

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

May 2, 2021 10:30 a.m.
Sacrament of Holy Communion

*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 in memory of our parents Dan and Cleo Callahan and our grandparents Ethel Leonard and Elizabeth Callahan, by Brad, Chris, Lance and Clay.

A Time of Gathering

THE SOLEMN DECLARATION

Marion Krieder, 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

Ali Calvin, Acolyte

PRELUDE

"They'll Know We Are Christians by our Love" arr. by Mark Hayes

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP 1 John 4:15-16 New Revised Standard Version

God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Marion Krieder, Lector

Leader: God is the Gardener, and God is planting something new;

People: In this time of worship, may we grow in Christ.

Leader: God is pruning us back so we may bear fruit;

People: In this time of worship, may we repent, and know God's forgiveness.

Leader: God is nurturing us with water and Spirit, that we may blossom;

People: In this time of worship, may we praise our Creator and Sustainer!

Leader: Come, let us join together in worship;

People: Let us praise God, who is growing something new in us.

OPENING HYMN “Come We Who Love God’s Name (bulletin page 5)

A Time of Prayer

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all creation, you created a perfect environment and beautiful beings for your pleasure. All of this was good. Yet today we find ourselves in an imperfect world, and we confess that the sin in our own lives separates us from your will and your ways. Forgive us, Lord, for making choices contrary to your purposes, for refusing to live by your guidance, for failing to trust that your ways are in place with our well-being in mind. Give us the power through your Holy Spirit to turn from our willfulness and trust you alone. Hear our prayers...

A MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION AND PRAYER

THE ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS AND LOVE

A SONG OF ASSURANCE

**Amazing grace how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

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

**Lord, listen to your children praying.
Lord, send your spirit in this place,
Lord, listen to your children praying.
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

Dwelling in the Word

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 15:1-8

15 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ² He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit.

³ You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you.

⁴ Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

SERMON *Abide*

COMMUNION ANTHEM "Come Christians To The Table" John Carter/Mary Kay Beall
(CCLI#3054684)

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Words of Remembering

Communion Prayer

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of all fruitfulness, we thank you for giving us the true vine, Jesus Christ. We know that Christ abides in us by the Spirit given to us. Separated from Christ we can do nothing. Enable us to love one another, not only in word, but in truth and action, just as Christ has commanded us. We ask this in the name of our Risen Savior. Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

There are offering plates in the back of the sanctuary or you may drop off your gifts in the office, mail them, or give online through our website zionsucc.org. The ushers will bring forward the offering to be dedicated as we sing the doxology with Easter words.

Doxology (note Easter words)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

COMMUNION OF SAINTS

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Come, We Who Love God's Name

Ps. 48:1-2; Heb. 12:22-24; Rev. 4:2-11

Isaac Watts, 1707; alt.

1 Come, we who love God's name, and let our joys be known;
 2 Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God;
 3 God's grace on earth is found, the seeds of glo - ry sown;
 4 The hill of Zi - on yields a thou - sand sa - cred sweets
 5 Then let our songs a - bound, and ev - ery tear be dry;

To - geth - er God's great love pro - claim, and thus sur-round the throne.
 But we our thanks and praise will bring for love so deep and broad.
 Ce - les - tial fruits on earth - ly ground from faith and hope have grown.
 Be - fore we reach the heav-en-ly fields, or walk the gold - en streets.
 We're trav-el-ing through Em - man - uel's ground, to great-er worlds on high.

A story concerning this hymn holds that the pastor of a New England church once asked the choir to lead the singing of the second stanza on a Sunday when it threatened to "refuse to sing" because of a disagreement in the congregation. Needless to say, the choir acquiesced.

Tune: ST. THOMAS S.M.
 Williams' New Universal Psalmist, 1770
 Alternate setting: MARCHING TO ZION

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

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Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Omer Westendorf, 1964

Descant



2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er liv - ing, the

Unison

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, our true faith con - fess-ing, the
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er liv - ing, the

tasks of our ev - ery - day life we will face. Our faith ev - er

peo - ple of God from this dwell-ing take leave. The ser - vice is
tasks of our ev - ery - day life we will face. Our faith ev - er

shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing, em - brac - ing God's chil - dren of

end - ed, O now be ex - tend - ed the fruits of our wor - ship in
shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing, em - brac - ing God's chil - dren of

Omer Westendorf, author of numerous hymns, compiler of several hymnals, and founder of World Library Publications,

Tune: THE ASH GROVE 6.6.11.6.6.11.D.
Welsh folk melody

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

each tribe and race. With your grace you feed us, with
 all who be - lieve. The seed of the teach - ing, re -
 each tribe and race. With your grace you feed us, with

your light now lead us, u - nite us as one in this
 cep - tive hearts reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for
 your light now lead us, u - nite us as one in this

life that we share. Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks -
 God and for all. God's grace did in - vite us, and love shall u -
 life that we share. Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks -

giv - ing give hon - or to Christ and that name which we bear.
 nite us to work for God's realm and to an - swer the call.
 giv - ing give hon - or to Christ and that name which we bear.

THIS WEEK AT ZION'S

- ⇒ The Immerse Class continues on Tuesday at 11:00. Class will now be held in the Jackson Conference Room.
 - ⇒ The Knitters Group meets at 1:00 on Tuesday.
 - ⇒ Finance Ministry and Consistory meeting on Wednesday.
 - ⇒ The Chancel Choir rehearses at 7:00 on Thursday.
 - ⇒ Next Sunday: Sunday School at 9:15 and Worship at 10:30. Coffee Hour after Worship in the Anderson Lounge.
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CANDLELIGHT MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service will be held for all of our members who died during COVID restrictions (since March 2020). The candlelight service will be Friday, May 21 at 7:30 in the church parking lot. In case of rain, the service will be in the sanctuary.

The Good Shepherd Center request for May is peanut butter or breakfast foods. Barrels are located in the front and rear lobbies for your donations.

JOIN THE CHOIR!

The Chancel Choir will be singing throughout May and June 6. Rehearsal is Thursdays at 7:00 pm. All singers are welcome to join!

The Children's Choir will sing on May 23 and June 6 and will rehearse during Church Happening throughout May.

COFFEE HOUR

Coffee Hour will begin again on May 9 (next Sunday). Packaged snack items and coffee and punch will be available in the chapel with socially distanced seating in the Anderson Lounge.