

# The 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

October 6, 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                      *“Bread of the World”*                      Bartlett

Call to Worship *(Inspired by Psalm 26)*

The Holy One dwells within and beyond the congregation and makes a home among us.

**Prove us, and try us; Holy One, test our hearts and minds.**

The glory of the Sovereign One abides with us, illuminating our journey, energizing our gathering, and warming our spirits.

**Prove us, and try us; Holy One, test our hearts and minds.**

Bless the Name of Names, the God of Truth, and the Giver of Life with songs of praise, prayers of hope, and moments of connection.

**Prove us, and try us; Holy One, test our hearts and minds.**

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray.

**Majestic God, your realm encompasses the universe, the earth, and our community. All creation declares your glory. May we unite with our kin around the world in celebrating you and the connections we share. As we gather in your name, may we remember those we join in faith, hope, and worship on every continent representing every tradition. May we declare in spirit and in truth...one bread, one body...the church striving to be one as you, Sustainer, Redeemer, and Spirit are one. Amen.**

First Reading of Scripture

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 CEB

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

**Thanks be to God!**

Affirmation of Ministry - Alysha Petry, Student Pastor

Recognition

Covenant

Laying on of Hands

Declaration

+ Opening Hymn No. 24                      *“God, You Spin the Whirling Planets”*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy One, we come to this gathering, the table, and your presence mindful that this day particularly celebrates our human connectedness. The reality lies far from the idea and your vision of beloved community. You call us to remember the poor, the marginalized, the immigrant, the isolated and abandoned. You command us to love our neighbor and have blessed us to live in an era in which we may know our neighbors from across the world to amazing degrees.

**Yet, we cling to our echo chambers and isolationist tendencies. We place our desires and comforts over the good of the world. We demonize difference rather than dignify diversity. Forgive us and have mercy on us while propelling us to new life. Extend your grace to transform our attitude and actions and infuse us with openness, curiosity, and love. Amen.**

Words of Grace

Beloved, God’s grace and power reside in you in mutual support of a transformed life. As 1 Corinthians 10:13 assures, “No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and

[God] will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing [God] will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.” Allow the testing to strengthen you, to build your endurance, and to do a new thing in you and through you for the glory of God.

**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](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

**Holy One, we thank you for our abundance and the privilege to share in the flourishing of our community and the world. Bless these gifts and be glorified by our generosity and trust in your provision, sufficiency, and renewing power. Amen.**

### Second Reading of Scripture

Ecclesiastes 5:8-6:12 CEB

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

**Thanks be to God!**

### Anthem

*“Holy Lord, We Glorify Thy Name”*

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.**

### Hymn of Preparation No. 699 “Let Us Break Bread Together”

### Holy Communion

#### Invitation

#### Litany

Called to the table, to share the wine and bread, “I want you to remember me,” Jesus softly said.

**Come, Come to the table.**

We think about the mystery – the words that Jesus said, and how he gave his life for us as we break the bread.

**Come, Come to the table.**

Gathered at the table, God’s Spirit in the air, we drink the cup of blessing, the bread of life we share.

**Come, Come to the table.**

Together in communion, one family – young and old, we celebrate together, as ancient words are told.

**Come, Come to the table.**

There’s room at the table, no matter how we feel, Jesus reaches out to us in this holy meal.

**Come, Come to the table.**

We rise from the table, forgiven, loved, and free. We leave to be the people who God calls us to be.

**Come, Come to the table.**

Gathered at the table, surrounded by God’s grace, we are one Christian family, in every time and place.

**Come, Come to the table.**

Remembrance  
Invocation

**Holy God, we give thanks for this table of bread and cup that reminds us of Jesus and our shared Christian family celebrating this same Thanksgiving. The remembrance is the same, while the locations vary: from churches to homes, cities or farms, inside or outside. The bread and cup may look different, but what matters is that each represents the meal Jesus asked us to remember. We ask that you pour your Spirit among us and the community of believers worldwide, binding us together in your ever-present love. Let the remembrance of your offering of the bread and cup move us to bring your love into the world in every time and place. 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

**Communal God, we give you thanks that as you shared in life and death, you led us into the resurrected life. At this table, we acknowledge your abiding presence among us. You offered us bread and cup, which we receive in remembrance and expectation of your movement in human history. Form us as your faithful community and shape us as servants and stewards of your realm. By your Holy Spirit, may your covenant reign within our hearts and manifest in the witness of our lives now and forever. Amen.**

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

+ Benediction

+ Postlude      “The Call to Serve”      Kendall

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Service Prayers for World Communion Sunday, the Twentieth 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-20b-world-communion-sunday-october-6/>

Communion Litany: Copyright @GlenysNellist, Words taken from Gathered at the Table: Celebrating Communion, published by Zonderkidz, 2024

The Communion Invocation was written by Alysha Petry.

The Affirmation of Ministries was adapted from the United Church of Christ Book of Worship.

