

The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you—I am he." Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?" Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?" They came out of the town and made their way toward him. Meanwhile his disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about." Then his disciples said to each other, "Could someone have brought him food?" "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor." Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. And because of his words many more became believers. They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world."

WELCOME TO ZION'S REFORMED CHURCH

United Church of Christ

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THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again; but whoever drinks of the water that I give him shall never thirst...."

John 4:13-14



*Good
morning and
welcome to
Zion's Reformed
Church!*

We welcome Rev. David Ackerman, Penn West Conference Minister, to the pulpit today. Thank you for being here!

The Altar Flowers are in memory of Dick and Marilyn Rowland, by Teri, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Ushering today are Pat Seiple, John Enterline, Teri Swartzbeck and Sandy Harter.

Consistory members participating in worship today are Sherry Winner, Dan Douthett, Gary Hittle, Karen Galus and Linda Henry. John Enterline and Pat Seiple are serving as ushers and Laurie Baker is helping to operate the sound system and live stream.

The children are invited to the Youth Center after Word for the Family for an activity.

Everyone is invited to the Anderson Lounge after the service for coffee and conversation.

John 4: 5-42

So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water." He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back." "I have no husband," she replied. Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true." "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem." "Woman," Jesus replied, "believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."

DINNER AND A MOVIE

On the menu....foods that begin with the letter "O"
and the third episode of The Chosen.

WEDNESDAY AT 5:30.

The Good Shepherd Center
request for March is boxed potatoes.

Next Sunday, we will receive The One Great Hour of Sharing offering. Please mark OGHS on your check or envelope. This offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ.

AMISTAD SUNDAY

Today churches in the UCC observe Amistad Sunday. The Amistad incident was an important moment in the history of the U.S. and the United Church of Christ. In 1839, 55 enslaved Africans break their chains and seize control of the schooner Amistad. Their freedom is short-lived, and they are held in a Connecticut jail while the ship's owners sue to have them returned as property. Christians - including forebears of the United Church of Christ - organize to free the prisoners. The case becomes a defining moment for the movement to abolish slavery. The Supreme Court rules the captives are not property, and the Africans regain their freedom. This abolitionist victory helped create momentum for the formation in 1846 of the American Missionary Association. This interracial agency's work eventually became part of the national mission structure of the UCC which continues to this day.

ZION'S REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. David Ackerman, Conference Minister

Lori Seinar-Roknick, Director of Music Ministries

*Please rise in body or spirit, as you are able.

March 12, 2023 10:30 a.m.

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sherry Winner, Lector

THE SOLEMN DECLARATION

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

THE ENTRANCE OF LIGHT

Zachary Suntheimer, Acolyte

~Please use prelude time for thought, reflection and prayer~

PRELUDE "O Praise the Name" arr. by John Cumberland

*GATHERING SONG "Lord I Lift Your Name on High" (page 7)

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 95)

Sherry Winner

Leader: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout
aloud to the Rock of our salvation!

**People: Let us come before him with thanksgiving and
extol him with music and song!**

Leader: Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel
before the Lord our Maker,

**People: For he is our God and we are the people of his
pasture, the flock under his care.**

*OPENING HYMN "Holy, Holy, Holy!" (bulletin page 8)

~please be seated~

CHORAL CALL TO CONFESSION

Chancel Choir

CALL TO CONFESSION - RESPONSIVE LITANY Dan Douthett

Leader: During Lent, we reflect on the meaning of suffering.
People: Through suffering, we become aware of God's presence.
 Leader: All around us we see sorrow, brokenness and pain.
People: Through suffering, we become aware of God's power.
 Leader: We struggle with our own trials and search in vain for answers.
People: Through suffering, we learn to trust God's promises.
 Leader: We think of the magnitude of Christ's suffering on the cross.

People: Through suffering, we deepen our faith.
 Leader: We cry out helplessly when our burdens seem unbearable.
People: Through suffering, we learn to comfort others.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, grant us strength and courage to face the trials in our lives, and keep us grateful for all the joys. Cheer us in our sorrow and sustain us through our suffering. Keep us aware of our weakness and dependent upon your strength. Remind us of Christ's suffering on the cross, and renew us by your Holy Spirit that we may follow your commands and proclaim your love to a suffering world. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - Teach Us the Wisdom of God

Eye has not seen, ear has not heard what God has
 read-y for those who love him; Spir - it of
 love, come, give us the mind of Je - sus,
 teach us the wis-dom of God.

GOING FORTH

Go Now in Peace

1 Go now in peace; though friends must part, your
 2 Go now in hope, and hope - ful stay, though
 3 Go now in faith, through time and chance, un -
 pres - ence lives in ev - ery heart. Your gifts to us no
 shad - owed val - leys hide your way; through good and e - vil,
 til we join the wed - ding dance as part - ners of the
 words can tell: go now in peace, in Christ go well.
 joy and pain, with God, in Spir - it, you re - main.
 Three - in - One, where all is end - ed and be - gun.

*Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

Rev. 4:8-11
Reginald Heber, 1826

NICAEA 11.12.12.10.
John B. Dykes, 1861

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore thee,
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee;
 Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 Though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see;
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y;
 Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 On - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y;

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 Which wert and art and ev - er - more shalt be.
 Per - fect in power, in love, and pur - i - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

WORD FOR THE FAMILY

Rev. Glenn Sadler

CHOIR ANTHEM

“We are Family”

Stewart/Martin

RESPONSIVE PRAYERS AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Gary Hittle

Leader: Heavenly Father, we come before you today in humility and faith. We thank you for all you have given us and the many blessings in our lives. We ask for your guidance and strength. Show us the way and fill us with courage and wisdom. Help us to remember your love and grace and to be faithful in our service to you.

People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Leader: Gracious God, who loves all and forgets none, we bring to you our prayers for all your children. For all whom we love, watch over, and care for;

People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Leader: For all prisoners and captives, and all who suffer from oppression, that you will manifest our mercy toward them, and make all hearts as merciful as your own;

People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Leader: For all who bear the cross of suffering, the sick in body or mind,

People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Leader: For all perplexed by the deeper questions of life and overshadowed with doubt, that your light may guide them;

People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Leader: For all who are tried by temptations or weakness, that your mercy may be their strength;

People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Leader: For all who are lonely and sad in the midst of others’ joy, that they may know you as their friend and comforter;

People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Leader: O compassionate God, hear our prayers, answer them according to your will, and make us channels of your infinite grace. Let us pray together as 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. 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.**

SCRIPTURES John 4:5-42 (bulletin pages 11 and 12)

SERMON "The Woman at the Well and The Good News Bears"
 Rev. David Ackerman

OFFERING OUR GIFTS Karen Galus
 Invitation
 Offertory Music "I Am Thine, O Lord" Mary McDonald
 *Doxology No. 780
 *Prayer of Dedication

***CLOSING HYMN** "Go Now in Peace" (bulletin page 9)

***THE BENEDICTION** Linda Henry

***TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD**

***THE POSTLUDE** "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" Jason W. Krug

2088 Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Lord, I lift your name on high;
 Lord, I love to sing your praises.
 I'm so glad you're in my life;
 I'm so glad you came to save us.
 You came from heaven to earth to show the way,
 from the earth to the cross my debt to pay;
 from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
 Lord, I lift your name on high.

WORDS: Rick Founds (1 Cor. 15:3-4)

MUSIC: Rick Founds

LIFT YOUR NAME ON HIGH

Irregular

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