

cided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. That was why his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. "Give glory to God by telling the truth," they said. "We know this man is a sinner." He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!" Then they asked him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered, "I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?" Then they hurled insults at him and said, "You are this fellow's disciple! We are disciples of Moses! We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don't even know where he comes from." The man answered, "Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly person who does his will. Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out. Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him." Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you." Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind." Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, "What? Are we blind too?" Jesus said, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.

# WELCOME TO ZION'S REFORMED CHURCH

United Church of Christ

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## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

*"I WAS BLIND, BUT  
NOW I SEE."*

John 9:25



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

Rev. Dr. Tim Morrison will be leading worship today.  
Thank you for being here!

The Altar Flowers are in memory of Charles and Betty  
Donner on their anniversary, by their children Jane,  
David, Connie and Daniel.

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

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

Today we will receive The One Great Hour of Sharing  
offering.

Everyone is invited to the Anderson Lounge after the ser-  
vice for coffee and conversation.

Large Print Bulletins and seat cushions are available in  
the back of the sanctuary. Coloring books and crayons  
are available for children.

John 9:1-41

As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. "Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means "Sent"). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing. His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, "Isn't this the same man who used to sit and beg?" Some claimed that he was. Others said, "No, he only looks like him." But he himself insisted, "I am the man." "How then were your eyes opened?" they asked. He replied, "The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see." "Where is this man?" they asked him. "I don't know," he said. They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man replied, "and I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others asked, "How can a sinner perform such signs?" So they were divided. Then they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened." The man replied, "He is a prophet." They still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man's parents. "Is this your son?" they asked. "Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?" "We know he is our son," the parents answered, "and we know he was born blind. But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don't know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who already had de-

1 Samuel 16:1-13

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king." But Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me." The LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate." Samuel did what the LORD said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, "Do you come in peace?" Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "The LORD has not chosen this one either." Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, "Nor has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "The LORD has not chosen these." So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" "There is still the youngest," Jesse answered. "He is tending the sheep." Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives." So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; this is the one." So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.

**ZION'S REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**Rev. Dr. Tim Morrison**  
**Lori Seinar-Roknick, Director of Music Ministries**

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

March 19, 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      Jim Baker, 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      Emily Rinella, Acolyte

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

PRELUDE      "On Jordan's Stormy Banks"    Lyndell Leatherman

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

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader:    We gather in the presence of God.

**People:    And we know we do not gather alone.**

Leader:    We gather with all the saints.

**People:    As well as with the community of saints who  
              have gone before us.**

Leader:    We continue on this our Lenten journey.

**People:    Let us worship God.**

\*OPENING HYMN NO. 208 "God Loved the World"

*~please be seated~*

CHORAL CALL TO CONFESSION

Chancel Choir

CALL TO CONFESSION - RESPONSIVE LITANY

Leader: During the season of Lent, we ponder the frail, fallen condition of our world.

**People: The Lord is near the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit.**

Leader: We feel a deep sorrow and awareness that something is not right.

**People: The Lord is near the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit.**

Leader: We wonder if God's hand has been removed from our lives.

**People: The Lord is near the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit.**

Leader: We recall the words of Jesus: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

**People: The Lord is near the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit.**

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we are bewildered by the chaos of our world. We sometimes wonder where you are, and how you could allow so much pain and sorrow. Draw near us, Lord, and grant us a sense of your steadfast love. Restore us through your grace. We bring our anxieties to you, and trust in your Holy Spirit's guidance. Amen.**



Our Lenten program continues Wednesday beginning at 5:30 in the Anderson Lounge

This is "S" week, therefore our light supper will be

### SOUP, SALAD AND SNICKERDOODLES!

The next episode of The Chosen will be shown in the Chapel after dinner.

This has been so much fun coming up with ideas for each meal! Thank you Lori Seinar-Roknick for the great idea and thank you to the Welcoming and Fellowship Ministry for preparing the meals each week. I hope everyone who has participated is enjoying our evening of Dinner and a Movie! If you have not yet participated, please join us! You'll catch up quickly.....you know the story!





Would you like to purchase an Easter Lily to decorate the altar for Easter?

The flowers are \$9.50/Ea. and can be purchased “in memory of” or “in honor of” a loved one.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

QUANTITY \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF \_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF \_\_\_\_\_

Flower orders are due by April 5

Please return this form to the church office.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - Teach Us the Wisdom of God



WORD FOR THE FAMILY “Knot or Not the Knot: Take 2”

CHOIR ANTHEM “How Deep the Father’s Love” Stuart Townend

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.**

SCRIPTURES Hebrew Lesson 1 Samuel 16: 1-13 (page 10)  
 Gospel John 9: 1-41 (page 11 & 12)

SERMON “Another Search for Truth”

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING GIFTS

Invitation

Offertory Music "Grateful" Mark Hayes

\*Doxology No. 780

\*Unison Prayer of Dedication

**We offer these gifts, O God of all people, in the hope and trust that you will use them to bring healing and hope where there is need. Where natural disaster has befallen, may these gifts help build new life. Where refugees seek safety from violence and fear, may these gifts enable caring and welcoming hearts and hands. Where hatred sullies your hope for your human family, may our gifts be a sign and instrument of reconciliation. Thank you, God, for the privilege of this offering. May it indeed do more than we can image! Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN NO. 489 "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

\*THE BENEDICTION

\*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

\*THE POSTLUDE "Loch Lomond" Scotland arr.

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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