

The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

October 27, 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 *“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”* arr. Curtis

Call to Worship *(Inspired by Psalm 34)*

Look to the Holy One and be radiant! Bless God at all times.

We praise God who is with us. We honor God who sustains, redeems, and delivers.

Look to the Holy One and be radiant! Boast in the Holy One.

We seek the Holy One who hears our cries with grace, mercy, and compassion.

Look to the Holy One and be radiant! Magnify God with me.

O taste and see, hear and proclaim, touch and know that God is good. Bless the Holy One!

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray.

Loving God, it is good to be with you in the company of the assembly. When we seek you, we find you. When we pray, you respond. When we listen, your voice sounds. Make your presence palpable in the places we gather. We come to be formed, informed, and transformed by your lavish and bountiful love for your glory and for all you hold within your heart. Amen.

First Reading of Scripture

Psalm 126 CEB

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

Thanks be to God!

+ Opening Hymn No. 424 *“How Can I Keep from Singing?”*

The Baptism of *Louis Marvin Meyer*

Welcome

Questions of the Candidates

Address

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 Noah, you washed the earth with the waters of the flood, and your ark of salvation bore a new beginning. 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

Prayer of the Baptized

This Child is now received into the continued love and care of his family and friends in the good hope that hereafter he may continue to brighten the world through his love. Let us pray for Louis, baptized today.

We give you thanks O Holy One, mother and father, heavenly parent of us all, for this your child 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. As Louis has been baptized by our ministry into the Christian church, so may he, by your guidance, become one with Christ. Breathe upon him now and always your Holy Spirit. Grant that his love may be a blessing to his home and the world. Grant us grace to receive, nurture, and befriend this new member of the body of Christ. Grant the newly baptized: strength for life's journey, courage in times of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ who makes us one. Amen.

Hymn No. 677

“Child of Blessing, Child of Promise”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, break our hearts for what breaks yours. Forgive us for hearts that are sometimes cold with indifference. Forgive us for hearts that are sometimes hard to control. Forgive us for hearts closed with isolation. Open our hearts fully to compassion and companionship with our neighbor and your vision of a beloved kingdom come. Amen.

Words of Grace

Beloved, your heart bears the heart of God. With the Holy One's grace, heartbreak can transform into compassion, mutuality, and ministry that makes the love of God real in the world. May God's forgiveness transform your heart. May your heart transform the world.

We 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

Loving God, bless us with increased generosity, trust, and faithfulness. Receive these gifts as an offering of praise. May needs be met, lives be changed, and hearts be warmed through our giving. Amen.

Second Reading of Scripture

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

Thanks be to God!

Ruth 1:1-18

Anthem

“Folk Hymn Suite”

Chancel Choir

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. 500 “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

+ Benediction

+ Postlude “Raise a Song of Praise” Hughes

Service Prayers for the Twenty-Third 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-23b-october-27/>

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.

Where you go I will go,
and where you stay I will stay.
Your people will be my people
and your God my God.

Ruth 1:16

+ The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost +

October 27, 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

OCTOBER 27, 2024

Baptism

We are happy to receive Louis Marvin Meyer in Christian baptism this morning. It is our responsibility as a congregation to support the baptismal candidate as he grows in the nurture and admonition of our Lord.

Louis Marvin Meyer

born: August 15, 2021

son of Derrick & Hannah Meyer

grandson of Dennis & Michele Koelling & Cindy Meyer

Sponsors: Denise Sachs & Kurt Koch

Serving This Morning

Ushers: Ken & Carol Rohrbach Greeter: Sandy Bailey

Sound System: Mark Klenke 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.

Disaster Relief - As the United Church of Christ continues relief efforts for Hurricane Helene and responds to Hurricane Milton, we invite you to give to the **Hurricanes 2024 Appeal**. Your gift will make a direct impact, providing relief to those suffering, rebuilding homes, and helping restore communities. Together, we can extend the support and hope so desperately needed during this time. Offering envelopes are available by the offering plate for your monetary gifts. Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

Neighbors In Need Offering - During the month of October Zion will be receiving monetary gifts to the Neighbors In Need Offering which supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Offering envelopes were included in the October newsletter; additional envelopes are available by the offering plate.

On Our List For Prayers

Health and Healing:

Jim Doehring	Phyllis Olson	Carolyn Donoho	Frank Fazzari	Myrt Dunigan
Charlotte Ellison	Kim Yenser	Kevin Vorderbruegge	Carol Bean	Keith Stahlman
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)		
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)				

Church Family Undergoing Cancer Treatment:

Brenda Viehland	Jake McNeil (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 (son of Lindsay & Greg Traffas, grandson of Mike & Lynne Elliott)

Ross Groenke (son of Cindy & Dale Groenke)

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 - October 27, 2024 to November 3, 2024

Today -	The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost
	9:00 a.m. Worship/Baptism
	10:00 a.m. Christian Education/Fellowship Hour
Mon., Oct. 28 -	6:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
Wed., Oct. 30 -	12:00 noon Loops of Love (lower commons) 6:30 p.m. Drumming Circle (chapel) 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal (chapel)
Thurs., Oct. 31 -	8:00 a.m.-12 noon Quilting Circle
Fri., Nov. 1 -	7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
Next Sun., Nov. 3 -	The 24th Sunday after Pentecost
	9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion
	10:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting (sanctuary)
	10:00 a.m. Christian Education/Fellowship Hour

Wed., Oct. 30 - Drumming Opportunity - In the months when there are 5 Wednesdays, we will be offering meditative, Christian-based community drumming. Our first one is Wednesday, October 30th at 6:30 p.m. No musical experience is needed. Feel free to invite a friend! Please RSVP to kstafford@zionunion.org or call the church office so we know the number of instruments needed.

Sat., Nov. 2 - Tree planting day at Camp MoVal - Camp MoVal has received a donation of 70 3-gallon trees, and they need volunteers to help plant them. Date: Saturday, November 2; Time: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM (finish time is dependent on how long it takes to plant them). If you can help any amount of time please contact Alysha.

Next Sun., Nov. 3 - The November Congregational Meeting of Zion Church will be held next Sunday, November 3rd following the morning worship service in the sanctuary.

Through November 11 - Zion will be collecting for this years Kurt Warner Coat Drive till November 11th. Please bring clean, gentle used coats to the lower commons and place them in the box marked for the coat drive. Thank you.

Wreaths Across America - Once again the Union American Legion will be laying wreaths on the graves of veterans this Christmas season. We are currently short 40 wreaths for Zion's Cemetery. Wreaths are \$17. If you can help, please make out a check to: American Legion Post 297 and in the memo section "wreaths - Zion". Cash donations to the office would also be greatly appreciated. Contact Brad Parker at 314-330-7094 for more details.

Help Thyself Meals - This is a gentle reminder to make use of the Help Thyself meals for you. That is what they are for.....YOU. In the Lower Commons kitchen there are in the freezer, meals, soups and simple desserts. If you are able to pick up a couple of meals for your week ahead, please do so. If unable to pick them up a church friend can do it for you or a Call to Care member would be happy to bring them to you when they come to visit. Please take advantage of this opportunity available to you. Let any of the following people know if you know of someone that needs assistance. 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).