



**Restored**

**Zion United Church of Christ**  
**The Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
**March 19, 2023**

\*Stand in body or spirit.

*(Join in speaking aloud the **bolded** portions.)*

**Prelude**

**Coming Together to Share the Light**

**Greeting & Proclamation**

*"Do you believe in God without any doubt?"*

*"I believe in God with all my doubts."*

Madeleine L'Engle, 20th Century

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Call to Sunday Celebration**

Once you lived in darkness.

**Now the light of God has shone upon us.**

Find what is pleasing to God and follow God's ways.

**The acts of darkness are left behind as we journey to God's light.**

Thanks be to God who gives us the light.

**Open our eyes and our hearts to receive your light of salvation.**

**Lenten Candle Liturgy**

**The Prayer of Jesus**

*(Please note the updated language and wording we will be using for this morning.*

*Your thoughts and comments will be greatly appreciated. ~ Pastor Craig)*

**Our Father in heaven, holy is your name.  
Your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven. Give us today the  
bread we need. Forgive us our sins as  
we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver  
us from evil. For the kingdom, the  
power, and the glory are yours now and  
forever. Amen.**

### **A Lesson for All Ages**

**\*Hymn of Worship #254** *"Breathe on Me,  
Breath of God"*

### **Prayer for Our Humanity**

... In your light, there is healing and hope,  
restoration, and transformation.

**Forgive our lack of faith and our  
fearfulness, O Lord. Give us courage to  
reach out to the light and accept its  
healing rays. May our lives be  
transformed by your mercy, for we pray  
this in Jesus' Name.**

*Silence for Reflection*

### **Assurance of Pardon**

... and be transformed by its healing mercies.

**Thanks be to God! AMEN.**

### **Message in Music**

**First Scripture Lesson** 1 Samuel 16:1-13

**Psalter #734 w/R** *Psalm 23*

**\*Gospel Lesson**

John 9: 1-3, 6-9,  
13-17, 25, 33-34

**Meditation**

Pastor Craig

**\*Hymn of Reflection # 548:** *"The Old Rugged Cross"*

**Invitation to Joyful Giving**

**Offertory**

**\*Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father Son, and Holy Ghost.*

**\*Sung Prayer of Dedication**

*Spirit of Truth, of Love, of Power.  
We bring ourselves as gifts to Thee.  
Oh bind our hearts this sacred hour;  
In faith and hope and charity. AMEN.*

**Sharing Our Joys & Concerns**

**A Prayer for Sunday**

**\*Closing Hymn #227:** *"In the Garden"*

**Benediction**

**Bring Light out into the World**

**Postlude**

## **We Focus on Our Life Together...**

Thank you for choosing to worship with us this morning. No matter who or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Please join us downstairs in The Gathering Place for refreshments and fellowship between services.

**Leader:** Pastor Craig Sparks

**Music Director:** Thad Paulhamus (9:30)

**Musician:** Clinton Adams (11:00)

**Message in Music:** Zion Chancel Choir

## **Looking Ahead at Zion...**

**26:** Worship with Pastor Craig (9:30 & 11 am)

**Mondays:** Turner Seniors (10 am) Lower Hall

Busy Hands Crafters (10 am) Upper Hall

**Tuesdays:** Bible Study (6 pm) Gathering Place

Choir Rehearsal (7 pm) Church

Narcotics Anonymous (7 pm) Lower Hall

**Wednesdays:** Narcotics Anonymous (7 pm)

## **In Our Thoughts and Prayers...**

Kay Arnold, Kathy & Jim Baker, Mary Ann Bantz, Bryan Barbalace, Kevin Barbalace, Les & Vivian Bowser, Les Bowser Jr, Casey Brewer, Edward Brushmiller, Walt Clawson, Betty Cornes, Shirley Dalgo, Tim Dalgo Jr., Al Dufour, Joan Edwards\*, Cliff & Ellie Elgin and the whole Elgin family, Gloria Jean Golden, Wayne Goodwill, Tom and the whole Hayman family, Marie Kachinski, Henry & Gerri Krotee, Janice Lane, Barbara Langenfelder\*, John Langenfelder, Ruth Langenfelder\*, Donald & Tee Legere, Scott Lein, Henrietta Loveland, Bob & Barb

Makin, Patricia Moxham, Joyce Murphy, Gloria Nethkin, Catherine Pardo\*, Pastor Bob & Barbara Ridenour, Joann Ringsdorf, Shirley Ritter\*, Pat Robinette, Audrey Ruby, Carol Shrader, Damien Stipek, Dina Thomakos, Doris Wengler, Fred Wengler, Frank Winter, Nancy Zaharis, service men & women, Ukraine, Peace on Earth. (\*Shut-ins)

### **Weekly Bible Study...**

Please join us for Bible Study every Tuesday from 6 to 7 p.m. in "The Gathering Place" (located in the church basement). Each week is a stand-alone session and will focus on a different scripture reading, feel free to attend whenever you are available. All are welcome, we hope to see you this Tuesday evening!

### **Busy Hands Crafters...**

Looking for something fun to do on a Monday morning? Zion's new "Busy Hands Crafters" group might be just the thing! Come join us on Mondays from 10 am – noon in the Upper Hall. If you can cut and paste or draw a line with a ruler... you can craft! All are welcome!

### **Helping Others...**

We are currently collecting can tabs for Ronald McDonald House ... any type or color. The proceeds go to purchase fuel for their shuttle buses. We are also collecting the white plastic caps from bottled water. These are used in the making of prosthesis for artificial limbs. There are cans in the Narthex for your white or clear bottle caps & metal can tabs.

