

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

9:00 a.m.

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

Ringing of the Bell

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude *“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”* arr. Wyrzten

Call to Worship

New life rises!

That which rises, must first fall and die.

Single grains merely remain as they are unless they are released to the ground.

The grains of the earth that fall will multiply and nourish.

Come, die to the self and live a life of service to the Living God.

And God will raise us up anew. Amen.

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of grains and grace, we gather today seeking to follow in the way of Jesus. The path he chose for his disciples was one of service and it requires of us that we lay down our desires, our ambitions, and serve you with our whole heart. May our worship this day inspire our dying and rising with you as we seek to love and serve like Jesus. May it be so. Amen.

First Reading of Scripture

John 12:20-33 CEB

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

Thanks be to God!

New Member Welcome - An Affirmation of Baptism

Invitation

Sentences

Questions of the Candidates

+ Welcome and Reception

Let us, Zion United Church of Christ members express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hope and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God’s knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of Zion United Church of Christ we extend to you the hand of Christian love, welcoming you into the company of this local church Lee and Susan, children of God, disciples of Christ, members of the church. Let us pray.

O God, we praise you for calling us to faith and for gathering us into the church, the body of Christ. We thank you for your people gathered in this local church and rejoice that you have increased our community of faith. Together may we live in the Spirit, building one another up in love, sharing in the life and worship of the church, and serving the world for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

+ Opening Hymn No. 355 *“This is a Day of New Beginnings”*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of love, we confess that our ego can all too often get in the way of our ability to serve you and others with our lives. Our false self is driven by our lack of trust in you to provide for our every need. We rely on our own strength. But, our true self can let go and be formed anew by your love. Forgive us our false ways and transform us and raise us to new life. Amen.

Words of Grace

Friends, Jesus reminds us that those who serve him will have the assurance of his presence with them. In the name of Christ, trust that you are forgiven, that new life rises, and that Jesus abides with you.

Praise be to God, Amen!

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

O God who causes our lives to rise, we lay down to you the abundance you have given us and allow it to fall so that you may multiply it to give life to your world. May it be so. Amen.

Second Reading of Scripture

Mark 5:1-20 CEB

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

Thanks be to God!

Special Music

“Still, Still With Thee”

Kirk Hancox, soloist

Beck

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.

+ Closing Hymn No. 581

“Called as Partners in Christ's Service”

+ Benediction

+ Postlude

“Sent Forth With God's Blessing”

The prayers for the Fifth Sunday in Lent Year B were written by The Rev. Dr. Chad Abbott, Conference Minister in the Indiana-Kentucky Conference. <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/lent-5b-march-17/>

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: Fern Dewert

Church Custodian: Joy Bradley

We commit ourselves...

to worship God

to form faithful followers of Jesus

and to care for our wider community.

We care as Christ cares.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN
LENT



+ The Fifth Sunday in Lent +

March 17, 2024 9:00 a.m.

Zion United Church of Christ
Union, Missouri

Please take the Sunday News home with you for information and happenings during the week at Zion Church.

SUNDAY NEWS

MARCH 17, 2024

The flowers on the altar are in memory of Virginia Henderson & Elizabeth Hancox by Kirk & Sallie Hancox.

Serving This Morning

Liturgist: Maxine Harrison

Ushers: Jeff, Denise & Connor Muller Greeter: Vicki Hooper

Sound System Tech: Jason Dewert Video Tech: Blake & Camden Dewert

(Hearing devices are available if needed. Please ask an usher for one.)

A special thank you to Kirk Hancox who is our accompanist this morning for our organist. Thank you!

Usher Dismissal - An usher will dismiss you by row at the conclusion of the service. They will begin at the front.

Coffee/Fellowship Hour will be in the lower commons each Sunday following the worship service.

Lenten Labyrinth that Feeds - Help build our Lenten Labyrinth that Feeds by bringing in items for the Little Free Pantry and the Union Food Pantry. Donations of canned goods/non-perishable items and toiletry items will be collected until March 24th.

