

# An Unlikely Lent

**“Unlikely Freedom”**  
**Sunday, March 8, 2026**

## Third Sunday in Lent

*Zion United Methodist Church exists to celebrate God's grace  
and witness for Jesus Christ. As you worship, open your heart.  
God has a word for you today!*

ZION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
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PROCESSION OF THE LIGHT

\*RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

\*INVITATION SONGS     *“Great and Mighty” “How Majestic is Your Name” “Days of Elijah”*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Friend in Christ, we gather amid the noise of the crowd,  
where voices shout, choices are made, and justice feels uncertain.

*This is a season for unlikely people, for those who waver,  
follow the crowd, or struggle to choose what is right.*

Even here, God is still at work.

**God is moving through human fear and broken systems  
toward a love that will not let go.**

Come with your questions and convictions, your doubts, and your hope.

*We will worship the One who stands silent before the crowd,  
bearing love for the world.*

HYMN OF PRAISE

*“Only Trust Him”*

*UMH 337*

CONFESSION OF FAITH (*Apostles Creed, Ecumenical Version*)

*#882*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM

*“Just As I Am”*

*arr. Price & Besig*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER & REFLECTION

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE

MESSAGE

*Matthew 27:15-23*

*Unlikely Freedom*

*Rev. Clay Lundberg*

HYMN FOR COMMUNION

*“Eat This Bread”*

*UMH 628*

HOLY COMMUNION

GENEROSITY IN ACTION

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

\*DOXOLOGY

*“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

*UMH 95*

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

\*BENEDICTION

\*CLOSING HYMN

*“I Stand Amazed in the Presence” (vs. 1 & 4)*

*UMH 371*

\*SENDING FORTH

## THIS WEEK AT ZION

### **SUNDAY, March 8th**

9:15 a.m.-Sunday School  
10:00 a.m.-Coffee Fellowship  
10:30 a.m.-Worship Service  
Potluck following the service

### **MONDAY, March 9th**

7:00 p.m. – Trustees

### **TUESDAY, March 10th**

9:00 a.m. – UM Men's group at Perkins  
6:00 p.m. – Mission Team Meeting

### **WEDNESDAY, March 11th**

8:30 a.m.-Waffle Wednesday  
1:30 p.m.-Legacy Quilters  
5:30 p.m.- Lenten Supper/Devotion  
7:00 p.m.- Choir Practice

### **THURSDAY, March 12th**

9:00 a.m.- Pastor Clay's Coffee Shop  
6:00 p.m.-Stewardship and Finance  
7:00 p.m.- Administrative Council

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **SUNDAY, March 15th**

9:15 a.m.-Sunday School  
10:00 a.m.-Coffee Fellowship

### **TUESDAY, March 17th**

9:00 a.m. – UM Men's group at Perkins  
7:00 p.m. – Worship Committee via Zoom

### **WEDNESDAY, March 18th**

8:30 a.m.-Waffle Wednesday  
1:30 p.m.-Legacy Quilters  
5:30 p.m.- Lenten Supper/Devotion  
7:00 p.m.- Choir Practice

### **THURSDAY, March 19th**

9:00 a.m.- Pastor Clay's Coffee Shop

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## LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS & DEVOTIONS

Join us on Wednesdays in the Fellowship Hall during the season of Lent at 5:30 p.m. for a soup supper and devotion based on the "meal stories" from the gospels. Jesus makes himself known at the table. Soup supper dates are: **Mar. 11<sup>th</sup>**, **Mar. 18<sup>th</sup>**, **Mar. 25<sup>th</sup>**, and **April 1**. There is a sign-up sheet for those who are willing to provide some yummy soup.

## GLOBAL FRIENDS

Global Friends Coalition will be resettling Afrikaners from South Africa. They need any furniture in good condition. They are accepting donations of beds, bed frames, kitchen and dining tables with chairs, sofas, dressers, lamps, and comfortable chairs. These refugees are coming quickly so donations are needed now. You may contact Global Friends at 701-746-8233 or email: [info@gfcoalition.org](mailto:info@gfcoalition.org).

## BLESSING BOX

There is a blessing box outside of Zion! Take a blessing, leave a blessing! Pick up something extra to share with our Zion Neighborhood when you visit the grocery store! Non-perishable items only please!

## PAUL, THE MISSIONARY IN THE EXPLORERS IN SPIRIT CLASS

Paul resumes his second missionary journey through Thessalonica, Corinth, and Ephesus. These were some of the most significant and important early Christian communities. Join us on Sunday mornings in the "sisters" classroom to learn more about Paul's amazing, life-changing impact on the lives of people and how we can apply some of these lessons to our own lives.

## THE QUILT OF THE WEEK



Quilting makes scraps; Scraps make quilts is this week's twin size quilt of the week measuring 67" x 86". You may view it in the announcement slides or on the rack in the west wing hall.

**IF YOU NEED A QUIET PLACE WITH YOUR CHILD,  
OUR NURSERY IS LOCATED IN THE UPPER WEST WING.**

# THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVE

PASTOR .....	Rev. Clay Lundberg
MINISTERS .....	The Congregation
CHOIR DIRECTOR.....	David Perry
ORGANIST AND CHOIR ACCOMPANIST .....	Marjorie Myrold
LAY READER.....	Gail Sherwood
LAY LEADER.....	Deb Glennen/Cynthia Shabb
CONGREGATIONAL CARE COORDINATOR.....	Connie Sherwood
CHURCH SECRETARY.....	Gail Sherwood

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## ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR MARCH 1, 2026

Sunday Worship – 52 Sunday School – 15 Online - 16

## FINANCIAL REPORT MARCH 1, 2026

WORSHIP SERVICE.....	\$ 3,162.00
NARTHEX.....	\$ 00.00
APPORTIONMENTS.....	\$ 00.00

### JANUARY FINANCIAL REPORT

TOTAL FUNDS COMING IN .....	\$ 21,608.75
TOTAL FUNDS GOING OUT .....	\$ 28,731.01
CHURCH APPORTIONMENT PAST DUE .....	\$ 2,484.18

### ELECTRONIC GIVING OPTIONS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT ZION

Other than using checks, you may take advantage of other giving options. You can give online via **Tithe.ly**. Scan the QR code here and follow the directions. For those who prefer **Automatic Bank Transfer** on a regular basis, please contact the church office. Thank you for your generosity!



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## PRAYER MARKER FOR MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup>- MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup> 2026

### LIFT IN PRAYER

Peter Blay  
Wally and Carol Mytych  
Aileen Sandwick & Family  
The Sondreal Family  
The O'Shaughnessy Family  
The Rowe Family  
Our Shut-ins

### JOYS

Sunday Music  
Praise Band and Choir  
Love Feast  
Building Update Projects  
Lenten Soup Supper/Devotions

### BIRTHDAYS

03/10 Nick Evans  
03/11 Pam Galegher  
03/14 Jane McDonald