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Zion United Church of Christ, 115 S. Washington Ave., Union, MO 63084-1849

Home Page address is: [www.zionunion.org](http://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

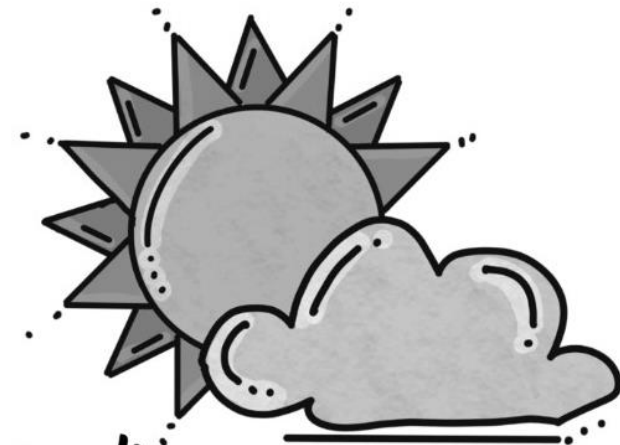
We commit ourselves...

to worship God

to form faithful followers of Jesus

and to care for our wider community.

*We care as Christ cares.*



Who can say  
What the future holds  
for people under the sun?

...→ Ecclesiastes 6:12b CEB ←...

+ The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost +

October 6, 2024 + 9:00 a.m.

Zion United Church of Christ

Union, Missouri

# SUNDAY NEWS

# OCTOBER 6, 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 as we celebrate with other Christians on this World Communion Sunday.

## Serving This Morning

Liturgist: Alysha Petry

Ushers: Matthew Herring & Kevin Vorderbruegge Greeter: Kevin Vorderbruegge

Communion Stewards: Fern & Bill Dewert, Sue Leicht & Susan Merlino

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** - The impact of Hurricane Helene is widespread and devastating as estimated damages could be over \$140 billion. There are 2 UCC congregations on Florida's Gulf Coast whose buildings have suffered significant flood damage and structural damage as well as the loss of lives and homes. Please consider a gift to the Hurricane Helene Recovery Appeal. Envelopes for your gifts are next to the offering plate. Make checks payable to Zion UCC with 'Hurricane Helene' in the memo portion. Thank you.

**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.

**This Morning & Sun., Oct. 20** - The Church Council has scheduled two informational Budget Meetings for this morning and on Sunday, October 20 following the worship service in the fellowship hall. This will be a time for members to review the PROPOSED 2025 budget and ask questions. Copies of the proposed budget are available next to 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 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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-5<sup>th</sup> grade will meet in the Bible Max Theatre; *Confirm NOT Conform* - grades 6-12 will meet in the high school room.

## Church Calendar - October 6 to October 13, 2024

<b>Today -</b>	<b>The 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost/World Communion Sunday</b>
	<b>9:00 a.m. Worship</b>
	<b>10:00 a.m. Christian Education/Fellowship Hour</b>
	<b>10:00 a.m. 2025 PROPOSED Budget Presentation (fellowship hall)</b>
<b>Wed., Oct. 9 -</b>	9:30 a.m. Called to Care (classroom)
	12:00 noon Loops of Love (lower commons)
	5:00 p.m. LOGOS
	7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal (chapel)
<b>Thurs., Oct. 10 -</b>	8:00 a.m.-12 noon Quilting Circle
	1:00 p.m. Historical Team Workday (historical room)
<b>Fri., Oct. 11 -</b>	7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
<b>Sat., Oct. 12 -</b>	p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
<b>Next Sun., Oct. 13 -</b>	<b>The 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>
	<b>9:00 a.m. Worship</b>
	<b>10:00 a.m. Intergenerational Sunday School/Fellowship Hour</b>
	<b>1:00 p.m. CROP Walk</b>

## Wednesday Night Activities - Schedule for the first TWO Wednesdays of every month (through 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-12<sup>th</sup> 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.**

LOGOS Games continue for Youth

**7:30 p.m.**

Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Next Sun., Oct. 13** - Sign up today for the CROP Walk! The Walk begins at 1 p.m. and starts at Zion. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. A sign up sheet is posted on the lower commons bulletin board for those interested in walking.

**Tues., Oct. 15** - Zion's Book Club will be meeting on Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. in the lower commons. The book they are reading and will be discussing is *"They Almost Always Come Home"* by Cynthia Ruchti.

**Sun., Oct. 20** - The Green Team will be in the lower commons before and after worship next Sunday, October 20, distributing *"Climate Hope Pledge Cards."* The pledge is simple: *"I pledge to vote as an act of hope for present and future generations."* The Vote for Climate Hope Campaign DOES NOT endorse any particular candidate or party; rather this is a pledge to vote for climate policies you support and to make climate action a priority as you make your voting decisions.

**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 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. No musical experience is needed. Feel free to invite a friend! Please RSVP to [kstafford@zionunion.org](mailto:kstafford@zionunion.org) or call the church office so we know the number of instruments needed.

**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!

**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.