Lenten Offering - This year's Lenten Offering will be shared with Your Other Mother Pregnancy and Positive Parenting Center in Union. This non-profit organization promotes positive parenting, building stronger families and bringing healthy accountability into unhealthy situations. Lenten offering envelopes are located by the offering plate for your donations.

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering - During March, we will be receiving the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering which helps when disasters strike globally. OGHS provides immediate relief when needed during disasters. Offering envelopes are in the March newsletter and are also available by the offering plate.

This Morning - The Security Committee recently updated the Safety Policies at Zion Church and would like to review them with the ushers. Please join us this morning in the chapel following the morning worship service. Thank you for your time!

On Our List For Prayers

Health and Healing:

David Pehle	Jim Doehring	Phyllis Olson	Carolyn Donoho
Frank Fazzari	Charlotte Ellison	Sondra Jackson	Kim Yenzer
Kevin Vorderbruegge	Norma Kern	Carol Bean	
Keith Stahlman	Virginia Maune	Darlene Farrell (sister of Charlotte Ellison)	
Roger McDaniel (brother-in-law of Larry & Betty Clark)		Chris Branch (niece of Gerry Hoelscher)	
Sharon Waldrop (friend of Jim Doehring)		Mitch Angell (friend of Charlotte Ellison)	
Tammy Wettling (friend of Charlotte Ellison)		Mike Matthews (friend of Carolyn George)	
Linda Barnhart (sister of Fern Dewert)		David Borgmann (brother of Fern Dewert)	
Shirley Brand (friend of Gerry Hoelscher)		Eric Heitman (nephew of Jim Doehring)	
Heather Gooch (great niece of Charlotte Ellison)		S (Karen Stafford's CASA buddy)	
Myrt Dunigan		Carol Mossoney (mother of Dan Mossoney)	
Bob Truel (husband of Shirley Truel)		Josh & Tricia Pardee-Jacka (friends of Charlotte Ellison)	
Cindy Roach (friend of Charlotte Ellison)		Liz Klemme (daughter/sister of Armin, Norma & Phil Klemme)	
Glenda Foster (friend of Charlotte Ellison)		Vanessa Dobsch (niece of Charlotte Ellison)	
Mary Dobsch (sister of Charlotte Ellison)		Aubrey Reed (granddaughter of Charlotte Ellison)	
Wayne Herring (father of Matt Herring)		Beverly Elliott (mother of Mike Elliott)	
Nancy McKenzie (sister of Vicki Hooper)		Bill Stolle (friend of Jim Doehring)	
The Henle family (family of Susan Merlino)		Shirley Thompson (mother-in-law of Connie Thompson)	
Nick Cain (grandson of Verlyn Yarbrough)		Randy Gortney (son-in-law of Hettie Becker)	

Church Family Undergoing Cancer Treatment:

Brenda Viehland	Jake McNeil (member of Zion & son of Sarah Davenport)
Ronald Dobsch (nephew of Charlotte Ellison)	Morgan Jones (friend of Connie Thompson & Amy Eads)
Sarah Reed (daughter-in-law of Charlotte Ellison)	Cynthia Johnson (friend of Karen Stafford)
Kim Gallagher (friend of Chris & Dawn Robinson)	Trish Kennedy (friend of Charlotte Ellison)
Allen Coffman (friend of David & Shawn Pehle)	Marissa Schollenberger (friend of Tom & Gayle Williams)
Donna Eime (friend of Jim Doehring)	Aaron Dixon (nephew of Dan Mossoney)
Mike Meyer (friend of Mandy Frick)	Brenda (friend of Hettie Becker)
Leland Stahlman (brother of Keith Stahlman)	Bill Diestelkamp (cousin of Liz Short & friend of Mandy Frick)

Various Concerns:

Prayer for our country and those actively serving: Aviation Structural Mechanic 3rd Class Hunter Grafrath (currently deployed) (son of Lindsay & Greg Traffas, grandson of Mike & Lynne Elliott)

Adult Education Opportunities

JOY Adult Class – The JOY Adult Class meets in the lower commons classroom following worship. All are invited.

This Morning - *The Discussion Class* meets in the conference room following the 9 a.m. worship service. All are welcome!

