

ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Second Sunday of Advent & December 4th, 2022 & 11 A.M.

0

S

WORSHIP GUIDE

1

Signs, Miracles, and Wanders

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

Congregational Responses are in **Bold**. Please silence all mobile devices. ✦ Indicates Music Selection. ↑ An invitation to stand.

Gathering Music [↓]

Ringing of the Bells

Prelude to Worship[♦]

Words of Welcome

↑ Call to Community

Inspired by Isaiah 11:1-10 & Romans 15:4-13

A shoot soon comes from Jesse's stump, and a branch shall spring from roots.

Rejoice! Rejoice! All God's children. Let all the people give God praise.

A leader soon comes who will lift the poor with righteousness around his waist.

Rejoice! Rejoice! All God's children. Let all the people give God praise.

A child soon comes from an innocent place with wisdom and might he'll lead the way.

Rejoice! Rejoice! All God's children. Let all the people give God praise.

↑Opening Hymn⁴

"Watcher, Tell Us of the Night" NCH Hymnal #103 (Black)

Susie, Burnie, and Becky

Lighting of the Advent Candle – The Candle of Peace

Fire burns. It hurts. It can destroy. Fire also gives warmth and light. The coming of Christ is both a day of judgment and a day of promise. Two candles, flickering brightly, help us remember that the coming of Christ has many meanings.

"Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky" (Psalm 85:10-11).

Two Purple Candles are Lit while Choral Response is Sung.

Advent Candle Choral Response

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv'n! So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n. No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

"Now Come, Savior of the Gentiles"

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.

Dear God, we have much to do and we are not sure we will be ready for the day of your coming. In Advent's light, help us to see what is important: to be who you want us to be, and to do what you would have us do. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Choral Anthem $\stackrel{\label{eq:choral}}{\leftarrow}$

"Take My Life and Let it Be" The Zion Choir

Children's Moment

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

First Reading: The Peaceful Kingdom

Isaiah 1:1-10 (NRSVUE) Lector: Jean Simmons

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

> Choral Response Refrain from "O Come All Ye Faithful" Red Hymnal #112

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Second Reading: The Proclamation of John the Baptist

Matthew 3:1-12 (NRSVUE) Rev. Katie Penick

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.' " Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The Message

New Growth

RESPONDING IN LOVE

Invitation to Give

Offertory [↓]

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Offertory Response [↓]

Verse 4 of "In Bleak Mid-Winter" Black Hymnal # 128

What can I offer, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb. If I were a wise one, I would do my part; but what I can I offer: all my heart.

Blessing Our Gifts

We bless these gifts that have been shared to strengthen the beloved community. Let these gifts do justice in the world. Let them be a signal to the people that there is a God who saves, heals, and sets free. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

↑ Koinonia Hymn⁴

"*It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"* NCH Hymnal #131 (Black Hymnal)

Invitation

The Story

Blessing the Meal

Sharing the Meal \diamondsuit

Medley of Peace

All bread on the communion table is gluten-free to be inclusive of all God's children. God's table is open to all! Anyone who desires to participate in communion is welcome to do so. The communion table offers a choice of wine or grape juice and gluten-free bread for all.



Prayer of Our Savior

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 and ever. Amen.

MOVING TOWARDS PEACE ON EARTH

↑ Closing Hymn [♦]

Sending Forth

Prelude to Service

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" Rear of Bulletin

"I Saw Three Ships"

GO FORTH IN PEACE & SERVE!



Did You Know?

- "I Saw Three Ships (Come Sailing In)" is an English Christmas carol.
- The earliest printed version of "I Saw Three Ships" is from the 17th-century.
- The song was probably traditionally known as "As I Sat On a Sunny Bank", and was particularly popular in Cornwall.
- The lyrics mention the ships sailing into Bethlehem, but the nearest body of water is the Dead Sea about 20 miles away. The reference to three ships is thought to originate in the three ships that bore the purported relics of the Biblical magi to Cologne Cathedral in the 12th century. Another possible reference is to Wenceslaus II, King of Bohemia, who bore a coat of arms "Azure three galleys argent". Another suggestion is that the ships are actually the camels used by the Magi, as camels are frequently referred to as "ships of the desert".



