

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 26, 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: Jesus had confidence in life after death. That confidence can be ours.

P: The grief felt at Lazarus' death was overcome by the reassurance of Jesus.

L: He said, "I am the resurrection and the life."

P: In raising Lazarus, Jesus demonstrated that death is not beyond the hope found in resurrection.

L: We are strengthened in our faith by the mighty acts of Jesus.

P: We are given courage and confidence by the power of God to overcome our worst fears. AMEN.

*HYMNS *He Has Made Me Glad*
Rejoice, Ye Pure In Heart

*OPENING PRAYER

Healing and Empowering God, we are sometimes so sure that things will not work out, we doubt even your ability to put things right in our lives. We lack such faith. But Jesus came to show us that our most dreaded enemy--death--can be overcome by faith. Heal our doubts and our longings for assurance and give us spirits of trust and hope. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

ANTHEM *Love Was When*

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MOMENTS

GOD'S WORD FOR US

GOSPEL READING John 11:32-44

MESSAGE *The Big Picture*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN *What Wondrous Love Is This*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Gary Bruno, Ron Narczewski, Eric Bernabei, The Family of Debra Noonan, Jason, Paul, Jose, Leslie, Ray Mrella, The family of Marian Benedict, Mary, Carol, Evie, Doug & Liz, Shelly Garncarz, Rusty & Mary Thies, Connie Leader, The Rogel family, Tom Kelly, Barb, Dixie Tonozzi, 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 bring our gifts to you, and offer them as symbol of sacrifice and service. We seek to share the story of suffering love that fulfills and conquers death. Bless these gifts and all who give; use our wealth, our time, our abilities for the good of all your people, O Lord. Amen.**

*HYMN *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Announcements

New Prayer Requests

- Gary Bruno, health
- Ron Narczewski, health and care facility
- Eric Bernabei, health and family

A Memorial for Marian Benedict was given by Brad & Kathy Learn.

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

The Ecumenical Lenten Service will be this Wednesday, March 29 at 7:00pm at Spring Valley UCC. Pastor Alex will be preaching. The host church will provide coffee fellowship beginning at 6:00pm.

April 2nd is Palm Sunday and marks the beginning of Holy Week
Please join us for special services

Maundy Thursday...7:00pm... Zion UCC in person or on YouTube
Good Friday Ecumenical Service...Noon...DePue UCC
Easter Sunday.....10:15am.. Zion UCC in person or on YouTube

**Refreshments will not be served during Holy Week*

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.

Pastor Alex will be on vacation beginning Monday, April 10th. He will return the following Monday, April 17th. Rev. Kay Harding will preach on April 16th and will be available for emergencies. Her phone number is : (815)993-9220

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.

The Illinois Valley Flute Ensemble will hold a concert here at Zion Sunday, April 16th at 2:00pm. The concert will feature music from "Around the World." The event is free and open to the public.

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	Shelly Garncarz
Fellowship	Laurie & Marty Johnson
Audio Technician	Jerry Koehler
Video Technician	Rhonda Essl
Song Leader	Dave Jacobson

This week:

Tuesday, March 28th

5:15pm PADS Meal

Wednesday, March 29th

7:00pm Ecumenical Service at Spring Valley

Thursday, March 30th

6:30pm Choir practice

Sunday, April 2nd Palm Sunday

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

