

The 18th Sunday after Pentecost

September 22, 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 “A Flower Remembered” Rutter

Call to Worship *(Inspired by Psalm 54)*

Let us humble ourselves as we seek the presence of the Sovereign God.

God is our helper, the upholder of life.

The Holy One saves and delivers, vindicates and redeems, listens and responds.

God is our helper, the upholder of life.

Give thanks to Holy Love and worship our Maker.

God is our helper, the upholder of life.

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray.

Good God, make yourself known among us. We lift our voices in song, our hearts in prayer, our minds in consideration, our lives in adoration toward you. We acknowledge that your Spirit leads, comforts, and challenges us as we follow you. Amen.

First Reading of Scripture

Proverbs 28:1-14 CEB

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

Thanks be to God!

+ Opening Hymn No. 649 “Gather Us In”

The Baptism and New Member Reception of Jacob Feth

Welcome

Questions of the Candidate

Congregational Assent

Prayer of Baptism

Please join me in prayer. We thank you, God, for the gift of creation called forth by your saving Word. Before the world had shape and form, your Spirit moved over the waters. Out of the waters of the deep, you formed the firmament and brought forth the earth to sustain all life. In the time of Moses, your people Israel passed through the Red Sea waters from slavery to freedom and crossed the flowing Jordan to enter the promised land. In the fullness of time, you sent Jesus Christ, who was nurtured in the water of Mary’s womb. Jesus was baptized by John, in the water of Jordan, became living water to a woman at the Samaritan well, washed the feet of the disciples, and sent them forth to baptize all the nations by the water and the Holy Spirit.

Bless by your Holy Spirit, gracious God, this water. By your Holy Spirit save those who confess the name of Jesus Christ that sin may have no power over them. Create new life in the one baptized this day that he may rise in Christ. Glory to you, eternal God, the one who was, and is, and shall always be, world without end. Amen.

Act of Baptism

Congregational Blessing

Welcome Jacob! We rejoice in your baptism and promise to help you remember today. Faith can get hard and heavy, so we carry it together. We are strengthened by your presence. Thank God for you!

Question about Participation

Welcome and Reception

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.

Prayer for the Baptized

We give you thanks, O Holy One, mother and father of all the faithful for this your child, Jacob, and for the grace acknowledged here today in water and the Holy Spirit. Embrace us all as children in the one household of your love. Give the newly baptized: strength for life's journey, and courage in times of suffering. The joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life. 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.

Hymn No. 355

"This is a Day of New Beginnings"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy Love, we confess that too often we become fixated with our position in the world. We love the exercise of our own power and exert it over others rather than for the benefit of the common good and your kin-dom. Transform our hearts to crave you as the source of our power and love the only good and fulfilling demonstration of it. Make us your instruments of peace, joy, and hope in the world and agents of new life. Amen.

Words of Grace

Image bearers of the divine, grace, and mercy follow you in anticipation of your repentance. Turn toward the ways of justice and righteousness. Let Wisdom guide you and Holy Love use you for the glory of God and the blessing of our neighbors in humanity and in creation.
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

Gracious God, we give you thanks for all the gifts we receive from you and pray you receive our gifts for your kin-dom. May they be a blessing and gift in our extended community and the world. Amen.

Second Reading of Scripture

Proverbs 31:10-31 CEB

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

Thanks be to God!

Special Music

"How Firm a Foundation"

arr. Ortega

Kirk Hancox, soloist/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.

+ Closing Hymn No. 502 *“Be Thou My Vision”*
The closing hymn is sung in loving memory of *Carolyn George*.

+ Benediction

+ Postlude *“I Will Arise and Go to Jesus”* Carter

Service Prayers for the Eighteenth 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-1b-september-22/>

The Baptism and New Member Reception liturgy used combined elements from The United Church of Christ Book of Worship and *“Speak It Plain”* By Meta Herrick Carlson, Fortress Press 2020.

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 **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.



The LORD created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago.

Proverbs 8:22, NRSV

+ The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost +
September 22, 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 22, 2024

Welcome! We welcome Jacob Feth into the life and fellowship of Zion Church this morning.

Serving This Morning

Liturgist: Jane Ridder
Ushers: Bill & Fern Dewert Greeter: Susan Merlino
Sound System: Alan TenEyck Camera Tech: David Bean
(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. Please make your checks payable to Zion UCC and in the memo 'STC offering'.

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. Please make your checks payable to Zion UCC and in the memo 'FOS offering'. **If you are preparing actual 'kits' for Festival of Sharing, please drop them off to the Church Office by NEXT Sunday, September 29th.**

"These Days" devotionals for October-November-December are available in the literature rack at the top of the stairs.

On Our List For Prayers

Health and Healing:

Jim Doehring	Phyllis Olson	Carolyn Donoho	Virginia Maune	Frank Fazzari
Charlotte Ellison	Kim Yenzer	Kevin Vorderbruegge	Carol Bean	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:

The family of Carolyn George. Visitation for Carolyn will be on Wednesday, September 25th from 10 a.m.-12 noon at Zion Church with the funeral service following the visitation.

Beginning Their Life Together:

Luke Herring & Drenda Hess were united in Christian marriage yesterday at Zion Church by Rev. Knoblauch.

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

This Morning - The JOY Adult Class beings meeting again this morning in the lower commons classroom. They will be discussing the book *'If God is Love Don't Be a Jerk'* by John Pavlovitz.

Christian Education/Faith Quest/Youth News

This Morning - All Sunday School classes will meet from 10-11 a.m.; Preschool - ages 3-5 will meet in the Preschool Room (the nursery); Faith Quest - grades kindergarten-5th grade will meet in the Bible Max Theatre; Confirm NOT Conform - grades 6-12 will meet in the high school room.

Church Calendar - September 22, 2024 to September 29, 2024

Today -	The 18th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Christian Education/Fellowship Hour 10:00 a.m. Green Team (fellowship hall)
Wed., Sept. 25 -	10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Visitation/Funeral for Carolyn George 6:00 p.m. Joyful Noise (chapel) 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal (chapel)
Thurs., Sept. 26 -	8:00 a.m.-12 noon Quilting Circle 10:00 a.m. October newsletter assembled
Fri., Sept. 27 -	7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
Next Sun., Sept. 29 -	The 19th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Christian Education/Fellowship Hour

Mon., Sept. 23 - Final articles for the October 'Spirit of Zion' newsletter are due in the church office on Monday, September 23rd. The newsletter will be assembled on Thursday, September 26th beginning at 10 a.m.

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!

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