

# Zion Mennonite Church

Zion Mennonite Church covenants to grow together as a Christ-centered community, extending our Anabaptist branch into our world, bearing the lasting fruit of discipleship, and planting the seeds for God's reign through hospitality, service, and reconciliation with God and others.

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March 22, 2020

**Fourth Sunday of**



Greetings

**Call to Worship: Psalm 62:1, 2, 5-8**

For God alone my soul waits in silence, from him comes my salvation. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall never be shaken. For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him. He is my mighty rock, my refuge is in God. Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is refuge for us.

Prayer

Scripture Reference: John 11:1-45 (see insert)

Message

Sharing and prayers for each other

Closing, with The Lords' Prayer together

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The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

Amen.

10:00am

**This Morning:**

Worship Service  
[zionmennoniteoregon.org/live](http://zionmennoniteoregon.org/live)

**This Afternoon/Evening**

No Activities

**This Week:**

No Activities

**Worship Schedule:**

We will continue to follow the Lent theme and scripture texts from the Book of John.

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**Zion Leadership Table has carefully discerned, based on current recommendations and mandates from the Oregon Governor's office, to continue the suspension of all church gatherings and activities until April 28,** which coincides with the current restrictions on school attendance. Although we are very hopeful that restrictions will be lifted by then, we will continue to monitor this situation and make further decisions and adjustments at that time. The church offices and entire church building will remain closed, with staff working from home and online during normal church office hours. ALL activities, including Sunday services, special events, meetings, quilting, youth activities, gym use, etc. are suspended until further notice. Mennonite Women will not meet on April 3.

As we continue to care for each other and our church family, we are also caring for our physical church building. Our regular cleaning company did extra cleaning this week, which included a disinfecting and sanitizing wipe down of the dining area, all fellowship areas, all door handles, push plates, handrails, door jams, light switches, and other typical places where people put their hands.

As always, if you have questions or concerns or know of someone in need at this time, please contact Bill, Jana, one of the Elders, or a member of the Zion Leadership Table.

**Tithes and Offering—** If you desire to continue offerings during this time when Church is not regularly meeting for Sunday services, you can mail checks to the Church Office. The address is 6124 S. Whiskey Hill Rd, Hubbard, OR 97032.

## John 11:1-45 New International Version (NIV)

### The Death of Lazarus

**11** Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup> (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) <sup>3</sup> So the sisters sent word to Jesus, “Lord, the one you love is sick.”

<sup>4</sup> When he heard this, Jesus said, “This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God’s glory so that God’s Son may be glorified through it.” <sup>5</sup> Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. <sup>6</sup> So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, <sup>7</sup> and then he said to his disciples, “Let us go back to Judea.” <sup>8</sup> “But Rabbi,” they said, “a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?”

<sup>9</sup> Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Any one who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world’s light. <sup>10</sup> It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light.” <sup>11</sup> After he had said this, he went on to tell them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up.”

<sup>12</sup> His disciples replied, “Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better.”

<sup>13</sup> Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.

<sup>14</sup> So then he told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead, <sup>15</sup> and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” <sup>16</sup> Then Thomas (also known as Didymus<sup>[a]</sup>) said to the rest of the disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

### Jesus Comforts the Sisters of Lazarus

<sup>17</sup> On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. <sup>18</sup> Now Bethany was less than two miles <sup>[b]</sup> from Jerusalem, <sup>19</sup> and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. <sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

<sup>21</sup> “Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.”

<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

<sup>24</sup> Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

<sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; <sup>26</sup> and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

<sup>27</sup> “Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.” <sup>28</sup> After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. “The Teacher is here,” she said, “and is asking for you.” <sup>29</sup> When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup> When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there.

<sup>32</sup> When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”

<sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. <sup>34</sup> “Where have you laid him?” he asked.

“Come and see, Lord,” they replied.

<sup>35</sup> Jesus wept.

<sup>36</sup> Then the Jews said, “See how he loved him!”

<sup>37</sup> But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

Jesus Raises Lazarus From the Dead

<sup>38</sup> Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. <sup>39</sup> “Take away the stone,” he said. “But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.”

<sup>40</sup> Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” <sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.”

<sup>43</sup> When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” <sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”

### The Plot to Kill Jesus

<sup>45</sup> Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.



### **“We Behold His Glory” – John 13-18**

In Jesus’s time, the cross was a symbol associated with great disgust and disgrace (cursed is he who hangs upon the tree). In reverse, Christ took a symbol as disgusting as the cross and transformed it into a symbol of Glory. It is by His obedience to His Father that all things wretched can be transformed, not by the “power of the cross” but by the Glory of the Son, who is the Glory of the One and Only.

The book of John, chapters 13-17 tell us what Jesus said to his disciples on the night before his death. These words were all spoken in one evening when, with only the disciples as his audience, he gave final instructions to prepare them for his death and resurrection, events, that would change their lives forever.

For this week, reflect on the words and message from Hymn #526:

### **In the rifted Rock I’m resting**

In the rifted Rock I’m resting, safely sheltered I abide.  
There no foes nor storms molest me, while within the cleft I hide.

*Now I’m resting, sweetly resting, in the cleft once made for me.  
Jesus, blessed Rock of ages, I will hide myself in thee.*

Peace which passeth understanding, joy the world can never give,  
Now in Jesus, I am finding; in his smiles of love I live.

*Now I’m resting, sweetly resting, in the cleft once made for me.  
Jesus, blessed Rock of ages, I will hide myself in thee.*

In the rifted Rock I’ll hide me, till the storms of life are past,  
All secure in this bless’d refuge, heeding not the fiercest blast.

*Now I’m resting, sweetly resting, in the cleft once made for me.  
Jesus, blessed Rock of ages, I will hide myself in thee.*

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**Please keep in your prayers:**

- Pastor Bill and Julie, as they and their family grieve the passing of Julie's brother, Rick, this week. *Cards or notes can be sent to Bill and Julie Blank, 1513 Rodlun Ct, Forest Grove, OR 97116*
- Those in our families and church family who are most vulnerable right now. May they be shrouded in protection.
- Those in our congregation and beyond who are in healthcare. May they also be protected, physically, emotionally, and spiritually as they serve during this great time of need.
- Families who are spending unexpected time together, that there would be an abundance of grace shared with each other.
- Those in our congregation and community who are suddenly facing the uncertainty of their jobs and work situations.

**A prayer to carry though the week:** *"Lord, help us to trust that your dwelling place is a good place where we will know and be safe in your great love. Like a tender shepherd, you hear our cries and calm the fear in our lives."*

Prayers for healing by Gretchen Person

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**Nursery:**

This week:

Next Week:

**Greeters Next Week:**

**Last Sunday:**

Attendance:

Offering: \$

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**Church Staff:**

Bill Blank, Interim Lead Pastor: [zionpastor.bb@canby.com](mailto:zionpastor.bb@canby.com)

Jana Gingerich, Associate Pastor: [zionpastor\\_jg@canby.com](mailto:zionpastor_jg@canby.com)

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Pastoral Leadership Team: Andy Coulombe, Cynthia Hockman-Chupp  
Karen Tro, Stan Oyer

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OFFICE HOURS: MON, TUES, THUR, AND FRI –9 A.M. TO NOON

[ZIONMENNONITEOREGON.ORG](http://ZIONMENNONITEOREGON.ORG)