## **Easter Lilies & Memorials...**

Forms are available in the Narthex and Jane Anderson will be in the Gathering Place between services to assist you in placing your order. You may also call Jane at (410) 598-2110. The cost per plant is \$18.00 and must be submitted by March 24<sup>th</sup>. The deadline for monetary memorial donations will be Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. Please remember that payment is due at the time of submission. All Memorials will be printed in the Easter Sunday Bulletin and May Messenger. Thank you!



Zion's OGHS offering for 2023 will be collected and dedicated next Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> during both services. Envelopes are available in the Narthex.

We can make a difference. We do make a difference. Our generosity makes all the difference.

Your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing provide immediate aid and long-term support to people experiencing hunger, thirst disaster, or crisis in the world.

**The opportunity is now... it's time to share!**

# SCOUT CABIN RESTORATION PROJECT

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



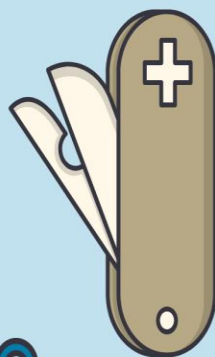
## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

- REPLACING DECOMPOSING LOGS ON CABIN'S REAR WALL
- LINING AND POINT UP CHIMNEY FOR USE AS A HEAT SOURCE
- UPGRADING ELECTRICAL SYSTEM
- REMOVING BROKEN FURNACE/OIL STORAGE TANK
- INSTALLING NEW GUTTERS AND RAINSPOUTS



TO DONATE  
SCAN HERE!

[WWW.ZIONUCCMD.COM/CABIN](http://WWW.ZIONUCCMD.COM/CABIN)





# *He is Risen!*

## **Holy Week Schedule 2023**

### **Palm Sunday**

Sun., April 2nd - 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.

### **Maundy Thursday**

Thur., April 6th - 7:00 p.m.

### **Good Friday**

Fri., April 7th - 7:00 p.m.

### **Easter Sunday**

Sun., April 9th - 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.

**UCC MISSION MOMENT**  
**March 19, 2023**  
**Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
**John 9:1-41 Restored**  
***One Great Hour of Sharing***

For many churches, generations of givers have placed their tithe to the church in a basket or plate that is passed during worship. Usually taking place toward the end of the worship service, the receiving of the offering in this way was both practical and also symbolic of the gifts that each congregation member has to offer. In the past couple of years, spurred by pandemic changes, many congregations have made a shift from receiving the offering in person to receiving it online or virtually. This shift in giving is the tip of the iceberg, a symbol of all the changes that have visited all churches in these unprecedented times.

In today's story, Jesus' healing of a man blind from birth is met with skepticism and uncertainty by those who have known the man. They are not prepared for this change and may feel ill equipped to handle it. Like the townspeople, you may feel unready for change. And yet, you have been living with and adapting through change as it happens both without and within.

In your lifetime, there has been nearly unfathomable change in the world. Borders have opened and closed, names of countries have changed, allies have banded together to make war on other nations, and then turned on one another,

and the English language has added hundreds of new words to the dictionary. (Before 2020, had you ever heard or used the word “superspreader” before?)

And that doesn’t even count the individual changes that you have adapted to in your lifetime. You have weathered and even thrived through changes in self-understanding, knowledge, relationships, emotional landscape, climate, education, fortune, health, travels, travails, employment status, living arrangements, and multiple television remotes with their array of mysterious black on black buttons.

You may push back against change or wish it would not come so fast, but in fact your whole life has been preparing you for the changes we are experiencing now. Whether your giving is the “old” way in a passed plate, or a “new” way through a computer terminal, you have everything you need to weather the changes around you.

*One Great Hour of Sharing®* is one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Wider Church Ministries.

<https://www.ucc.org/giving/ways-to-give/our-churchs-wider-mission/one-great-hour-of-sharing/>

\*Note: Our OGHS offering for 2023 will be collected and dedicated next Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> during both services. Envelopes are available in the Narthex. Please consider supporting this important mission!

## **Zion UCC Church Staff**

Ministers	All members of Zion UCC
Craig S. Sparks	Pastor 443-896-6815 Email: <i>pastor@zionuccmd.com</i>
Joan Jordan	Council President (GR) 443-791-7344 Email: <i>doosmom2@gmail.com</i>
Linda Doughty	Consistory President (PH) 443-653-7920 Email: <i>tea_lady2@yahoo.com</i>
Jane Anderson	Congregational Care 410-598-2110 Email: <i>janeanderson8@comcast.net</i>
Thad Paulhamus	Music Director 443-610-7844
Clinton Adams	Musician
Rev. C. Larry Fisher, Rev. Hugh Nash	Pastor Emeriti

### **Administrative Office: 410-687-0980**

- \* Press 1 to leave voicemail message
- \* Press 2 for Pastoral Services
- \* Press 3 to contact Council President
- \* Press 4 to contact Cemetery
- \* Press 6 to contact Congregational Care

**Live worship** service held each Sunday at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary as well as live streamed on our website.

**Pastor Craig** will be in the office on Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. The phone and email continue to be monitored, and all incoming mail is processed daily. For your convenience, you may leave envelopes or correspondence in the locked mailbox on the office porch. Messengers, Bulletins, and Upper Room Devotionals are also available.

**If you require pastoral services**, please call the church office, and press #2; email to *pastor@zionuccmd.com* or call Pastor Craig directly at 443-896-6815.

**Zion United Church of Christ**  
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**Website: [www.zionuccmd.com](http://www.zionuccmd.com)**  
**Facebook: [www.facebook.com/zionuccmd](http://www.facebook.com/zionuccmd)**