

# dream



*Serve & Enrich*  
Zion United Church  
of Christ

## *The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter*

### **Prelude**

*Conzona*

**Gathering**—United by the Spirit, we gather as one to listen to God’s word, to find rest from a weary world, and to dream God’s dreams. The Spirit leads us in all kinds of directions, and the Spirit has led us here to this moment. Let us set aside all busyness and distraction and worship our wondrous God.

### **Hymn**

*Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness, 326*

**Prayer**—Resurrecting God, in these moments of worship, we set aside all that we think needs to be done, in order to gather in your presence and listen to your message for us today. So often we are distracted and preoccupied with long to-do lists and worries that consume our hearts. Help us in these moments to simply be in your presence. Nurture our spirits that we might be refreshed and revived to carry your Good News out into the world. We pray that by listening to your still-speaking voice, we might discern how to make your dreams for our lives come true.

**The Lord’s Prayer** (unison)—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.

### **Bell Choir**

*Jubilate, Amen*

### **Exploring Together**—Rest

#### **We Hear God’s Word**—Luke 24:1-12 (CEB)

*Vivian Thomas*

<sup>38</sup> While Jesus and his disciples were traveling, Jesus entered a village where a woman named Martha welcomed him as a guest. <sup>39</sup> She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to his message. <sup>40</sup> By contrast, Martha was preoccupied with getting everything ready for their meal. So Martha came to him and said, “Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to prepare the table all by myself? Tell her to help me.”

<sup>41</sup> The Lord answered, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things. <sup>42</sup> One thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the better part. It won’t be taken away from her.”

**Meditation***Rest and Dreams***Hymn***Come and Find the Quiet Center, 477***We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving**

**Invitation**—Having found rest and renewal in the presence of the resurrected Christ among us, we do remember that we have been called to do God's work in this world, to serve and enrich our community, near and far. Let us generously bring our gifts, trusting that God will use them for ministry set before us.

**April Benevolence**—Global Ministries

**\*\*Doxology**

**We Give Thanks**—God, we thank you for this time of worship and community. We give thanks that you've called us to be together as one body as we listen to your still speaking voice. Offer your blessings in the gifts we bring before you this day that through them others too might find rest and renewal through the work of your church. Bless the work of this church that together we may make your dreams for us and this world come true. Amen.

**A Gift****\*\*\*Hymn***Dream God's Dream, see handout or slides*

**Benediction**—I promise that 3.5 months is not that long. I'll be back in no time, but I do want to leave you with a blessing that means a lot to me. It's an Irish Blessing sung at every gathering of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference Young Ambassadors Program in which I participated when I was in high school, fulfilling a lifelong dream then of exploring family roots on my mom's side of the family. It goes like this:

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sunshine warm upon your face, and the rain fall soft upon your fields. Until we meet again, my friend, until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of God's hand. Amen.

**Postlude***Postlude on a Welsh Tune*