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**Sunday, April 25, 2021**

**Zion’s United Church of Christ of Taborton**

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**Zion’s United Church of Christ of Taborton**

**Service of the Worship of God**

**Sunday, April 25, 2021**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Rev. Hafidha F. Saadiqah, Pastor \* Mrs. Ronda Stevens, Board Moderator

Mr. Conor Frost, Musician

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WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS & CELEBRATIONS

RESPONSIVE CALL to WORSHIP

L: This day is a gift from God;

**P: And day to reflect, to offer thanks, to seek the good.**

L: This time is a pause from the fever of life;

**P: a time to be with one another, knit into community by God.**

L: So, let us sing, and listen, and pray, and feast
**ALL: and let us worship God.**

 holdfasttowhatisgood.com

OPENING PRAYER

**\*** HYMN (p. 5) *The Church’s One Foundation* AURELIA

**\***UNISON PRAYER of CONFESSION

**O Holy God, we know we have fallen short.**

**We turn our backs when we could embrace:**
**remain silent when we could speak,**
**speak when we could listen,**
**close the door when we could fling it wide open,**
**judge when we could seek understanding,**
**cling when we could give.**

**Forgive us, O God, for living into the most underdeveloped aspects of our humanity. Help us to continue to grow into the people you created us to be. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

 Adapted from holdfasttowhatisgood.com

***\* Words of Assurance (*minister*)***

 ***\* Gloria Patri* (spoken)**

**Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit Three in One!**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be;**

 **World without end. Amen. Amen.**

***\*Offering Signs of Peace***

CHILDREN’S TIME

INVITATION to STEWARDSHIP & OFFERING

***Doxology (*spoken)**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,**

 **Praise God all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly host.**

 **Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication***

**Lord we give you today what is already yours. You provide so much for us;
 blessings pressed down,
 shaken together,
 running over.
Thank you for giving us the ability to give,
and cheerful hearts to do it. Amen.**

Carol Penner

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE (pp. 3,4) Acts 9:1-20

SERMON Letting Go of Things That Don’t Work…if they ever did

\* HYMN (p. 5,6) *O Savior, Let Me Walk with You* MARYTON

\* BENEDICTION

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**2**

***Today’s Scripture:***

**Acts 9:1-20**

(Common English Bible)

﻿ ﻿Meanwhile, Saul was still spewing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest, 2 seeking letters to the synagogues in Damascus. If he found persons who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, these letters would authorize him to take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. 3 During the journey, as he approached Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven encircled him. 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice asking him, "Saul, Saul, why are you harassing me?"

5 Saul asked, "Who are you, Lord?" "I am Jesus, whom you are harassing," came the reply. 6 "Now get up and enter the city. You will be told what you must do."

7 Those traveling with him stood there speechless; they heard the voice but saw no one. 8 After they picked Saul up from the ground, he opened his eyes, but he couldn't see. So, they led him by the hand into Damascus. 9 For three days he was blind and neither ate nor drank anything.

10 In Damascus there was a certain disciple named Ananias. The Lord spoke to him in a vision, "Ananias!"

He answered, "Yes, Lord."

 The Lord instructed him, "Go to Judas' house on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. He is praying. 12 In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias enter and put his hands on him to restore his sight."

 13 Ananias countered, "Lord, I have heard many reports about this man. People say he has done horrible things to your holy people in Jerusalem. 14 He's here with authority from the chief priests to arrest everyone who calls on your name." ﻿

**3**

15 The Lord replied, "Go! This man is the agent I have chosen to carry my name before Gentiles, kings, and Israelites. 16 I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name."

17 Ananias went to the house. He placed his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord sent me--Jesus, who appeared to you on the way as you were coming here. He sent me so that you could see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 Instantly, flakes fell from Saul's eyes and he could see again. He got up and was baptized. 19 After eating, he regained his strength.

He stayed with the disciples in Damascus for several days. 20 Right away, he began to preach about Jesus in the synagogues. "He is God's Son," he declared.