Christian Education/Faith Quest/Youth News

Wednesdays – The first two Wednesdays of each month all are invited to LOGOS where we will have an 'out of this world' experience! Join us from 5-7:30 p.m. for music, bible stories, games, crafts, & a family style meal. The meal is served at 6 p.m. with a \$5 donation to help cover the cost of the Zion LOGOS meals.

Thurs., March 28 – Bring your children/grandchildren to the **Glow in the Dark Easter Egg Hunt** on Thursday, March 28th following the Maundy Thursday Service. If you plan to attend please contact Alysha Petry at 636-583-2814 or apetry@zionunion.org. Bring your Easter baskets!

Camp Registration Is Open! – Summer camp registration is open for all Camp MoVal Camps. Zion members receive a 60% discount thanks to camp scholarships. Contact the church office for your discount gift certificate. Register for camp at the Ultracamp website. Click the REGISTER TODAY button at www.missourimidsouth.org/camp-moval to be directed to Ultracamp.

Children's Music Opportunity – Our children's music group 'Joyful Noise' for grades K-6 rehearses on the last two Wednesdays of the month beginning at 6 p.m.

Church Calendar – March 17, 2024 to March 24, 2024

Today -	The 5th Sunday in Lent
	9:00 a.m. Worship
	10:00 a.m. Christian Education/Fellowship Hour
	10:00 a.m. Usher 'Refresher' Training (sanctuary)
Mon., March 18 -	7:00 p.m. Church Council (classroom)
Wed., March 20 -	10:00 a.m. Lenten Bible Study (chapel)
	12:00 noon Loops of Love
	6:00 p.m. Joyful Noise
	7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir (chapel)
Thurs., March 21 -	8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Quilting Circle
	1:00 p.m. Historical (conference room)
	6:30 p.m. Lenten Bible Study (lower commons)
Fri., March 22 -	7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
Next Sun., March 24 - Palm/Passion Sunday	
	9:00 a.m. Worship
	10:00 a.m. Christian Education/Fellowship Hour

Easter Lilies/Benevolent Gift - If you would like to donate an Easter lily in memory/honor of a loved one(s) the cost will be \$18 per plant. In lieu of a lily you may give a monetary donation to the Little Free Pantry/Union Food Pantry. Deadline to place order for Easter lilies is March 24th.

Cemetery Clean Up - Spring clean up at the Zion Cemetery will be from March 1st to March 31st. Please remove any items you may want to keep before these dates and they may be placed back after March 31st. Thank you!

Lenten Study - This year's Lenten Study is focusing on the Gospel of Mark. We are covering its origin, unique contributions to Christianity, literary style, and ways in which we modern readers can interpret this Gospel. The study continues every Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the chapel and Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the lower commons. (3/20 & 3/21).

Zion's Women's Retreat Planning Team needs help collecting items for an upcycled craft. We are collecting used blue jeans and gallon ice cream buckets. The blue jean legs will be cut into one-inch strips for basket weaving. Drop off your jeans and ice cream buckets in the lower commons by April 21st. Thank you!

Wednesdays – The first two Wednesdays of each month all are invited to LOGOS where we will have an 'out of this world' experience! Join us from 5-7:30 p.m. for music, bible stories, games, crafts, & a family style meal. The meal is served at 6 p.m. with a \$5 donation to help cover the cost of the Zion LOGOS meals.

Help Thyself - The Help Thyself committee is always the happiest when we see the prepared meals and desserts disappear from the freezer in the Lower Commons freezer. Please continue to Help Thyself and continue to enjoy the prepared meals from the Zion's participating great cooks. Thank you so much to those cooks. Any suggestions are always welcome - pass them on to any of the committee members. Kathy Young (314-580-3105), Carol Rohrbach (636-583-3659), Ann Hartley (636-346-5921), Dorothy Mitana (636-239-1296), Jane Ridder (314-520-7090), or Maxine Harrison (636-583-2159)

Little Food Pantry – Thank you for the great support in keeping the Little Food Pantry going! A list of the most needed items is posted on the bulletin board in the lower commons. Monetary donations can also be given – contact the church office.