
ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Glenn Danz, Pastor & Teacher
Rev. Daniel Schowalter, Pastor Emeritus
Peggy Just, Minister of Music
Greeters: Larry & Gail Bremer
Liturgist: Chris Sikowski
Crib Room: Gail Wilbert

January 22, 2012

Third Sunday after Epiphany/Ecumenical Sunday

10:15 am

*Childcare is available for children age 4 and under. Please contact any usher for assistance.
Individual Hearing Aids and large print bulletins are available upon request from the ushers.
We request that cell phones be turned off upon entering God's holy Sanctuary.
Flash photography is not permitted during worship.*

Gathering in God's Presence

****(Indicates all who are able are invited to stand)***

PRELUDE: "Be Not Afraid" (Robert J. Dufford)

FOR SILENT REFLECTION: *"When you love instead of kill, time grows long. When you preserve and create instead of use and destroy, time grows full. And when you give yourself to time, yes, when you open yourself to each moment—not avoiding either suffering or joy—then time is no time. Then time is forever time. Then you will be a stranger to nothing and to no one. Then time will turn your shimmering and fleeting life into love. You will be part of the Mystery that does not cease." ~Gunilla Norris*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Please sign & pass the Friendship Folders that are at the end of each pew during this time.)*

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (adapted from Psalm 62:5-12)

One: For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from God.

Many: God alone is our rock and our salvation.

One: On God rests our deliverance and our honor.

Many: God is our mighty rock and our refuge.

One: Trust in God at all times, O people;

pour out your hearts before God; who is a refuge for us.

Many: Those of low estate are but a breath, those of high estate

are a delusion; they are together lighter than a breath.

One: If riches increase, set not your heart on them.

Once God has spoken: twice have I heard this:

**Many: That all power belongs to God, and that to you,
O God, belongs steadfast love.**

One: Let us worship together with humble hearts
and a spirit of thanksgiving!

***GATHERING PRAYER** *(in unison)*

We await your message, God of all places and times. Sometimes we do not like what we hear, but we know we need to listen. Your message is inclusive and fair, while we like to make distinctions that favor us and our friends. You call us out of our comfort zones to do new things and try better ways. You direct us to reach out to people with whom we seem to have little in common. Speak your truth to us in this service so we can carry it to the places where you want us to go, to the people you are eager to reach. Amen.

***GATHERING SONG: #69 "Standing on the Promises"**

(The Congregation may be seated...)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Sovereign God, we reluctantly confess that we have installed our own gods in our lives. They take our time. They use our resources. They exact from us care and devotion. We do not like to hear that our way of life is endangered. Yet we sometimes realize that innocent steps into self-indulgence are really deliberate strides away from you. We hear distant echoes of warning and judgment. O God, we want to return to you before it is too late. We repent of everything in our lives that cuts us off from you. Hear our prayer. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: The One who calls us to this place

calls us to reconciliation through grace.

God will not deny a repentant heart or an open spirit.

Know that you are forgiven and walk in the new Way
that is made known to you in God's love.

Many: Thanks be to God!

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

One: May the peace of Christ be with you now and always.

Many: And also with you.

One: Please take a moment to share the Peace of Christ with your neighbors and
welcome the guests who are with us this morning.

Listening for God's Word

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Jonah 3:1-5, 10 (page 655)
"Jonah Goes to Nineveh"
1 Corinthians 7:29-31 (page 810)
"The Time is Short"
Mark 1:14-20 (page 707)
"The Calling of the First Disciples"

KEEPING FAITH WITH OUR CHILDREN

REFLECTIONS ON THE SCRIPTURES: "No Time" Pastor Glenn Danz

SERVANT SONG: "We are Called" (see page 11)

A TIME OF SILENT PRAYER

LITANY FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

(adapted from the Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute)

One: In Christ, God reconciled the world and entrusted the message of
reconciliation to us. As ambassadors for Christ's reconciliation,
we present our petitions to God. (2 Cor. 5:19)

**Many: When we open the Bible together, no matter our Christian
tradition, when we pray together in spite of our different
sensibilities:**

