

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 19, 2023

10:15 a.m.

(* all who are able, please stand.)

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP *God So Loved the World*

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD

OPENING SENTENCES

L: We are at the midpoint of Lent.

P: **We journey with Christ toward the cross.**

L: All the while looking beyond the cross to Easter.

P: **We know that by the power of God's love there is victory of light over darkness and life over death.**

L: Ages and generations of saints before us have proclaimed this Good News.

L: **Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that cling so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.**

*HYMN *Wonderful Words of Life*

*OPENING PRAYER

God, you know our hearts. You created our innermost being, you know our deepest desires, fears and worries. Help us to journey during this Lenten season into a new awareness of your presence in our lives. Save us from our own temptations, so that we may more freely follow you. We pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

ANTHEM *We Remember*

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MOMENTS

GOD'S WORD FOR US

GOSPEL READING John 9:1-25

MESSAGE *Asking the Right Questions*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE The Family of Debra Noonan, Jason, Paul, Jose, Leslie, Ray Mrella, The family of Marian Benedict, Mary, Carol, Evie, Doug & Liz, Shelly Garncarz, Family of Mike Debo, Rusty & Mary Thies, Connie Leader, The Rogel family, Tom Kelly, Barb, Dixie Tonozzi, Ron Narczewski, Nadine Damer, Debbie, Disaster victims, Mary Fiedler, Andy Gower Aubrey Goff, Ayden Arnold, Shirley Lopeman, Mike Schoening, Neil Tipton, People of Ukraine, Jim L., Keisha Smith, Bob & Holly Antkowiak, Eleanor Johnson & family, Carol Dean, Darrell, Joe Smith, Marilyn Haslam, Bill Vlastnik, Kathy Radtke, Alice Guenther, Paul Lewis, Jean Spayer, Ron Hudkins, Mrs. Lucas.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

PRAYER RESPONSE *Hear Our Prayer, O Lord*

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY

RESPONSE *All Things Are Yours!*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION **We give thanks, O God, for all that you have given us. Pour out your blessing on these tithes and offerings, that they might be a source of blessing in our church, in our community, and in our world. We offer this prayer in the name of the Creator, the Christ and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

*HYMN *Blessed Be the Tie that Binds*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Announcements

New Prayer Requests

- Jason, for health
- Paul, for health
- Jose, for health
- Leslie, for health
- Continuing prayers for Evie and Mary, for health
- The Family of Debra Noonan

Our deepest condolences go out to the family of Debra Noonan. Debra passed away March 13, 2023. Services were held Friday, March 17th with Pastor Alex officiating.

Memorials for Marian Benedict were given by Barbara & Ed Lischewski, Lori & Dick Fiocchi, Larry & Mary Hiester, Melissa & Carol Mancini, LeeAnn Hannigan, Bill Martuzzo & Marj Verplatse, Bob & Holly Antkowiak, Shirley & son Bill Janz, Judy Zera, Jeanie & Jim Kozak, Alice & Dick Tostovarsnik, Jackie & Jim Gergovich, Sandra Blanco, Zion Women's Guild, Judith Smith, Dona Ostermeyer, Lori Janko Wilke, Anonymous, Roger & Becky Perkins, Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Stevenson, and Peter & Mary Kay Herbert.

***If you would like to make an announcement during worship, please request a microphone. Thank you!**

The Church Council will meet tomorrow, March 20th at 7:00pm.

CREW (Some churches call it Sunday School but that's no fun!)

Kids get together at 9am on Sundays in the East Wing. If you're in Kindergarten- 5th grade, this is for you! Ask your parents to bring you. It's fun!

Listen to Pastor Alex at 8:25 every Sunday morning on 103.9 **WLPO**. Tell your friends!

Join us for refreshments after worship! If you would like to sign up to provide coffee fellowship there is a sign-up sheet in fellowship hall or contact the church office.

Live Life (Pre and Post Transplant Support Group) will meet the second Monday of each month at 6:30pm at Zion UCC.

The Compassionate Friends Group will be meeting at Zion every fourth Thursday at 6:30pm beginning February 23rd. This meeting is

open to any parent who has lost a child. Please contact the church office for information.

Ecumenical Lenten Services

Wednesdays at 7:00pm during Lent.

The host church will provide coffee fellowship beginning at 6:00pm

March 22: Trinity UCC

March 29: Spring Valley UCC, Pastor Alex preaching

Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday...7:00pm... Zion UCC

Good Friday.....Noon.....DePue UCC

Easter Sunday.....10:15am.. Zion UCC

**Refreshments will not be served during Holy Week*

Music Sunday, when Zion celebrates God's gift of music to us, will be April 30th. This is the worship service that praises God through all types of music and all levels of ability. In addition to the choir, we celebrate the gifts of music given to all who perform music at any level. Anyone who wants to participate should contact Jim Greening or the church office by April 23rd. Let's celebrate God's gift of music and share it with others!

The I. V. Food Pantry and PADS are in need of donations.

