

The 5th Sunday in Easter

April 28, 2024

9:00 a.m.

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

Ringling of the Bell

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

“Emmett’s Lullaby”

Holmes

Hansen Ward, tuba + Kirk Hancox, accompanist

Call to Worship (1 John 4:7-21)

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God.

Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.

No one has ever seen God;

If we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

Let us worship God, giving thanks for God’s Spirit among us.

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray.

Holy God, you sent Jesus to be our example for living with each other. We give you thanks and praise for the message he brought to the world and for the lesson of love which he taught. Help us to embody that lesson as we seek to live lives which honor him. Amen.

First Reading of Scripture

John 15:1-8 NRSV

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

Thanks be to God!

+ Opening Hymn No. 466

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

Mission Moment – Green Team

BJ Cooper

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of love, we long for love and peace in our lives, for the day when our homes, our communities, and our world will become a dwelling place for your peace. Today, we confess that we are often anxious. We are envious of others; we do not trust those we do not know; and we are unwilling to open our hearts, to take the risks and make the relationship choices that love requires. Look upon us with grace, O God, forgiving our shallowness of faith. Rule in our hearts and in our lives, teaching us to walk with you in love. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Words of Grace

We are assured that Jesus came into the world so that through him we might have a path to reconciliation with God for our transgressions. We thank God for the gift of Jesus Christ through whom we may find forgiveness, and we say, “Praise God”.

We are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

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

Gracious God, we thank you for your gift of Jesus Christ, who cares for us and protects us. With these gifts we return to you, help us care for others in our communities and around the world. Amen.

Second Reading of Scripture

Acts 8:26-40 NRSV

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

Thanks be to God!

Anthem

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Karen Stafford, flute

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. 345

“Jesus Calls Us o’er the Tumult”

**“O Lord, may I so live, that those who know me and know not thee,
May want to know thee, because they know me.”**

+ Benediction

+ Postlude

“Rejoice! Be Glad!”

Kendall

We commit ourselves...

to worship God

to form faithful followers of Jesus

and to care for our wider community.

We care as Christ cares.

I am
the
vine;
you
are
the
branches.
John 15:5

+ The Fifth Sunday in Easter +

April 28, 2024 9:00 a.m.

Zion United Church of Christ
Union, Missouri

Guest Worship Leader:
Rev. Edward G. Wilson

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

SUNDAY NEWS

APRIL 28, 2024

A special thank you to Rev. Ed Wilson for serving as our Guest Pastor while Rev. Nick is on vacation. Rev. Wilson is a retired UCC Minister and a member of St. Peter's UCC in Washington. Welcome and thank you Rev. Wilson!

Serving This Morning

Liturgist: Sue Leicht

Ushers: Brad Parker & Connie Thompson Greeters: Maxine Harrison & Susan Merlino

Sound System Tech: Wayne Bean Video Tech: Gil Bisjak

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

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.

This Morning - Zion's Green Team has their displays of ways to recycle and reuse in the lower commons. Stop by and ask any questions about recycling from the Green Team.

On Our List For Prayers

Health and Healing:

Jim Doehring	Phyllis Olson	Carolyn Donoho	Virginia Maune	Frank Fazzari
Charlotte Ellison	Sondra Jackson	Kim Yenzer	Kevin Vorderbruegge	Norma Kern
Carol Bean	Keith Stahlman	Myrt Dunigan	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)		
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)		
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)		
Mike Bailey (husband of Leslie Bailey & son-in-law of Sondra Jackson)		Randy Gortney (son-in-law of Hettie Becker)		

Church Family Undergoing Cancer Treatment:

Brenda Viehland	Jake McNiell (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 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.

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.

'Joyful Noise', Zion's children's music group, will return in September.

Church Calendar – April 28, 2024 to May 5, 2024

Today -	The 5th Sunday in Easter 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Christian Education/Fellowship Hour
Wed., May 1 -	12:00 noon Loops of Love 1:00 p.m. Membership Review (conference room) 5:00-7:30 p.m. LOGOS 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal (chapel)
Thurs., May 2 -	8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Quilting Circle 6:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
Fri., May 3 -	7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
Sat., May 4 -	9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
Next Sun., May 5 -	The 6th Sunday in Easter 9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion 10:00 a.m. Christian Education/Fellowship Hour

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. **PLEASE NOTE:** Wednesdays – May 1st and 8th will be the last times for LOGOS until September.

High School Graduates Recognized – On Sunday, May 12th, we will be celebrating our high school graduates during the morning worship service. Those graduating this year are Maddie Buehrle, Ashley Frick, Danyelle Mossoney and Matthew Wilson.

Bread for the World Offering of Letters – On Sunday, May 12th, stop by the table in the lower commons to sign letters to our representatives in congress to help end hunger.

Church World Service Blanket Sunday – On Sunday, May 12th, we will again have our annual Church World Service Blanket Sunday. Each blanket is \$10 and can be given in memory or honor of a loved one. Stop by the table in the lower commons to make your donation.

Zion Fellowship Event – Zion Fellowship will be attending the Dinner and Murder Mystery Event at St. Paul's UCC in Marthasville on Saturday, June 8th. Reservations have been made for 24 people. A sign up sheet is posted on the lower commons bulletin board. **Deadline for sign up is May 13th.**

Memorial Day Parade – Zion is planning to participate in the Memorial Day Parade. Anyone interested is asked to contact the church office by May 19th. Thank you!

Zion Book Club will be meeting on Tuesday, May 28th at 1:30 p.m. in the lower commons. The next book the group will be reading is "The Flower Sisters" by Michelle Collins Anderson. All are welcome to join the group!

Help Thyself Meals - This program has been going well for over a year and a half which we are delighted to report. There can always be more participation if there is additional need. Called to Care visitors will be more than happy to help those in need by bringing a meal or two when they come for a visit. They just need the information. If a friend or neighbor is aware that you need meals just let them know as well and they can certainly pick up meals and get them to you. We are so happy to help you with a helping hand. 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) and 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.

Little Free Library – Just a reminder that Zion has a Little Free Library located close to the corner of Washington and Springfield Avenue. If you have any gently used adult/children's books please feel free to drop them in the free library or drop them off in the church office. Thank you!

Zion Ringers will return in September.

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