

**Zion United Methodist Church**  
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*“Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”*

*Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026*

*Rev. Dr. Andrea Cummings, Pastor*  
*Rev. Dr. Johnsie Cogman, District Superintendent*  
*Rev. LaTrelle Miller Easterling, Presiding Bishop*



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 for our e-news!

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**Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany**  
**\*Please stand as you are able in body or spirit**

**Prelude~** “God Has Smiled on Me”

**Welcome~** Rev. Dr. Andrea Cummings

**\*Opening Hymn~** “Lift Every Voice and Sing” #540 AAHH

**Opening Prayer**

**\*Offering**

**Doxology~** “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”~#650 AAHH

**Prayer of Illumination: Lord, open understanding by the power of the Holy Spirit, that as the Word is proclaimed, we may receive holy wisdom to understand the gifts you have bestowed on us. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

**\*The Scripture Readings**

**First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-12:** Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side. “Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your

voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. a Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.” If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong, and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**\*Psalm Reading~** Psalm 112, 1-10

**Psalm 112**  
RESPONSE (General)  
S T Kimbrough, Jr. (Ps. 112:4,5)  
Carlton R. Young

Light ris - es in dark-ness when jus - tice rules our lives.

Alternate response at Ps. 10.

R

<sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord.

*Blessed are those who fear the Lord,  
who greatly delight in God's commandments!*

<sup>2</sup> **Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

<sup>3</sup> *Wealth and riches are in their house,  
and their righteousness endures for ever.*

<sup>4</sup> **They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;  
they are gracious, merciful and righteous.**

<sup>5</sup> *It is well with those who deal generously and lend,  
who conduct their affairs with justice.*

<sup>6</sup> **For the righteous shall never be moved;  
they will be remembered for ever. R**

<sup>7</sup> *They are not afraid of evil tidings;  
their hearts are firm, trusting in the Lord.*

<sup>8</sup> **When they see their adversaries,  
their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid.**

<sup>9</sup> *They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor;  
their righteousness endures for ever;  
their horn is exalted in honor.*

<sup>10</sup> **The wicked see it and are angry;  
they gnash their teeth and melt away;  
the desire of the wicked comes to nothing. R**

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**\*Second Reading:** *1 Corinthians 2:1-16: When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.*

*Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"— God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.*

*The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.***

**Song of Preparation~ "God's Grace"**

**\*Gospel Reading:** *Matthew 5:13-20: "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot. "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light*

*shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."*

*The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.***

**Proclamation**~ Dr. Cummings

**Affirmation of Faith**~ 881 UMH

**Prayers of the People: Response** - Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**Confession & Pardon & Peace**~ pg. 8, UMH

**Thanksgiving & Communion**~ pg. 9-10, UMH

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Post Communion Prayer: Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.**

**Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

**\*Benediction**~ Dr. Cummings

### **Mark your Calendar**

**Announcements?** *If you have an announcement or prayer request, please email it to [zionlexpk@gmail.com](mailto:zionlexpk@gmail.com) by Wednesday.*

**Ready to Join Zion?** *Please text 301-997-3328. Pastor Cummings will reach out to you to arrange a time to discuss the membership vows and schedule a Sunday to join Zion.*

**The Faith Advocacy 101 Workshop** *will be held on **February 21st from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.** at Zion United Methodist Church. The session will be led by The Rev. Camille Henderson-Edwards, Senior Director of Advocacy at Church & Society of The United Methodist Church. This workshop is designed to help participants learn to engage in faith-based advocacy in the public square.*

**The Annual Heritage Potluck is on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.** *Zion will close out Black History Month with its annual Heritage Potluck. Traditional dishes are requested. Please sign up to bring a dish. The sign-up sheet is located on the ushers' table. For additional information, please contact: Sis. Claudia Barnett or any member of the Kitchen Committee.*

**IGNITE** *is for youth in grades 6-12. It features high-energy worship with powerful worship bands. A relevant, engaging message from nationally and locally known speakers. The conference will take place March 20-22 in Ocean City, MD. **If you would like to donate to the Youth ministry to cover registration and lodging, please mark your envelope accordingly.** For questions, email Min. Kevin Harris at [krharri2@gmail.com](mailto:krharri2@gmail.com)*