HELP THE HOMELESS At Peru **PADS** shelter, the need is great in these difficult times. The number of people residing at the shelter is at an all-time high, with many being children. Zion UCC congregation is once again supplying one meal a month on the fourth Tuesday. We have a delicious dinner prepared and delivered to PADS each month through May. Can you help with a donation to help cover the costs? If you would like to help, you can place a check in the offering. Be sure to note on the check that it's for PADS. Or you can give online by going to the online giving site and use the drop down menu to click on "Give to PADS meals". Thank you for helping feed people in need in the Illinois Valley.

You can donate to Zion by Text to (815)393-1954

Enter the amount you want to give to Zion in the Text box and send. If it the first time you are giving by text you will be prompted to set up your giving method (credit card or bank account).

Copies of the hymns are available in the Narthex.

Copies of "These Days" daily devotions are available in fellowship hall. **New publication available!*

Granville UCC will hold a Pork Chop Dinner Sunday, April 2
11:30am-1:30pm. The cost is \$12-\$14. The address is 103 N. Church
St., Granville.

Mendota Area Senior Services will be holding a Pork Chop BBQ on
April 5th at Mendota Civic Center from 4:30-7:00. Contact info: (815)
539-9673. Proceeds benefit MASS.

Zion United Church of Christ 6 th & Grant Streets, Peru, IL Follow us on Facebook: Zion UCC, Peru, IL office@zionperu.org 1-815-223-2671 www.zionperu.org	
Ministers	Members of the Congregation
Pastor	Pastor Alex Garncarz
Organist	Jim Greening
Secretary	Erin Lewis
Liturgist	Arnie Watkins
Fellowship	Erin Lewis
Audio Technician	Jerry Koehler
Video Technician	Rhonda Essl
Song Leader	Dave Jacobson

This week:

Monday, March 20th

7:00pm Live Life Group meeting

Wednesday, March 22nd

7:00pm Ecumenical Service at Trinity UCC

Thursday, March 23rd

6:30pm Choir practice

6:30pm Compassionate Friends Group meeting

Sunday, March 26th

8:25am Pastor Alex on WLPO

9:00am CREW

9:30am Choir Practice

10:15am Worship in person or on YouTube

Followed by Fellowship Refreshments

Office Hours

Monday: Closed

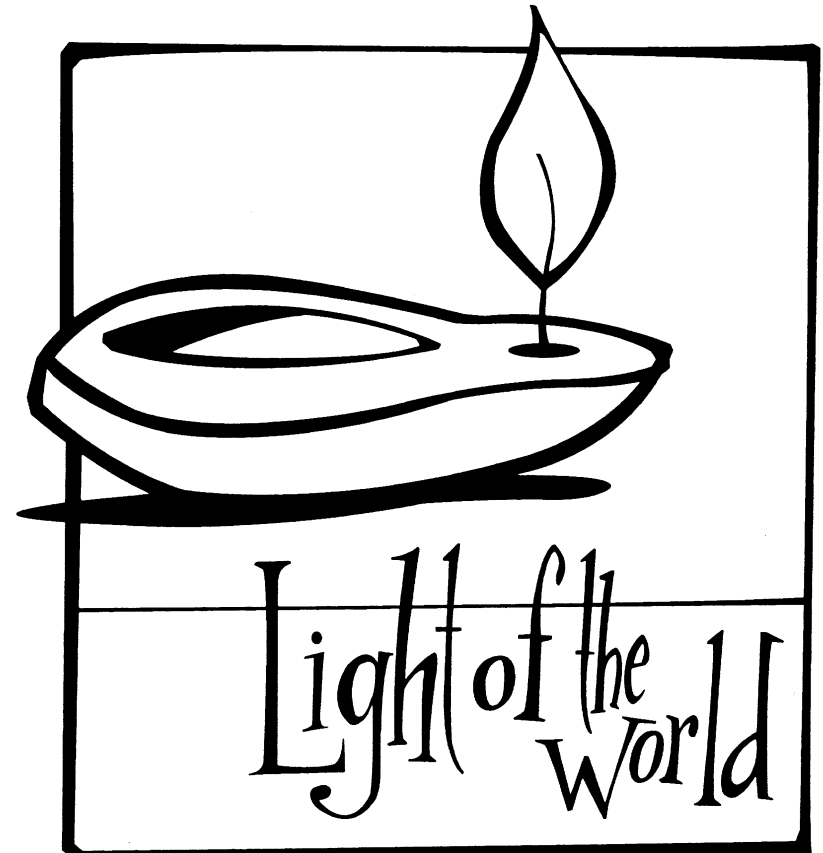
Tuesday: 9:00am-2:00pm

Wednesday: Closed

Thursday: Closed

Friday: 9:00am-4:00pm

*Zion
United Church of Christ*



Handicapped Accessible

www.zionperu.org

Follow us on Facebook: Zion UCC, Peru, IL

815-223-2671

1521 6th Street, Peru, IL 61354