

Genesis 45:1-15

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all his attendants, and he cried out, "Have everyone leave my presence!" So there was no one with Joseph when he made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard him, and Pharaoh's household heard about it. Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still living?" But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me." When they had done so, he said, "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance. "So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt. Now hurry back to my father and say to him, 'This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don't delay. You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me—you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have. I will provide for you there, because five years of famine are still to come. Otherwise you and your household and all who belong to you will become destitute.' "You can see for yourselves, and so can my brother Benjamin, that it is really I who am speaking to you. Tell my father about all the honor accorded me in Egypt and about everything you have seen. And bring my father down here quickly." Then he threw his arms around his brother Benjamin and wept, and Benjamin embraced him, weeping. And he kissed all his brothers and wept over them. Afterward his brothers talked with him.

Matthew 15:21-28

Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly." Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel." The woman came and knelt before him. "Lord, help me!" she said. He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs." "Yes it is, Lord," she said. "Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." Then Jesus said to her, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed at that moment.

*WELCOME TO
ZION'S REFORMED CHURCH*

United Church of Christ

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**There are
some
questions
that can't be
answered by**





**Good Morning and
welcome to Zion's
Reformed Church.
We're glad you're here!**

Rev. Tim Morrison is leading worship today. Pastor Glenn will participate in the Q and A. Thank you both for being here!

The Altar Flowers are in memory of W. H. Knierman and Clara Jones, by the Baker Family.

Ushering in August are Lori Tofani, Teri Swartzbeck, Gary Hittle, Gianna Tofani and Alex Brown.

Church Happening is not held in the summer. Children are invited to stay for the entire service.

Everyone is welcome to come to the Anderson Lounge for refreshments after the service.

Large Print Bulletins and Children's Activity Books are available in the back of the sanctuary. Seat cushions are also available.

TODAY.....picnic at St. Paul's Rust Pavilion at 1:00. Bring a dish to share. Table service and drinks will be provided.

NEXT SUNDAY.....Steeple dedication during worship and a picture of congregation in front of the church after worship.

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

**Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our Prayer, O Lord.
Incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace. Amen.**

*HYMN NO. 607 "We Would Be Building"

SCRIPTURES Hebrew Reading: Genesis 45:1-15
Gospel Reading: Matthew 15:21-28

SERMON "Questions for Tim and Glenn"

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Invitation

Offertory Music "Song Without Words" Mendelssohn

*Doxology No. 780

*Unison Prayer of Dedication

Help us to be generous givers, dear Lord, both of our money and our lives, that we might make a difference in this town. We ask this through your son, Jesus Christ who gave all that he was that we might know life in all its fullness. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 423 "Great Is Your Faithfulness"

*THE BENEDICTION

*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*THE POSTLUDE "The Boys' Round Dance"

Niels Gade OP. 36, No. 2

Pastor: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow with this child in the Christian faith, to help this child to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, by celebrating Christ's presence, by furthering Christ's mission in all the world, and by offering the nurture of the Christian church so that he may affirm his baptism?

Parents: We do, with the help of God.

Pastor: Bless by your Holy Spirit, gracious God, this water. By your Holy Spirit save those who confess the name of Jesus Christ that sin may have no power over them. Create new life in the one baptized this day that he may rise in Christ. Glory to you, eternal God, the one who was, and is, and shall always be, world without end. Amen.

Pastor: By what name will your child be called?

Parents: Brody Stephen Lewis.

Pastor: Brody Stephen Lewis, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

PRAYER FOR THE BAPTIZED

Gracious God, you have filled the world with joy by giving us the gift of Jesus. Bless this child. May he be filled with joy; and never be ashamed to confess faith in you. Bless the parents of this child. May they always show their gratitude for the life you have given by loving and caring for their child. And bless these your faithful people. Unite them in the peace of Christ and the company of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

Pastor: Go in the peace of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

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

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

August 20, 2023 10:30 a.m.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Connie Hittle, 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

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

PRELUDE "Morning Prayer" from Album for the Young,
OP. 39, No. 1, P. Tchaikovsky

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: When we think of God's presence in the world, we are grateful.

People: Grateful for the presence of hope; grateful for the gift of life.

Leader: And when we think of God's presence in our lives, we are humbled;

People: Humbled by the gift of grace; humbled by the invitation to begin again.

*OPENING HYMN NO. 400 “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: When we offer God our confession, we begin the beautiful work of reconciliation.

People: And that begins our reconciling with God.

Leader: Trusting in God who is our partner in grace,

People: Let us make our confession together.

*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we open our hearts and offer the truth of our lives; The fear that stifles us, the prejudice that blinds us, the ignorance that hobbles us, the doubt that plagues us. Help us, we pray that we will find courage in unlikely places, see the world with new and gracious eyes, move to those places where love is needed, and have faith that you are with us. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the Good News; we are forgiven.

People: We are set free to go out into the world and be the loving, hopeful people of God!

*A SONG OF RESPONSE NO. 283 “Spirit of the Living God”

~before you sit down, please greet someone near you~

WORD FOR THE FAMILY “Mother Goose and God”

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Brody Stephen Lewis

Parents: Justin and Kylee Lewis

Grandparents: Dino & Lori Tofani, Steve and Suzanne Lewis and Michelle Wentling and the late Joel Wentling.

Great grandparents: Vincent & Kay Tofani, Patricia Montgomery, Duane and Liz Lewis, Bev McClimans, Joan and Dallas Wentling.

Pastor: They were bringing children to Jesus that Jesus might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, Jesus was indignant, and said to them,

People: “Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it.”

Pastor: And Jesus took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

Pastor: The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. Inasmuch as the promise of the gospel is not only to us but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ’s church, the sign and seal of their participation in God’s forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

People: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ’s body.

QUESTIONS FOR THE PARENTS

Pastor: Do you desire to have your child baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Parents: We do

Pastor: Will you encourage this child to renounce the powers of evil and to receive the freedom of new life in Christ?

Parents: We will, with the help of God.

Pastor: Will you teach this child that he may be led to profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Parents: We will, with the help of God.

Pastor: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ’s disciples, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

Parents: We do, with the help of God.