

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

August 7, 2022

9:00 a.m.

+ Indicates those times when all who are able may stand.
Bold indicates congregational response.

Ringing of the Bell

Pastor's Welcome

Prelude "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" arr. Mayo

Call to Worship

Creator resides in the midst of creation... calling us to this community.

Our world waits for the Holy One, our help and shield.

God our Righteousness gazes upon the beloved with delight and concern.

Our bodies wait for the Holy One, our help and shield.

The Spirit of the Living God greets us with fresh winds and new mercies.

Our souls wait for the Holy One, our help and shield.

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray,

Abundant God, we wait for you with longing, hope, and anticipation.

May your kingdom be realized in this community. May your people be your ambassadors. May your love be our propeller in the world and our beacon to direct us home. Fill us with the bread of life and nourish our spirits to be your good news in the world. Amen.

First Reading of Scripture

Hebrews 11:1-16 CEB

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church...

Thanks be to God!

Mission Moment

+ Opening Hymn No. 424 "How Can I Keep from Singing?"

Call to Confession (1 John 1:8-10, 2:1b-2)

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you have created a world of abundance and flourishing. Every resource, every gift, every product originates from the generosity of your creation and the creativity you have bestowed upon us. Forgive us for misuse and overuse of your gifts. Reveal our miserly attitudes toward the plentiful trove of resources you have entrusted to our care. Sow generosity in us, reveal abundance to us, and enable flourishing through us. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Grace

Every good and perfect gift comes from above. Grace is such a gift; mercy is another. Transformation and new life descend freely from the Most High to all who would receive it. Receive the assurance of God's grace and compassion as precious treasure made available to all.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Announcements

Giving from Our Hearts



It is the generosity of the friends and members of this church which supports this ministry. Over 95% of our budget is directly supported through our offering. While the ministry at Zion is sustained by more than dollars and cents, the monetary giving is vital to the work we do. We give thanks for all who have supported Zion over the years. For those contributing financially:

There is an offering plate just outside the sanctuary or you can donate online through the online giving button at zionunion.org.

+ Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

+ Prayer of Dedication

Generous One, receive the gifts we bring as we return a portion of your treasure to the use of your kingdom. May your will be manifested and your creation restored through sharing these offerings. Amen.

Second Reading of Scripture

Luke 12:32-40 CEB

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church...

Thanks be to God!

Special Music

Jasen Thompson

Sermon

Pastoral Prayer

The Prayer of Our Savior

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. Amen.

An Affirmation of Faith - A New Creed (United Church of Canada -1968)

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Remembrance

Invocation

And so we pray,

Come Holy Spirit, Breath of God, Renewer of life, settle on these gifts and all who gather here, that we might be transformed in our remembrance of your radical love, your eternal embrace, and your grace that makes all things new. For the sake of our shared lives, the life of this land on which we live, and the lives of those yet to come, nourish us and renew our hope that soon Christ may rise again among us. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Wine

+ Sharing of the Elements

The Lord's Table is open to all. Today, we will come forward, through the center aisle, where Rev Nicholas will place a piece of bread in your hand. (Gluten free wafers are available) Communion stewards next to pastor will be holding trays containing both white grape juice, and red wine. You may return to your seat by the side aisle. Additionally, communion stewards will make their way through the sanctuary offering communion for those unable to come forward.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

O Loving God, we give you thanks for inviting us to your table. We praise you for this meal and for all of the ways you nourish us. Grow in us that we may nourish others. Sustain us as we press toward the goal of your call in Christ Jesus. Amen.

+ Closing Hymn No. 581

"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

+ Benediction

Postlude

“Be Thou My Vision”

arr. Raney

Today’s liturgy was written by Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, and is used with permission by Justice and Local Church Ministries, Faith INFO Ministry Team, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100.

The Invitation, Remembrance and Invocation of today’s communion Liturgy, were created by “Enfleshed” a spiritual resources collective. To learn more please visit enfleshed.com

Zion United Church of Christ

115 S. Washington Ave.

Union, MO 63084-1849

Home Page address is: www.zionunion.org

Office Hours: Monday-Friday–8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (closed Tuesdays)

Church Office: (636/583-2814) fax (636/583-7949)

Pastor: Rev. Nicholas Knoblauch

Minister to Youth & Families: Alysha Petry

Organist: Brenda Herring

Music Director: Dr. Karen Stafford

Administrative Assistant: Connie Thompson

Coordinator of Elementary Youth: Mandy Frick

Council President: Jane Wilson

Church Custodian: Sarah Buscher

We commit ourselves...

to worship God

to form faithful followers of Jesus

and to care for our wider community.

We care as Christ cares.



+ The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost +

August 7, 2022 9:00 a.m.

Zion United Church of Christ

Union, Missouri