Christmas Poinsettias

Help decorate our sanctuary with Christmas poinsettias this Christmas season by purchasing a poinsettia(s) in honor of or in memory of a loved one this Christmas season for a donation of \$10. **Order deadline is December 11**th, get your order in today to ensure your loved one is honored/remembered with a Christmas poinsettia(s) to decorate our historic sanctuary with an array of beauty this Christmas season! Poinsettias will be on display beginning Christmas Eve and through January 1st at which time they can be taken home by donor. Poinsettias not collected by January 7th will be given away. Order forms available in vestibule or contact the Church Office.

Congregational Meeting and Cards, Carols, & Cookies – NEXT SUNDAY

The Zion Consistory announces the winter congregational meeting session to be held <u>December 11th DURING</u> <u>worship</u>. The agenda will consist of discussing and voting on the 2023 budget, and consistory 2023 nominees. All members are encouraged to participate in this important business meeting! Budget proposals can be picked-up for review from the vestibule or online at www.zionreformed.church/winter-mtg. Virtual participants can worship online as usual and connect via ZOOM for the congregational meeting segment. ZOOM info is available online and will be emailed in a separate email the day of the meeting.

Upon completion of the congregational meeting, we invite you to join us for Cookies, Cards, and Carols in the Chapel. Bring a plate of your favorite cookies to share while we sing carols and sign cards.

The following members will continue their currently elected terms: Elders - Kim Ridenour, Michael Jones, Carroll Sager, Tina Shafer, Susie Clutz. Deacons – Rich Owens and Calvin Livingston.

- The following nominees have stepped up to serve on the Consistory from 2023 to 2025, if elected: Megan Shroyer (Deacon), Matt McDonald (Deacon), and Jean Simmons (Deacon).
- The following member(s) desire to renew for a second term, if approved by the congregation: Carol Mooers (Elder).

Don't Forget to Make Your Pledge! – PLEDGE CARDS DUE TODAY

Have you considered how to best serve and support your church home with your time, talents, and treasures? There are many opportunities for you to serve within the various ministry and outreach programs here at the Church (Sunday School teachers, Children's Church, Tuesday's Supper, Altar Guild, Sound Technician, and more. **Pledge Cards are due today.** Drop your pledge card off in the box located in rear of the Chapel. Sign-up sheets are also available to commit to serve. Your kindness is appreciated and helps ensure our continued success in ministry, together.

Christmas Fund Special Mission Offering – December 18th

The UCC Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees. This year, the UCC rejoices at the opening of possibilities for gathering and worshipping together again, as we anticipate the good news of great joy at Christmas. Still, challenges remain for many of our UCC pastoral leaders who continue to experience loss of income as many congregations struggle with budget shortfalls. United Church of Christ congregations and members have blessed the Christmas Fund with their generosity for many years. This year, your care and compassion will be especially appreciated by those servants of the church who are facing a time of need. Thank you!

Our Joys & Concerns

Praying with One Another



Prayer is one of the most important spiritual disciplines of our faith, promoting communicationwith God, and love for God and neighbor. Submit your prayer requests to the church office to be included on the prayer list. Join with us in prayer as we pray for all those in our communities that we have touched or that have touched us and those that simply crossed our paths. Let us also

remember to pray for peace and safety in Ukraine and around the world and to pray with and for our Zion siblings: Eric B., Holly Bell, Naomi Brackett, Jeff Cannedy, Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, Cisco, Kim & Bill Cook, Ronald Curry Sr., Shawnee Forciho, Joanna and Derrick Garber, Carol Garland, Michael Graff Jr. (son of Sue and Mike), Beth Gross, Hart Family, Jim & Donna Hatfield, Hess Family, Sherry Hockman, Lyn Hoffmaster, Jane Hollabaugh, Paul Hose, Ann Kalinoski, Rhondda Kane, Alyssa Kline, Dee Krause, LaBombard Family, Livingston Family, Sofia Martinez, Dee McGlauckin, Mia, Barry & Amy Newlin, Annie Penick, James Penick, Mark Plotner, Price Family, Colleen Rand, David Ridenour, Betsy Roulette, Verna Rosenfield, Claudia Ruth, Norm & Lori Schmidt, Ralph & Scherry Sellers, Staci Shafer, Thelma Summers, Tracy Roach Walls, Eleanor Wible, Eric Wolbring, Robert Yeoman, and the Ziegler Family.

