sand, and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a
 hill, then you whis - pered in si - lence when the
 schemes, from the bond - age of sor - row the

val - leys of sleep; And o - ver the e - ons you
 law and a land; When they were con - found - ed by their
 whole world was still; And down in the cit - y you
 cap - tives dream dreams; Our wom - en see vi - sions, our

called to each thing, "A - wake from your slum -
 i - dols and lies, then you spoke through your proph -
 called once a - gain, when you blew through your peo -
 men clear their eyes. With bold new de - ci -

bers and rise on your wings."
 ets to o - pen their eyes.
 ple on the rush of the wind.
 sions your peo - ple a - rise.

to Refrain

This popular hymn by songwriter James K. Manley grew out of a sabbatical leave at the School of Theology at Claremont, California. It was first sung at Waikeola Congregational Church in Honolulu, after which Manley added the fourth stanza at the suggestion of a church member.

Tune: SPIRIT Irr.
 James K. Manley, 1978
 Arr. The New Century Hymnal, 1993

NURTURE

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O Grant Us Light

Ps. 43:3

Lawrence Tuttiett, 1864; alt.

1 O grant us light, that we may know wis-dom that you a -
 2 O grant us light that we may find where er - ror lurks in
 3 O grant us light, that we may learn how dead is life from
 4 O grant us light, when soon or late, all earth-ly scenes shall

lone can give, That truth may guide us as we go,
 hu - man lore, And turn to you our seek - ing minds,
 you a - part, How sure is joy for all who turn
 pass a - way, In you to find the o - pen gate,

and vir - tue bless the lives we live.
 and love your ho - ly Word the more.
 to you an un - di - vid - ed heart.
 to death - less home and end - less day.

Ordained a priest of the Church of England, Lawrence Tuttiett served a parish at Warwickshire. His last two appointments were in Scotland. Henry W. Baker, an important English hymnal editor, wrote this tune while an undergraduate at Oxford.

Tune: HESPERUS L.M.
 (QUEBEC)
 Henry W. Baker, 1854

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Good Shepherd Center request for January is **pancake mix, syrup, cereal and toilet paper**. Barrels are located in the front and back lobbies of the church.

The Good Shepherd Center Executive Committee will meet Tuesday, January 26 at 7:00 at the Center.

The Ministry of Service and Missions is holding a **FLEECE BLANKET WORK DAY** on Sunday, February 7 immediately after worship. Bring good scissors and a ruler, the fleece will be provided. Blankets are for The Good Shepherd Center and AWARE. You'll be home in time to watch the Superbowl!

The Ash Wednesday Communion Service will be February 17 at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary.

During Lent we will hold Worship/Bible Study in the sanctuary at 6:00 pm on Wednesday evenings, February 24, March 3, March 10, March 17 and March 24.

Welcome and Congratulations to our new Consistory officers and ministry chairs:

Vikki Young, President

Lynn Rinella, Vice President

Kelly Bielata, Secretary

Sue Nicklin, Treasurer

Kelly Bielata, Chair of Min. of Welcoming and Fellowship

Vikki Young, Chair of Min. of Service and Missions

Sue Nicklin, Chair of Min. of Finance and Stewardship

Linda Seeley, Chair of Min. of Worship and Music

John Enterline, Chair of Min. of Property Management

Lynn Rinella, Chair of Min. of Christian Ed and Youth

Jon Fry, Member of Min. of Finance and Stewardship

Chalmer Ritzert, Member of Min. of Property Management

Parke Wentling