

The 15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 1, 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 *“How Glorious Is Thy Name”* Mozart

Call to Worship (*Inspired by Psalm 15*)

O Holy One, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Those who want to journey with you, who may have missed a turn, and who may struggle with rocky patches and rough terrain.

O Holy One, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Those who seek and search for you and for the community with doubts and hopes, joys and fears, smiles and tears.

O Holy One, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Those who try and those who sometimes give up. Those who are beautifully, wonderfully, and imperfectly human—all of us! Thanks be to God!

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray.

Loving God, we rejoice to be with you and with one another. You are the God who makes all things new and who redeems our past. In life, we find the fullness of life—from joy beyond measure to despair that consumes. Your presence sustains us through the depths and the

plateaus. We acknowledge your sovereignty and express our bold trust that hope is our portion and assigned position in your everlasting and incomparable realm. Amen.

First Reading of Scripture

Mark 1:1-15 CEB

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

Thanks be to God!

+ Opening Hymn No. 560 *“I Love to Tell the Story”*

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, may we break from the bonds of unaltered, unexamined, and unimaginative traditions. At the same time, may we be released from the compulsion to discount everything that has been a source of life and faithful formation across generations. Help us discern what needs to be left in our past with honor, recognition, and gratitude, what needs to be eradicated with lament, repentance, and repair, and what needs to be envisioned, imagined, and created for the future. Amen.

Words of Grace

Beloved, the Holy One renews, redeems, and restores through continuing creative acts. God has not concluded the good work begun in you or in our faith communities. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we receive courage, counsel, and conviction to do the new thing God is calling us to do while holding fast to those things that build, sustain, and encourage. By the grace of God, you are forgiven.

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

Generous God, bless these gifts that we share for the flourishing of the Kin-dom. Prosper the work of our hands, order the steps in our days, and align the balance of our resources. In our time, talent, and treasure, may you be glorified. Amen.

Second Reading of Scripture

Mark 15:42-16:8 CEB

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

Thanks be to God!

Special Music

“His Eye Is on the Sparrow”

Karen Stafford, pianist

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. 699

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Holy Communion

Invitation

An Affirmation of Faith - The Apostle’s Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day, he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Remembrance

Invocation

God of banquets and backyard barbeques, bless by your Holy Spirit these gifts of your creation. Please help us gather your people, serve your creation, and be ready to leave this place in the good hope that your realm has gotten a little closer. May this meal serve as a reminder that we are always invited to pull up a chair and share in your grace. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread and the Pouring of the Cup

+ 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 gluten free bread in your hand. Communion stewards next to the 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 following Communion

Gracious host, we thank you for this meal and the time we shared together. May it strengthen us for life's journey. Granting us the courage and resolve to be your people, love generously, hope relentlessly, and do the good that is ours to do. Bless us, that we may bless the world. Amen.

+ Closing Hymn No. 551 *"As a Fire is Meant for Burning"*

+ Benediction

+ Postlude *"Recessional"* Saxton

Today's liturgy for the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost Year B was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay who serves as Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ. <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/after-pentecost-15b-september-1/> The Communion Liturgy was written by Rev. Nicholas Knoblauch

Zion United Church of Christ, 115 S. Washington Ave., Union, MO 63084-1849
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Church Office: (636/583-2814) fax (636/583-7949)

Pastor: Rev. Nicholas Knoblauch **Administrative Assistant:** Connie Thompson
Minister to Youth & Families: Alysha Petry **Coordinator of Elementary Youth:** Mandy Frick
Organist: Brenda Herring **Council President:** Fern Dewert
Music Director: Dr. Karen Stafford **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.



*"Overcome with terror and dread,
they fled from the tomb.
They said nothing to anyone,
because they were afraid"*

Mark 16:8 CEB

+ The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost +

September 1, 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

September 1, 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: Carla Kilgore

Ushers: Dennis & Karen Tucker Greeters: Sandy Stierberger

Communion Stewards: Bill & Fern Dewert, Ken & Carol Rohrbach

Sound System: Alan TenEyck Camera 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.

Strengthen the Church Offering - During the month of September we will be receiving monetary donations for the Strengthen the Church Offering "On Holy Ground". This offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the UCC to build up the UCC. Funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry and much more. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the body of Christ. Offering envelopes are available by the offering plate in the narthex.