One: Everything becomes new again and makes visible our unity.
Many: When we help build good relations among Jews, Christians and Muslims, when we tear down the wall of indifference and hatred:

One: Everything becomes new again and makes visible our unity.
Many: When we work for justice and solidarity, when we move from fear to confidence:

One: Everything becomes new again and makes visible our unity.
Many: When we are attentive to the needs of grieving families, of the poor, the hopeless and all who suffer in the name of our Lord:

One: Everything becomes new again and makes visible our unity.
Many: When our churches witness to a future of building closer ties to each other in the service of the Gospel in the world:

One: Everything becomes new again and makes visible our unity.
Many: We share much in common, the Word of God, the teaching of the Apostles, and one baptism.

One: We still cannot share in the one Eucharist.
When your Spirit leads us to full visible communion:
Many: Everything becomes new again and makes visible our unity.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (saying "debts")

Responding to God's Call

MISSION MOMENT: January 29 Blanket Sunday special offering

REDEDICATING OUR LIVES AND OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY: "Freely, Freely" (Carol Owens)

The Chancel Choir

***SONG OF THANKSGIVING**

Tune: "Festal Song"

Arise, your light is come!

The Spirit's call obey;

**Show forth the glory of your God
which shines on you today!**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*in unison*)**

**May these gifts, given to these ministries of grace,
be a blessing to friends and strangers,
those like us and those not,
those deserving and those not,
for in this way the love of God reaches all of God's beloved.
Amen.**

Carrying the Spirit With Us

***SENDING SONG: "God of Change and Glory" (see pages 9 & 10)**

***COMMISSION & BLESSING**

One: God sends us out into the world with Good News.
God directs us to warn and to give assurance.

**Many: We are disciples of Jesus Christ.
We have been commissioned and blessed.**

One: We go out as people who know our own weakness.
We rise above our shortcoming in the strength Christ gives.

**Many: We will trust in God at all times.
We will speak God's truth in love.**

One: The reign of God is drawing near to us.

Many: It can be realized in our lives here and now.

One: Now may the One who is faithful to all be with us all
as we depart this blessed place.
May we be a blessing to every person we meet,
until we meet again.

***POSTLUDE: "Praise to the Lord" (Emeurten Gesangbuch)**

*****ENTER TO WORSHIP, DEPART TO SERVE*****

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers are donated by Arnie & Ellen Luhm in celebration of their 65th wedding anniversary.

Zion UCC Epiphany Worship & Ministry Highlights

- Sunday, January 22, 9 am Sunday School; 10:15 am worship
- Sunday, January 29, 10:15 am worship with holy communion and Blanket Sunday special offering; 4-6 pm Confirmation Class
- Sunday, February 5, 10:15 am worship w/ Souper Bowl of Caring special offering.
- Sunday, February 19, 10:15 am, Youth Sunday worship service; 11:30 am Congregational Meeting
- Wednesday, February 22, 7:00 pm, Ash Wednesday worship with imposition of ashes and holy communion

January 29 Blanket Sunday

January 29 is blanket Sunday. Blanket Sunday is a special mission opportunity that is supported by 8,000 congregations and groups across the U.S. Blanket Sunday is a way to help people in need around the world, including the U.S. Do you have a favorite blanket? Does it have a name? Let me tell you about a boy whose favorite blanket is called Meenah. He's had it since he was a baby and he still loves it years later. Its touch, smell and color comfort him and remind him that he is loved dearly.

Blankets can do that for us – provide warmth and a sense of caring. That's why we will be taking up an offering for blankets. Some boys and girls have a very hard life because they have lost their homes, either because of a natural disaster or because of a war. Without their homes or most of their possessions just a blanket can mean so much. Blankets can provide warmth when the nights are cold or they can be folded to help carry precious belongings or they can make a tent.

Every \$5.00 donation will purchase a blanket through CWS (Church World Service). Our goal is to purchase 200 blankets (a total of \$1,000.00). Envelopes will be provided in the bulletins or you can put your gift in an envelope and mark it "BLANKETS". Please make all checks payable to Zion United Church of Christ. Thank you for your support and generosity to this very worthwhile mission.