*Prayer Requests remain active on the prayer list for 4-weeks unless renewed.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to **John Dwyer** (Dec 5th) and **Jeanne Stoner** (Dec 10th). Happy Anniversary to **Peggy and Bob Lowman** (Dec 7th)! May this year of your life/lives be filled with happiness as we celebrate the gift of YOU. We hope and pray that this year of your life is filled with an abundance of blessings, and for any times of trial that may arise, may you find the perseverance and strength in Christ to prevail.



Helping Hands Schedule

Lector Today: Jean Simmons Ushers Today: Team 2 *Lector Next Sunday: Missie LaBombard Ushers Next Sunday:* Team 3



Tuesday's Supper & 1-Stop Shop – December 6th from 5-6:30pm (Fellowship Hall)

Service Workers Team Meeting – December 7th at 1:30pm

Properties Team Meeting – December 7th at 4:30pm (ZOOM/Burhans Rm)

Thursday Lunch Bunch – December 8th at 11:30am (ZOOM/Burhans Rm) More Info: www.zionreformed.church/thursday

Staff Team Meeting – December 8th at 12:30pm (Burhans Rm)

Executive Team Meeting – December 8th at 2pm (ZOOM/Burhans Rm)

Choir Practice – December 8th at 4pm (Chapel)

Downtown Hagerstown 4-H Club – December 8th at 4:30pm (Burhans Room) Contact Kim Ridenour for more information at miskim@myactv.net.

> **Book Club** – December 9th at 7pm (Sue Graff's/ZOOM) More Info: www.zionreformed.church/bookclub

International Human Rights Day – December 10th

Big and small, human rights are for all! Let us all come together to celebrate human rights for all: freedom, peace, equality, dignity, hope, love, education, prosperity, justice, food, religion, speech, and safety as the world commemorates the universal declaration of human rights which was adopted and proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1948 and is yet to be realized for all. Learn about Human Right's Day 2022 and how to get involved at www.un.org/en/observances/human-rights-day.



Year after Year, Your Gift Brings Joy

The Advent season of waiting and watching is also a season of preparing. Our generosity prepares the way for hope, peace, justice, and community. United Church of Christ retired clergy, servants of the church, have spent lifetimes baptizing and blessing, teaching and preaching, marrying and burying, comforting and empowering God's people. Now, through the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross, we have the opportunity to sustain and empower them.

Our gifts of gratitude and love bring hope to the hopeless, joy to the sorrowful, and deep love to those who have ministered in God's love for so long. By giving generously to the Christmas Fund, we will help retired clergy, church staff, and their families to pay bills, maintain health insurance, and meet emergency needs. Year after year, our gifts make a difference, easing the anxiety of constant financial worries.

Last year, the Christmas Fund, administered by the Pension Boards of the United Church of Christ, provided over \$1.6 million in pension and health benefits supplementation, emergency grants, and thank-you checks to retired servants of the church and their families. Every cent of that money came from the pockets of people like you. Please give as generously as you are able this year!

In 2021, gifts to the Christmas Fund enabled:

- Monthly pension supplementation for 231 retired clergy and lay employees (\$1,104,479)
- Health benefits supplementation for 87 retired clergy and lay employees (\$177,600)
- Emergency grants for 53 individuals and families (\$150,338)
- Christmas "Thank You" gift checks to 509 retired clergy and lay employees (\$254,000)



throughout this Advent and Christmas Seasons

Advent 1 (hope) – November Nov 27th, 11am

Advent 2 (peace) – December 4th, 11am

Advent 3 (joy) – December 11th, 11am Congregational Meeting During Worship. Cookies, Cards, and Carols in Chapel after Worship.

