



# 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:** Paula Prange

**Tech Steward:**



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**April 19, 2026 – The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

## Prelude

### Gathering (responsive)

One: Make a joyful noise, a noise of service and love.

**Many: Praise God with lives of compassion.**

One: Sing with acts of kindness.

**Many: Glorify God with acts of mercy.**

One: Praise God with works of justice.

**Many: Praise God with overflowing love.~**

### \*Gathering Song

*When Morning Gilds the Skies, 111*

**Prayer**—God of grace and God of glory, reveal yourself through our lives and our love. Shine your wisdom and truth into our hearts this day. Help us know the hope to which we are called, that we may be the servants you craft us to be. In your glory and grace, we pray.~

**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.

## Scripture

*Jeremiah 31:27-30 (NRSVUE)*

<sup>27</sup> The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals. <sup>28</sup> And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the Lord. <sup>29</sup> In those days they shall no longer say:

“The parents have eaten sour grapes,  
and the children’s teeth are set on edge.”

<sup>30</sup> But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of the one who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge.

*Matthew 25:35-40 (NRSVUE)*

<sup>35</sup> for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup> I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ <sup>37</sup> Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink?’ <sup>38</sup> And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing?’ <sup>39</sup> And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ <sup>40</sup> And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’

## Reflection

*Hunger, the First Line of Defense, Rev. Mark Cummins Lynch*

## Hymn

*Christ, You Call Us All to Service, 571*

## We Respond to God’s Word with Our Giving

**Invitation**—With hearts wide open, with spirits ready to serve and give, let us bring our gifts and treasures to share with those in need of God’s love.~

## April Benevolence

*Global Ministries*

## \*Doxology

**We Give Thanks**—Shepherd of love, transform these gifts into nourishment for a hungry world. May they offer shelter from the storms of life. May they bring kindness and compassion to the lost and the lonely. Transform us, even as you transform these gifts, that we might be your hands and feet in the world. Amen.~

## Hymn

*For the Healing of the Nations, 621*

**Benediction**—May the grace of Christ surround you, the love of God astound you, and

the Holy Spirit keep you, this day and forever more. 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

~ Beu, B.J.; Scifres, Mary. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023 (p. 227). Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition. Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion. Copyright 2013.

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## PRAYERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THIS WEEK AT ZION

- **Sunday, 11:45 am** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Lunch at The Depot
- **Monday, 6 pm** – Council Finance Team (Zoom)
- **Tuesday, 1 pm** – NO BIBLE STUDY
- **Thursday, 12-6 pm** – Red Cross Blood Drive (Gym)
- **Thursday, 7 pm** – All Church Matthew Study (Zoom)
- **Sunday, April 26, 9 am** – Bell Choir Practice

### SERVE

- **ALL CHURCH WORK DAY**—Thank you to everyone who participated in our work day yesterday! A special thank you to council for coordinating these efforts.
- **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 12-6 pm 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](http://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. There will be no meeting at Paula's house this week, but sessions will resume on April 28. The All Church Zoom Group has one final session on Thursday, April 23, at 7 pm.
- **1<sup>st</sup> FELLOWSHIP HOUR**—Join us after worship on Sunday, May 3, for donuts and a time to be together in community.
- **YOUNG ADULT GROUP**—The Young Adult Groups is heading to Rustic Gardens on Sunday, May 3, after the 1<sup>st</sup> Fellowship Hour. RSVP to Pastor Sarah if you plan to attend. It is \$10 for 9 holes.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **TREASURE TRUNK AND BAKE SALE**—Save the date! Our next Treasure Trunk Sale is Saturday, May 2, from 8-2 pm, with a rain date of May 16. 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.