~The Mission Committee

January Song of the Month

Our January song of the month, "We Are Called," has a strong gospel feel as it beckons us to live in the Light with Justice and Love, as we Serve one another walking humbly with God. It was written by David Haas, a resident of Minnesota, serving in numerous musical capacities and whose works are sung and prayed throughout the world and appear in hymnals of many Christian denominations and a wide variety of languages.

Upcoming Scrip Dates

There will be no Scrip orders or delivery on January 22 and January 29. Scrip orders placed today will be delivered on February 5. If you have any questions or concerns, please see Shannon Krause after service. Thank you for your understanding, and for your support of Zion UCC through the Scrip Program.

2012 Flowers & Bulletins

The sign-up sheet for flowers and bulletins in 2012 has been posted. Please sign up for dates that you would like to contribute for these items. Thank you!

Crib Room

Please sign up and help in the Crib Room. The sheet is on the bulletin board across from the office. There are open dates for the beginning of 2012. Thanks from the CE committee.

2012 Envelopes

Please remember to pick up your 2012 envelopes in the lobby.

The attendance last Sunday, January 15, was 54, and the offering was \$687.

Next Week's Scripture Readings: Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28. Next Sunday, January 29, is the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany, Blanket Sunday, and Communion Sunday.

Please remember with your prayers, cards, and calls:

- *Arline Anich, recovering from recent hospitalization
- *Dena Zylka & Brian Fritzemeier, married here yesterday
- *Steve Sklarski, recovering from knee surgery
- *Elaine Adams, recovering from Jan. 19 knee surgery at Wheaton Franciscan Hospital in Oak Creek
- *Walter Gillian
- *Violette Goeltzer, in Port Washington
- *Irene Lenhardt, recovering from recent cataract surgery
- *Lorraine Bomey
- *Dorothy Dudovick, in Chicago
- *Audrey Theis
- *Steven Theis, in Watertown
- *Bill Tito, in St. Francis

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE Week of January 29, 2012

Greeters: Judy Karczewski	Crib Room: Chris & Sophie Sikowski
Liturgist: Dale Sikowski	Ushers: Steve Szklarski, Ken Kalota, Judy Karczewski, Roger Funk
Flowers: Vern & Lois Salzbrenner	Bulletins: Vern & Lois Salzbrenner Bulletin Assembly (Feb. 2): Delores Urban

THIS WEEK AT ZION

Sunday, 1/22/12	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:15 am	Worship
Monday, 1/23/12	7:00 pm	Handbells
Tuesday, 1/24/12		
Wednesday, 1/25/12		
Thursday, 1/26/12	7:00 pm	Choir
Friday, 1/27/12		
Saturday, 1/28/12		



January Birthdays

January 1 Elaine Adams
January 11 Grace LaRayne
January 11 Donald Dahms
January 14 Jay Kabelowsky
January 15 Nancy Burgess
January 17 Laura Wall
January 17 Michelle Wiegele
January 18 Lois Rohleder
January 19 Katie Kabelowsky
January 19 Annie Griebenow
January 19 Karen Ehlert
January 22 Steven Szklarski
January 23 Kevin Haass
January 24 Robert Timmler
January 29 Tiffany Boyer
January 30 James Steffen
January 31 Charles Zuege

January Anniversaries

January 7 Dick & Chris Blaha
January 25 Arnie & Ellen Luhm
January 26 Kurt & Christine Susek

A Bible FAQ
What is the Bible?

There is more than one way to answer this question! A good place to start may be to say that the Bible is a library. A literal meaning of the word "bible" is "book of books." It is 66 books for Protestants, 73 for Catholics. It divides into the 39 books of the Old Testament, which tell the story of God's dealings with Israel, and the 27 books of the New Testament, which tell the story of Jesus and the church that followed him.

To call the Bible "a library" means that there different types of literature between its two covers. There is drama, history, law code, song, poetry, gospels, parables, letters and more. Key to using the Bible is knowing what part of the library you are in or what type of literature you are hearing or reading.

Even more importantly, a library is defined by its owner and their purpose. This library is the library of Israel and the Church. It reminds Jews and Christians who they are and whose they are.

God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