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**4**

***HYMNS FOR THE LORD’S DAY***

**THE CHURCH’S ONE FOUNDATION**

HYMN TUNE: AURELIA

TEXT: attributed to Samuel J. Stone

1. The church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;

we are Christ’s new creation by water and the word;

from heaven Christ came and sought us in love to set us free;

with precious blood Christ bought us for all eternity.

1. Yet with a mournful wonder the world sees her oppressed

by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed.

Yet, saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, “How long?”;

And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

1. Yet we on earth have union with God, the Three in One,

and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.

O happy ones and holy! God, give us grace that we,

like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

**O SAVIOR, LET ME WALK WITH YOU**

HYMN TUNE: MARYTON

TEXT: Washington Gladden

1. O Savior, let me walk with you

in earthly paths of service true;

Tell me your secret,

help me bear the strain of toil,

the fret of care.

**5**

1. Teach me your patience; let me be

in closer, dearer company.

In work that keeps faith sweet and strong,

in trust that triumphs over wrong.

1. In hope that sends a shining ray

far down the future’s broadening way.

In peace that only you can give,

with you, O Savior, let me live.

**6**

***THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US!***

***JOIN US in FELLOWSHIP HALL***

***for***

***COFFEE and CONVERSATION!***

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**7**

***THINKING ABOUT THIS WEEK’S SCRIPTURE…***

**Thoughts you have about the story:**

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**Questions/Observations:**

1. For what reasons was Saul harassing the members of the early Church?
2. What made Saul “see?”
3. Do you have “scales” on your eyes that are preventing you from seeing correctly?

**Prayer:**

Loving God: open my eyes so that I can see what you see in the beauty

 as well as the chaos of my life and in this world. Give me grace to face

 what I see, and wisdom to know how to bring truth, goodness, and beauty

in to all the circumstances I find myself. Amen.

**8**



**Food Pantry 2021:** The Mission Committee is busy making plans to open a Food Pantry for individuals and families who may need assistance. There is much to plan for and do. If you would like to contribute to the organizing efforts of getting this mission off the ground, please leave your donation in the offering plate, or send it to the church office. Also, there is a donation container in Fellowship Hall.

The **Installation** of Pastor Hafidha will be held on **SUNDAY, 2 MAY, 3:00pm, in the church sanctuary and aired on Zoom.** Come and join us for this celebration of our joint ministry.

Pastor Hafidha will be on **vacation** from Saturday, 1 May through Friday, 8 May, Monday, 10 May through Saturday, 15 May, and again on Sunday, 23 May. For pastoral emergencies, please contact Rev. Charlie Yang at 516-462-4050. **Not 518.**

**9**

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**The Board and Congregation of**

**Zion’s United Church of Christ of Taborton**

**cordially invites you to**

**A Service for the Worship of God**

**and the**

**Installation**

**of**

**Rev. Hafidha F. Saadiqah** **as Pastor**

**on**

**Sunday, May 2, 2021, 3:00pm**

**at**

**Zion’s United Church of Christ of Taborton**

**741 Taborton Road, Sand Lake, NY**

**Reception to follow at 4:00pm in the Fellowship Hall**

**Service will be in-person and virtual via Zoom**

**Please RSVP to****ziontabortonchurch@gmail.com**

**Please indicate if you will be attending in-person or virtually**

**The Zoom link will be provided via email on May 1st**

**to those that RSVP in advance**



**10**

**How to Sign into Zoom**

**Using a Mobile App**

**1**

**Open Zoom.** This app icon looks like a white video camera icon on a blue background that you'll find on one of your Home screens, in the app drawer, or by searching.

**2**

**Tap Sign In.** It's in the lower right corner of your screen.

**3**

**Enter your Zoom email and password or tap to sign in with SSO, Google, or Facebook.** If you use SSO, Google, or Facebook you may be prompted to confirm your account and your birthday.

**4**

**Tap Sign In (if you used your email and password).** You'll be signed in and redirected to your dashboard.

* To sign out, tap **Settings** next to a gear icon at the bottom of your screen, then tap your account listed at the top of the menu and select **Sign Out** at the bottom of the menu.[[4]](https://www.wikihow.com/Sign-in-to-Zoom#_note-4)

For more on these directions, go to: <https://www.wikihow.com/Sign-in-to-Zoom#Using-the-Mobile-App>

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