Advent 4 (love) – December 18th, 11am

Longest Night Service – December 21st, 6pm

Christmas Eve Service – December 24th, 7pm

Christmas Day: December 25th, Any Convenient Time for You

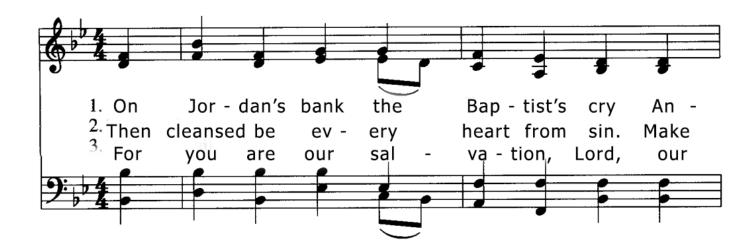
Join us virtually for Christmas Day as we worship with the Central Atlantic Conference at www.zionreformed.church/worshiplive. Service will be available as early as 9am and available at any time convenient for you and your family to worship.

1st Sunday after Christmas Day (New Year's Day) – January 1st, 11am

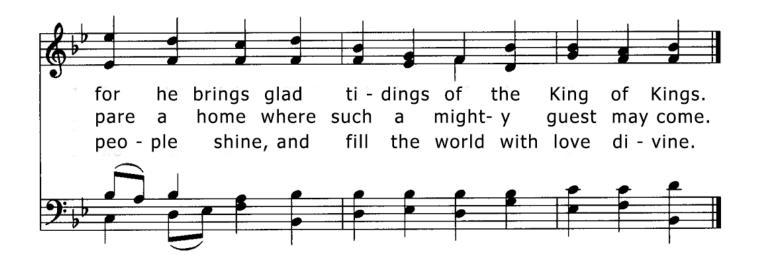
All Services available virtually at www.zionreformed.church/worshiplive and in-person in the sanctuary except Christmas Day which is available virtually only with no in-person worship or Sunday School classes.

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

The Hymnal #95 (Red Hymnal)







SERVICE CREDITS

©Zion Reformed United Church of Christ, All Rights Reserved. CCLI Copyright License: 1759770 | CCLI Streaming License: 20256684 OneLicense Annual License with Podcasting License: A-740616 Web: www.zionreformed.church | Email: zionrucc@myactv.net

Gathering Music: "*Now Come, Savior of the Gentiles (Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland)" (BWV 659)* – One License Song# 122212 – Composed by Johann Sebastian Bach (1748), ©1933 by Oliver Ditson Company. Based on the hymn by Martin Luther in 1533, ©Public Domain. Performed by C.M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. *Source(s): IMSLP (imslp.org).

Prelude to Worship: "*Let There Be Peace on Earth*" – One License Song# 80436 – Tune and lyrics by Jill Jackson and Sy Miller, ©1955, 1983 by Jan-Lee Music. Performed by C.M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. *Source(s): Hymnary (hymnary.org).

Opening Hymn: "*Watcher, Tell Us of the Night"* – CCLI Song# 2222390 – Tune, "*St. George's Windsor"* by George J. Elvey (1856), ©Public Domain. Lyrics by John Bowring (1825), ©Public Domain. Performed by C.M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC. *Source(s): Hymnary (Black #103) (hymnary.org).

Advent Candle Choral Response: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" – CCLI Song# 27879 – Tune, "St. Louis" by Lewis H. Redner (1868), ©Public Domain. Lyrics by Phillips Brooks (1868), ©Public Domain. Performed by C.M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. *Source(s): Hymnary (Red #108 – V3) (hymnary.org).

Choral Anthem: "*Take My Life and Let It Be*" – CCLI Song# 757187 – Tune, "*St. Bees*" by John Bacchus Dykes (1862), ©Public Domain. Lyrics by Frances R. Havergal, ©Public Domain. Performed by the Zion Choir (vocals), C.M. Moblard (pianist), and led by Byron L. Stay (Choir Director) of Zion Reformed UCC, all rights reserved. *Source(s): Hymnary (lyrics) and Hymnary (tune) (hymnary.org).

