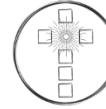




THE SEASON OF EASTER



Serve & Enrich
Zion United Church
of Christ

Our Mission: United by Christ's loving embrace, a welcoming light in an unsure world, we serve and enrich the community and provide a safe gathering space for fellowship, spiritual growth, and self-exploration.

Our Vision: Transforming and caring for our community through Christ's love.

Pastor: Sarah Frische-Mouri Hannigan

Organist: Martha Main

Bell Choir Director: Vivian Thomas

Office Manager: Michael Brown

Custodians: Anita and Greg Law

Scripture Reader: Collin Bennington

Tech Steward: Collin Bennington



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April 12, 2026 – The 2nd Sunday of Easter

Prelude

Gathering (responsive)

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Many: Our hearts are glad and our souls rejoice.

One: Do not worry or fear, for Christ is alive!

Many: In this place, we find hope and joy.

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Many: Let us worship the one who brings new life.~

*Hymn

Come, Christians, Join to Sing, 87

Prayer—Life-giving God, we gather today to celebrate the resurrection of your Son. We are grateful for the new life he brings. We are grateful for the hope and joy he shares. We are grateful for leading the way, as he goes before us. Gracious God, today and every day, we offer you our thanks and praise. Strengthen our faith, that it may sustain us during difficult days and enable us to share your love with others. Open our hearts to new life and new possibilities.~

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.

Special Music

They Could Not, Karie Main

Exploring Together

Scripture

1 Peter 1:3-9 (NRSVUE)

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

John 20:19-31 (NRSVUE)

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Reflection

So I Send You: Love, Believe, Rejoice

Hymn

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High (2x), 88

We Respond to God’s Word with Our Giving

Invitation—Through the resurrection of Christ, we have been given new birth and a living hope. In thanksgiving and praise, let us bring our gifts to God.~

April Benevolence

Global Ministries

A Blessing

***Doxology**

We Give Thanks—Holy One, we give you thanks and praise for your promise of new life. We thank you for these gifts. As we offer them into your hands, may they bring hope and new life to those in need. In the name of the resurrected Christ, we pray. Amen.~

Hymn

He Lives, 302

Benediction— Members of the body of Christ, may the unconditional love of God, the deep peace of Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit be with you now and always. Amen.

Sung Response

Because He Lives (chorus only), 447
Because he lives I can face tomorrow;
Because he lives all fear is gone;
Because I know he holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because he lives.

Postlude

~Scifres, Mary; Beu, B.J.. Abingdon Worship Annual 2023. Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK AT ZION

- **Sunday, 3 pm** – Southeast Association Meeting (Faith UCC)
- **Tuesday, 1 pm** – Matthew Bible Study (Paula’s House)
- **Wednesday, 6:30 pm** – Council (Zoom)
- **Thursday, 2 pm** – Golden Friends: Cards and Games (Fellowship Hall)
- **Saturday, 10-12 pm** – All Church Work Day (Fellowship Hall)
- **Sunday, April 19, 11:45 am** – 3rd Sunday Lunch at The Depot

SERVE

- **ALL CHURCH WORK DAY**—Join us for a bit of Spring cleaning on Saturday, April 18, from 10 am – 12 pm. We’ll work both in the Zion United Community Center and in the sanctuary. We’ll dust, tidy, and more. All help is appreciated.
- **RILEY CHEER GUILD**—The Riley Cheer Guild and the kids at Riley could use your help! They are running low on Hot Wheels and are out of Play-Doh sets, which include a few containers of Play-Doh and some tools. Donations can be dropped off anytime in the sanctuary at our Riley service station. Just look for the big “Riley” sign and tubs.
- **BLOOD DRIVE**— Our next Red Cross Blood Drive is Thursday, April 23, from 12-6pm in the Zion United Community Center Gym. Make a difference in our community and beyond and help ensure blood is on the shelves before it is needed for trauma victims, transplant recipients and those being treated for cancer and sickle cell disease. You’ll find the link to register at www.zionuccindy.net/blooddrive.
- **APRIL BENEVOLENCE: Global Ministries**—Global Ministries is a joint partnership between the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Together we accompany and serve with over 250 global partners in about 90 countries. Sharing God’s love, we work for justice, reconciliation, and peace.

ENRICH

- **MATTHEW SMALL GROUPS**—If you’ve not yet participated in our Gospel of Matthew Small Groups, you’re invited to join our in-person group on Tuesdays from 1-2:30 pm at Paula’s house. The All Church Zoom Group has one final session on Thursday, April 23, at 7 pm.
- **GOLDEN FRIENDS**—Join the Golden Friends in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, April 16, at 2 pm, for cards and games. Bring a snack to share and your favorite game.
- **3rd SUNDAY LUNCH**—We’re heading to The Depot on April 19 to gather at the table. Our reservation is for 11:45 am. Call or text Becky Osher this week to RSVP if

you plan to attend.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **TREASURE TRUNK AND BAKE SALE**—Save the date! Our next Treasure Trunk Sale is Saturday, May 2, from 8-2 pm. See Becky Osher to reserve your spot today. You'll receive 2 parking lot space for \$15 to sell garage sale, antique, and other items. If you'd like to donate items for the church to sell, a donation box will be available soon. Items will be sold by offer. The Fundraising Team is also having a bake sale and will feature their mini bread loaves. Pull tabs will be available if you'd like to donate bake goods.
- Pastor Sarah will be off on April 13-19. If there is a pastoral care emergency, please contact Ted Schory, who will be on call.