Worship Service on March 17, 2024

Welcome and Announcements ~ Jim Comar

Monday ~ Uplift Cancer Support Group at 3 pm at the church.

Tuesday ~ Prayer Group and Book Discussion of chapters 9-10 in *God Never Gives Up on You* at 7 pm via zoom.

Wednesday ~ The Seeking God Together group will meet at 11 am via zoom.

~ The Women Who Pray group will meet at the Sommons' home at 1:30 pm and cover chapters 3 – 4 in *Untangling Your Emotions*.

Friday ~ There is a choir practice at 7 pm at the church.

Saturday ~ Zion Episcopal Church is hosting a Summer Discovery Camp planning meeting at 10 am.

Looking Ahead ~ Next week is Palm Sunday

and Alpha will also meet at 5 pm.

- ~ Maundy Thursday potluck meal and service will be at 5:30 pm.
- ~ Good Friday contemplative service will be at 3 pm
- ~ The Mary and Martha group will have their meeting at prepare flowers for the cross at 8:30 am on Saturday.
- ~ The Sunrise Service is at 6:30 am at Dormy Grill's porch.
- ~ Easter Service will be at 10:30 am on March 31st.

Happy Birthday to Paul Bauers today and to Jenny Russell on Thursday!



Thank you to Debbie Hayes-McGraw for the flowers in loving memory of her parents, Dick and Nadine Hayes.

Word of Preparation ~ Jim Comar

Prelude ~ Please listen as Theresa and Ken Taylor share a song called "The More I Seek You"

and allow it to help prepare our hearts for worship.

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Call to Worship ~ Isaiah 29:13-14, 18-19 read by Jim Comar Please join in on the bold lines.

¹³ The Lord says:

"These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

Their worship of me

is based on merely human rules they have been taught.

¹⁴ Therefore once more I will astound these people with wonder upon wonder;

the wisdom of the wise will perish, the intelligence of the intelligent will vanish."

¹⁸ In that day the deaf will hear the words of the scroll,

and out of gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind will see.

¹⁹ Once more the humble will rejoice in the Lord; the needy will rejoice in the Holy One of Israel. Song ~ The worship team will lead us in singing "Do It Again"

Walking around these walls. I thought by now they'd fall
But you have never failed me yet
Waiting for change to come. Knowing the battle's won
For you have never failed me yet

Chorus

Your promise still stands. Great is your faithfulness, Faithfulness

I'm still in your hands. This is my confidence You've never failed me yet

I know the night won't last. Your word will come to pass
My heart will sing your praise again
Jesus you're still enough. Keep me within your love
My heart will sing your praise again

Chorus (2 x)

I've seen you move. You move the mountains
And I believe I'll see you do it again
You made a way where there was no way
And I believe I'll see you do it again
[repeat]

Chorus

You've never failed me yet. I never will forget You've never failed me yet. I never will forget

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Praying Together ~

Space for prayer requests

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,

Song ~ "Open My Eyes, That I May See" (#586 in the blue hymnal)

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpse of truth thou hast for me Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free Silently now, I wait for thee, ready my God thy will to see Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear
And while the wavenotes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear
Silently now, I wait for thee, ready my God thy will to see
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere
Open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share
Silently now, I wait for thee, ready my God thy will to see
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

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Introducing the Sermon ~ Pastor Rebecca

Scripture Text ~ Mark 10:46-52 (NRSV) read by Jim Comar

⁴⁶ They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸ Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹ Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." ⁵⁰ So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹ Then Jesus said to him. "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." ⁵² Jesus said to him. "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight

and followed him on the way.

Sermon~ "Take Heart. Get Up. He's Calling You" ~ Rev. Rebecca Sommons

Song ~ The worship team will lead us in singing "Amazing Grace / My Chains Are Gone"

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Chorus

My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me His word my hope secures He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures

Chorus

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine, Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

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Benediction ~ from St. Patrick

May the strength of God pilot us, may the wisdom of God instruct us. May the hand of God protect us, may the word of God direct us..