

# The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Easter

April 7, 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                    *“O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing”*                    Hughes

Call to Worship

As we join in worship this day, we might feel like the disciples, overwhelmed by grief. After all, the state of the world is so uncertain now.

**But our resurrected Christ comes to us, saying, “Peace be with you.”**

We might feel like Thomas, looking for physical signs that the unbelievable could be true. After all, nothing like this has ever happened before.

**But our resurrected Christ comes to us, saying, “Here are the marks on my body.”**

Can we really believe that Jesus is here again?

**Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on us. Christ’s peace is with us. We don’t need to be afraid.**

Our resurrected Christ calls us to worship, and we receive the peace of Christ.

**Let us worship with joy! Alleluia!**

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray.

**Resurrected Christ, you have taught us how the unbelievable can be possible. When there is so much to fear in the world, we can find peace in your presence. As we worship, breathe your Spirit on us, that we may carry it with us. Help us comfort our neighbors. Help us serve a world of need. We pray this with thanksgiving for your work among us. Amen.**

First Reading of Scripture

Psalms 133 NRSV

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

**Thanks be to God!**

+ Opening Hymn No. 300                    *“In the Garden”*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**God, we confess that we too might be like Thomas. As we are overwhelmed by the world’s grief, it’s natural for us to be cynical. It’s hard to believe that hope is possible when hope is hard to find. But when we stop believing in hope, we also stop believing liberation can be possible. When we stop working to tear down injustice and discrimination, we stop others from experiencing the peace we have found in you. Forgive our unbelief, calm our fears, and help us be instruments of your peace. Amen.**

Words of Grace

Beloved, Jesus comes to us with grace, telling us we can believe. Because we believe, we can also be empowered to do the work of justice. Yes, the world is heavy. No, the work will never be done. But because we know Christ’s peace, we can share it with others.

**We believe in the grace and peace of Christ. We are forgiven. Alleluia!**

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](http://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

**God of the Resurrection, help us use these gifts to offer hope where there is sorrow, peace where there is chaos and love where there is fear. We can do incredible things because your Spirit lives within us. Amen.**

Second Reading of Scripture

Mark 5:21-43 CEB

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

**Thanks be to God!**

Special Music

*“I Am the Resurrection”*

Repp

Jeanne Lischer, soloist

Chorus: (by the congregation)

**I am the resurrection** (clap)

**I am the life** (clap, clap, clap, clap)

**Those who believe in me will never die**

**I am the resurrection** (clap)

**And the life** (clap, clap, clap, clap)

**Those who believe in me will live a new life**

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.**

Hymn of Preparation No. 697

*“Eat This Bread”*

Holy Communion

Invitation

Christ is Risen!

**Christ is risen indeed!**

Lift up your hearts.

3

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit; Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love: We praise you for Jesus Christ, who reminds us that even in fear-filled days, cloaked with the powers of death, your eternal love arises, and never leaves us. For we rejoice with all your people and with the angels, because life is stronger than death! As we proclaim the glory of your name:

**Holy is Jesus, God Incarnate, the Risen Christ, whose mercy gathers us together in community whose grace meets us in our brokenness, and whose loving faithfulness gives us renewed hope. Amen.**

Remembrance

In this meal, we remember Jesus, his promises, and the price he paid for who he was, what he said, and what he did; for our benefit. On the night before Jesus died, He took a loaf of bread, Gave thanks, broke it, and said, “Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this, in remembrance of me.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup and poured, saying, “This is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.” In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith:

**We remember Christ’s life of love, and friendship, and teaching, we remember Christ’s dying, and rising to life again.**

Invocation

Bless this bread and this cup, the wheat and the grape, the farmer and the harvest, the seed and the sower. These simple elements are shared in community, so that we may taste and see your goodness and become one body in Christ.

**For it is through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, that all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forevermore. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread and the Pouring of the Cup

4



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

# SUNDAY NEWS

# APRIL 7, 2024

**Communion Sunday** - We practice Open Communion here at Zion UCC. Jesus didn't turn anyone away; neither will we. Everyone is invited to come and share in the receiving of the bread and the cup.