Festival of Sharing - During September monetary donations to Festival of Sharing will be received to help with hunger, poverty and injustice in Missouri and beyond. Offering envelopes are available by the offering plate in the narthex.

On Our List For Prayers

Health and Healing:

Jim Doehring	Phyllis Olson	Carolyn Donoho	Virginia Maune	Frank Fazzari
Charlotte Ellison	Kim Yenser	Kevin Vorderbrugge	Carol Bean	Ruth Lord
Keith Stahlman	Myrt Dunigan	Felicia Scott	Sarah Berghorn	
Anne Parker (at Willow Brooke in Union)		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)		Mike Bailey (husband of Leslie Bailey)		
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)		
Whitney Henle (granddaughter of Susan Merlino)		Randy Gortney (son-in-law of Hettie Becker)		
Roger McDaniel (brother-in-law of Larry & Betty Clark)		Darlene Farrell (sister of Charlotte Ellison)		
Marvin Huggins (brother-in-law of Barb Harvey)				
Krista Copeland (daughter of Verlyn Yarbrough & mother of Lukas Copeland)				

Sympathy Is Extended to:

Joyce, Amy & Christina Altholz & family on the death of their husband & father Don Altholz who died on August 24th.
Per his request no visitation or funeral was held.

Church Family Undergoing Cancer Treatment:

Brenda Viehland	Jake McNiell (member of Zion & son of Sarah Davenport)
Skip Buehrle	Ronald Dobsch (nephew of Charlotte Ellison)
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

Next Sun., Sept. 8 - The JOY Adult Class will be meeting again next Sunday, September 8th and discussing the book 'If God is Love Don't Be a Jerk' by John Pavlovitz.

Christian Education/Faith Quest/Youth News

Next Sun., Sept. 8 - RALLY DAY is next Sunday, September 8th from 10-11 a.m. All classes will meet in the Fellowship Hall.

Next Sun., Sept. 8 - Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to the 'Escape Room'. Meet at Zion at 11 a.m. Email Alysha at apetry@zionunion.org if interested and for more information.

Coming Up this Fall - Alysha and Karen are considering a special music/play time in the chapel for kids ages 3-6 that will occur at the same time as the 5:00 LOGOS activities on the first two Wednesdays of the month followed by the LOGOS supper. If you are interested in having your child(ren) participate or if you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact Karen at kstafford@zionunion.org

Church Calendar - September 1, 2024 to September 8, 2024

Today -	The 15th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour
Mon., Sept. 2 -	Labor Day (Church Offices closed)
Wed., Sept. 4 -	12:00 noon Loops of Love (lower commons) 1:00 p.m. CROP Walk Meeting (classroom) 5:00-7:30 p.m. LOGOS 5:00 p.m. Alleluia Kids (chapel) 6:45 p.m. Zion Ringers (chapel) 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal (chapel)
Thurs., Sept. 5 -	8:00 a.m.-12 noon Quilting Circle 6:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
Fri., Sept. 6 -	7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
Next Sun., Sept. 8 -	The 16th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. RALLY DAY! 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour 11:00 a.m. Youth to Escape Room

Beginning Wed., Sept. 4 - *Alleluia Kids* for ages 2-kindergarten 5:00 - first two Wednesdays of the month in the chapel. *Zion Ringers* starts at 6:45 - first two Wednesdays of the month (after LOGOS supper)

Wednesday Night Activities Resume on September 4th!

Schedule for the first TWO Wednesdays of every month (September-April)

5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Adults: (Re) Membership with Pastor Nick: Join the conversation on what it means to be a member of Zion and a member of the UCC, and discuss the historical legacy of the denomination and our church.

Youth: LOGOS programming for K-12th grade youth with Mandy & Alysha.

Preschool: Hallelujah Kids music exploration, movement, and games for kids aged 2-kindergarten with Karen.

6:00 - 6:45 p.m.

Dinner in the Fellowship Hall

6:45 - 7:30 p.m.

Zion Ringers Rehearsal

LOGOS Games continue for Youth

7:30 p.m.

Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Historical Displays - Please stop by the church historical display case in the narthex for pictures and an article written by Skip Buehrle on the 'Children of Peace' sculpture. There are also displays of the back door project in the new Historical Room in the lower commons classroom done by Bruce Templer.

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!