Choral Response: "O Come All Ye Faithful" – CCLI Song# 2648015 – Tune, "Adeste Fideles" by John Francis Wade (1711-1786), ©Public Domain. Lyrics attributed to John Francis Wade (1711-1786) and translated by Frederick Oakeley (1841). Performed by C.M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. *Source(s): Hymnary (Red #112 - Refrain) (hymnary.org).

Offertory Music: "*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* – XXXXXX – Setting by Benjamin Kolodziej, ©2017 by Concordia Publishing House. Based on the tune, "*Picardy*", a 17th century French carol by Unknown, and lyrics paraphrased by Gerard Moultrie (1864), ©Public Domain. Performed by C.M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. *Source(s): Concordia (cph.org).

Offertory Response: "*In the Bleak Midwinter* – One License Song# 97913 – Tune, "*Cranham*" by Gustav Holst (1906), ©Public Domain. Lyrics by Christina G. Rossetti (1872), ©Public Domain. Lyrics altered by *The New Century Hymnal*, ©1995 by The Pilgrim Press. Performed by C.M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. *Source(s): Hymnary (NCH #128 – V4) (hymnary.org).

Koinonia Hymn: "*It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*" – CCLI Song# 31078 – Tune: "*Carol*" by Richard S. Willis (1850), ©Public Domain. Lyrics by Edmund H. Sears (1849), ©Public Domain. Lyric alterations by *The New Century Hymnal*, ©1995 by The Pilgrim Press. Performed by C.M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. *Source(s): Hymnary (NCH Hymnal #131) (hymnary.org).

Communion Music: Medley of Peace - Performed by C.M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

"*Sunshine in My Soul*" – One License Song# 1028688 – Arranged by Mark Hayes, ©2014 by Lorenz Publishing Co., a division of the Lorenz Corporation. Based on the tune setting, "*Sunshine*" by John R. Sweeney (1887) with lyrics by E.E. Hewitt (1851-1920), ©Public Domain. *Source(s): Lorenz (lorenz.com) and Hymnary (hymnary.org).

"*Since Jesus Came Into My Heart*" – CCLI Song# 7022305 – Arranged by Mark Hayes, ©2014 by Lorenz Publishing Co., a division of the Lorenz Corporation. Based on the tune setting, "*McDaniel*" by Charles H. Gabriel (1914) with lyrics by Rufus H. McDaniel (1914), ©Public Domain. *Source(s): Lorenz (lorenz.org) and Hymnary (hymnary.org).

Closing Hymn: "*On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*" – CCLI Song# 4490065 – Tune: "*Winchester New*" by Unknown, ©Public Domain. Lyrics by Charles Coffin (1736), translated by John Chandler (1837), ©Public Domain. Performed by C.M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. *Source(s): Hymnary (Insert) (hymnary.org).

Prelude to Service: "*I Saw Three Ships"* – XXXXXX – Setting by Richard Elliott (1957-Present), ©2007 by Richard L. Elliott. Mr. Elliott is the Principal Tabernacle Organist for the LDS Church and a native of Baltimore, MD. Based on the traditional English Christmas carol from the 17th-century. Performed by C.M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. *Source(s): Hymnary (hymnary.org).

Liturgy: Adapted by Rev. Katie Pencik from UCC "Worship Ways" (ucc.org/worship-way)

Scriptures: Scripture quotations are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition, ©2021 by the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.



Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

201 North Potomac Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740 Office Hours: 9 -12:00, Monday through Friday Facebook: @ZionRUCC | YouTube: Zion Reformed UCC Web: www.zionreformed.church Email: zionrucc@myactv.net Phone: 301.739.7244

6

Rev Katie Penick, Interim Minister Phone: 240.418.8028 | Email: pastorkt143@gmail.com

Rae Smith, Administrative Assistant Phone: 301.739.7244 | Email: zionrucc@myactv.net

Kim Ridenour, Consistory President Phone: 240.313.0709 | Email: miskim@myactv.net

Michael Jones, Multimedia & Technology Coordinator/Consistory VP Phone: 240.883.4544 | Email: connectionssixeight@gmail.com

Brandon Hackett, Multimedia Specialist

Claire-Marie Moblard, Director of Music / Organist

Byron L. Stay, Choir Director