## Serving This Morning

Liturgist: Maxine Harrision  
Ushers: Sandy Stierberger & Jim Vemmer Greeter: Verlyn Yarbrough  
Communion Stewards: Bill & Fern Dewert, Vicki Hooper, Delores Musket  
Sound System Tech: Wayne Bean Video Tech: Dan Mossoney  
(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.

**"These Days" for April-May-June** are now available in the literature rack at the top of the staircase.

## 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	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)		
Mike Bailey (husband of Leslie Bailey & son-in-law of Sondra Jackson)			

### **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 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://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 – April 7, 2024 to April 14, 2024

<b>Today -</b>	<b>The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Easter/Communion</b>
	<b>9:00 a.m. Worship</b>
	<b>10:00 a.m. Christian Education/Fellowship Hour</b>
<b>Mon., Apr. 8 -</b>	6:30 p.m. Finance Committee (classroom)
<b>Wed., Apr. 10 -</b>	9:30 a.m. Called to Care (classroom)
	12:00 noon Loops of Love
	5:00-7:30 p.m. LOGOS
	6:30 p.m. Zion Ringers rehearsal (chapel)
	6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal (chapel)
<b>Thurs., Apr. 11 -</b>	8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Quilting Circle
	7:00 p.m. Lower Commons in use
<b>Fri., Apr. 12 -</b>	7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
<b>Sat., Apr. 13 -</b>	2:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
<b>Next Sun., Apr. 14 -</b>	<b>The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Easter</b>
	<b>9:00 a.m. Worship</b>
	<b>10:00 a.m. Christian Education/Fellowship Hour</b>
	<b>2:00 p.m. Eco Tones Concert (sanctuary)</b>

**Sat., Apr. 13** – Mark your calendars for the Earth Day Celebration at East Central College on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Donald Shook Student Center. Zion's Green Team will be hosting one of the booths. All are invited!

**Next Sun., Apr. 14** – Zion will be hosting a fundraising concert for Eco Tones Musicians next Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. in the sanctuary. Free will donations will be accepted which will help pay for musicians for the concert. Following the concert there will be light refreshments of cookies served in the fellowship hall. If you would like to donate a small plate of cookies please bring them to the church office by Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to help with the reception please contact Ann Hartley (636-346-5921).

**Sat., Apr. 20** – The Grape Country Cluster of UCC Churches will be hosting an Earth Day Celebration at Camp MoVal on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$12 per person (if eating lunch at camp, children age 4 & under are free). The day will include service projects at the camp (bring gloves, work boots or water boots, clippers and/or pruners). Following lunch there will be options for a hayride, hiking, boating, green burial discussion and green show & tell. Registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/mw9te38s>

**Suns., Apr. 21 & 28** – Zion's Green Team will be collecting used ink jet and toner cartridges on April 21 & 28. Bring your cartridges to our table and learn how and what to recycle. The Green Team will take the collected cartridges to Earthbound Recycling.

**Sun., Apr. 21** – Zion Fellowship will have a Sunday Brunch on Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> in the fellowship hall following the worship service. Bring a food item to share and ideas for possible future events for the group. Anyone is invited!

**UCC Women's Retreat** – The Missouri Mid-South Conference Women's Retreat will be held May 3-5, 2024 at Camp MoVal. The theme for the weekend is *God's World, Handle with Care*. We will focus on caring for God's world while presenting hope for the future of the Earth and everything in it. Join us for engaging speakers focused on earth-friendly living and climate change and its impact on the environment and diversity. Engage in eco-friendly interest groups such as gardening for pollinators, soap making, upcycling crafts, "green" Bible studies, service projects, camp activities, and many more. We will explore God's creation and work together to recognize THERE IS SOMETHING EACH OF US CAN DO to care for God's world. Join us for the full weekend or the day-only option. Full Weekend Cost: \$150 (registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/mrv6uchp>) Day Only Cost: \$75 (registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/5ha84ey7>) **DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS APRIL 23<sup>RD</sup>**.

**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 21<sup>st</sup>. Thank you!

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