



Zion UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

A faith journey for all.

Sunday after Epiphany

January 10, 2021

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

ONE: We have come once again to be in the presence of the baptismal waters, so that we may be reminded that God's love seeps into our lives, washes away our fears, and pours forth for all people. Come, let us worship.

Opening Prayer

ONE: God, we ask that you remind us that you are the source of all that gives us life: water, earth, warmth, wind. We take these next moments to be still and breathe in your spirit.

As those gathered inhale and exhale speak the following invitation:

As you quiet your heart, notice the depth and length of your breath. Inhale and exhale. As you inhale concentrate on the notion of breathing in grace the way we breathe in oxygen. As you exhale imagine that you can let go of the one thing that you wish to give to God. Set the pace of your breath and set an intention that you can start to offer yourself, your life, to God a little at a time, with every exhale. *(Pause for a time of stillness.)*

Amen.

*** Opening Hymn #159**

As with Gladness Those of Old

*** Prayer of Confession**

ONE: Spirit of forgiveness, we breath in the fresh scent of your love. We accept you into the depths of our bodies to awaken our desire for change and displace our selfish impulses.

ALL: **God in spirit, you are all around and within us now. Let us exhale and release whatever we hold within that will keep us from filling our lungs and lives with your love.**

*** Words of Affirmation**

ONE: As surely as you continue to draw breath, you can trust that God is entering into your life, one breath at a time, one yawn, one cloud, one breeze at a time. In the air, as close as the air on your skin and in your body, is where forgiveness resides.

Silent prayer

*** Praise Response**

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be; World without end. Amen. Amen.

Greeting our Neighbors

HEARING THE WORD

Children's Time

Heifer International collection

As the children return to their seats, the congregation sings the refrain of *Jesus Loves Me* in Samoan.

O lou a-lo-fa! O lou a-lo-fa! O lou a-lo-fa! E si-li la-va-lea.

Scripture Readings (NRSV)

Genesis 1:1-5 pew bible OT pg 1

Mark 1:4-11 pew bible NT pg 42

Sermon

Pastor Erik Graefe

OUR RESPONSE

*** Hymn of Response #486**

I Must Tell Jesus

Announcements for the Life of the Church

The Community at Prayer

Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns

You are invited to share your joys and concerns with the congregation

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Sung Response: Hear our prayer, O Lord, Hear our prayer, O Lord; And grant us Thy peace.

Amen

The Offering

Giving and Receiving Our Gifts

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. Amen

***Prayer of Dedication**

ALL: God who moves in, around and through the waters, we remember you are near and dedicate a gift of gratitude to you, for your use. We have worked to collect and recollect abundance. We have toiled and felt the weight of futility. But we come now in earnest hope and faith to offer what we have, do what we can, and let go of the outcome. Amen.

SENDING

*** Closing Hymn#162**

In a Lowly Manger Born

*** Blessing**

*** Postlude**



**Please stand as you are able in body or in spirit.*

Liturgy resources for today's service are from *Seasons of the Spirit* SeasonsFUSION Advent-Christmas-Epiphany 2020-2021

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-719713.

Zion United Church of Christ

We welcome all people on a lifelong journey of faith with a still-speaking God.
We are many minds in spiritual beliefs,
but one body in loving service to our community.

Minister: Pastor Erik Graefe

Secretary/Bookkeeper: Jill Schmutz

Organists: Janette Vogelsang and Judy Heintz

Choir Director: Sina Osa

Resources for Living our Faith

Reading for the 1st Sunday after the Epiphany

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalms 29

Acts 19:1-7

Mark 1:4-11

Ecumenical Prayer Calendar

The peoples of Iran, Iraq and Syria

Prayer for the week

God of ancient knowledge and overwhelming truth, we seek understanding and patience as daily we realize we live in the depths of mystery and cannot know who we are until we learn more about who you are. Amen.

Announcements

Zion at Work in the World: January Giving Opportunities

Zion participates in several mission opportunities throughout each month. Here are the ways you can make a difference during the upcoming weeks.

· Jan 10—Heifer International Collection

Calendar of Events

Sunday, Jan 10	<i>Heifer International Collection</i> Worship, 10:30 a.m.
Sunday, Jan 17	Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Serving Zion

Jan 10

Jan 17

Greeters		
Ushers	Rod Gfeller & Kevin Heiman	Ray Kruse Jr. & Wayne Gfeller
Coffee Fellowship	none	none

Jill's Office hours: 9:00 am to 12:00 pm Mon, Wed, & Fri

Pastor Erik's office hours Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

If you need to speak with him please call or text 785-280-0852 or send an email
erikgraefe@mac.com