Mt. Zion United Methodist Church
Join Us on Sunday

Worship from your home at 8:30am
The easiest way to watch is to go to our website www.mtzionmech.org
Select the YouTube or Facebook Link
Call in option is available: 1-301-715-8592
Meeting ID: 835 1331 1778 #  Password: 613742#
When you call, there will be silence on the line until the service begins.
Please be Patient. You will be connected.

Limited seating is now available at 8:30am in the Sanctuary
Please do not arrive before 8:15am. This is our on-line service.
Masks are required. Temperature taken at the door.
Pews have been taped off to allow for social distancing.

Worship at 10am in our Fellowship Hall
Masks are required. Temperature taken at the door.
Chairs are arranged 6 feet apart and in groups of 2 and more to allow for families to sit together.
Communion is held at this Service on the first Sunday of each month.

Sunday school Offered
Adult Sunday Zoom Class, 9:45am Led by Jean Neely.
Sunday School with Sean at 11am. Meeting in the Youth room. (masks and social distancing required).
Children’s Sunday School –Children attend worship at 10am with their parents.
Dismissed after the second song for Sunday school.

February 21, 2021
First Sunday of Lent

CALL TO WORSHIP
From water to wilderness:
On stone and in hearts:
From the ancestor of nations to the Son lifted up:
God’s covenant continues;
God’s kingdom comes near.
We follow Jesus on the Lenten path,
for where he is, we would be also.

HYMN  Shall We Gather at the River  #723
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God,
in rushing waters and in dry wilderness,
in every season and circumstance,
we need your sustaining word.
By the power of your Holy Spirit,
proclaim the good news among us today
so that we may repent and believe
and see anew how the time is fulfilled
and the kingdom has come near;
in Jesus Christ your Son, our Savior. Amen.

SCRIPTURE
Mark 1:9-15 (NIV)

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

SERMON

JOYS & CONCERNS

THE LORD’S PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Because we believe that in Jesus Christ,
God’s time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God
has come near,
we respond in tangible ways.
By doing acts of justice and compassion
and by sharing our resources,
we bear witness to the good news of the gospel.
The offering is received in gratitude to God.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of steadfast love and faithfulness,
we are humbled as we try to do what is right
and to walk in your ways.
Receive, we ask, these offerings,  
and use them for your own good purposes  
in the church and in all creation.  
We pray in Jesus Christ. Amen.

HYMN  *Deep River*

BENEDICTION  
As Jesus spent forty days in the wilderness,  
so, we will spend forty days in this season of Lent.  
Consider, children of the covenant,  
the faithfulness of God,  
and what it means to be baptized into Christ.  
Live each day proclaiming the good news,  
in word and deed,  
that God is with us  
and the kingdom is near.  
May the God of covenant faithfulness enfold you;  
the beloved Son encourage you;  
and the Holy Spirit descend upon you in blessing;  
this day and forever.

Mt. Zion Vision:  
Building a Welcoming Community of Faith  
Centered on Jesus Christ that Reaches Beyond Our Walls.

**Mount Zion United Methodist Church**  
27108 Mt. Zion Church Road, Mechanicsville, Md  
[www.mtzionmech.org](http://www.mtzionmech.org)  
(301) 884-4132  Fax (301) 884-4010

**Mt. Zion Ministry Team**
Senior Pastor  
Steve Humphrey  
Christian Education  
Arielle Crooks  
Music Ministry  
Ben Stern  
Office Administrator  
Toni Hayes  
E-vine Coordinator  
Ide Hill  
Care Visitation Coor  
Pattie Scherer  
Mt. Zion Preschool  
Rebecca Fitzgerald

CCLI# 11278080