

The 2nd Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025

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 *“Where He Leads Me”* Paxton

Call to Worship

Come as you are.

If you have deep faith or your faith has run dry,

If you know every scripture or none at all,

If you have calloused hands and live your faith through good works,

Or if you kneel at God’s feet, with a million hungry questions,

Come as you are.

This is God’s house.

None are turned away.

All are welcome here.

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray:

Loving God, when our anxiety hovers close, when fear clings to our bones, when our stress rises like the tide, see us. Speak to us. Call us by name. See us in the kitchen, in the classroom, in the hospital waiting room. Speak to us in the quiet, in the crowd, in the inky black of night. Call us beloved. Call us by name. Call us your child. Whatever you do, speak to us, for we cannot live on bread alone. Amen.

First Reading of Scripture

James 2:1-17 NRSVUE

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

Thanks be to God!

+ Opening Hymn No. 655 *“Come Away from Rush and Hurry”*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of Grace, we long to do the “right” thing. We long to make the “right” choice. We long to stand on the “right” side of the dividing line. In our earnestness, we sometimes miss the sacred right in front of us. In our earnestness, we sometimes miss opportunities to show love. Show us how to hold our heart’s desire for perfection loosely. Show us how to lead with grace and love, over anything else. For even more than our desire to be right, we desire to be close to you. Show us the way. Amen.

Words of Grace

Faithful friends, God knows your heart. When you mean well and lose your way, God knows. When you try to do the right thing and miss the point, God knows. When you long to be close to God, and doubt your worth, God knows. You are seen. You are loved. You are forgiven. You have been sent to serve. This is the good news of the gospel! Nothing can separate you from God’s love.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Giving from Our Hearts



It is the generosity of the friends and members of this church which supports this ministry. 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

**Good and gracious God, by your love, bless these gifts we offer to you.
Help us invest in your future. May this act of generosity create in us a
generous heart. Guide us, O Lord, as we press onward toward your
Kin-dom. Amen.**

Second Reading of Scripture

Luke 10:38-42 NRSVUE

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

Thanks be to God!

Anthem

“No Other Lamb”

Chancel Choir

(Please do not applaud after the Anthem, but observe a moment of silence. Thank you)

Sermon

Pastoral Prayer and 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. 723

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

+ Benediction

+ Postlude

“Psalm of Redemption”

Smith

Service Prayers for the First Sunday in Lent were written by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.” From the Lenten Series “Everything [In] Between”.

We commit ourselves...

to worship God

to form faithful followers of Jesus

and to care for our wider community.

We care as Christ cares.



everything
[in] between

faith & works

+ The 2nd Sunday in Lent +

March 16, 2025 + 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

MARCH 16, 2025

Serving This Morning

Liturgist: Gil Bisjak
Ushers: Jeff, Denise & Connor Muller Greeter: Linda Kinworthy
Camera Tech: David Bean Sound Tech: Jason Dewert
(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.

Historical Display - The Historical Display Case during the month of March features Betty Zumwalt. Stop by the display to see pictures of Betty and her family.

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering - During March, we will be receiving the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering which helps when disasters strike globally. OGHS provides immediate relief when needed during disasters. Offering envelopes are in the March newsletter and are also available by the offering plate.

Lenten Offering - This year's Lenten Offering will be divided between Grace's Place and Loving Hearts Outreach. Lenten envelopes are available by the offering plate for your gifts.

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

On Our List For Prayers

Health and Healing:

Jim Doehring	Phyllis Olson	Carolyn Donoho	Frank Fazzari	Myrt Dunigan
Charlotte Ellison	Kim Yenzer	Kevin Vorderbruegge	Carol Bean	Sarah Berghorn
Hettie Becker	Bruce Crane (at New Haven Care Center)			
Anne Parker (at Willow Brooke in Union)		Chris Branch (niece of Gerry Hoelscher)		
Sharon Waldrop (friend of Jim Doehring)		Darlene Farrell (sister of Charlotte Ellison)		
Mitch Angell (friend of Charlotte Ellison)		Tammy Wettling (friend of Charlotte Ellison)		
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)		
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)		
Eileen Lischer (mother of Jeanne Lischer)		Roger McDaniel (brother-in-law of Larry & Betty Clark)		

Church Family Undergoing Cancer Treatment:

Brenda Viehland	Jake McNiell (member of Zion & son of Sarah Davenport)
Skip Buehrle	Susie Andell
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)	Aaron Dixon (nephew of Dan Mossoney)
Mike Meyer (friend of Mandy Frick)	Brenda (friend of Hettie Becker)
Bob Peters (friend of Bill & Fern Dewert)	Britt Fassler (daughter of Nancy Kossmann)
Dasha Musante (granddaughter of Marilyn Stahlman)	Bill Diestelkamp (cousin of Liz Short & friend of Mandy Frick)
Willie Beckett (nephew of Vicki Hooper)	

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 meets 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 – March 16, 2025 to March 23, 2025

Today -	2nd Sunday in Lent
	9:00 a.m. Worship
	10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour
Wed., March 19 -	11:00 a.m. Lenten Reflection (chapel)
	12:00 noon Loops of Love (lower commons)
	6:00 p.m. Joyful Noise (chapel)
	6:00 p.m. Lenten Reflection (lower commons)
	7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir (chapel)
Thurs., March 20 -	8:00 a.m.-12 noon Quilting Circle
	1:00 p.m. Historical Team meeting (conference room)
Fri., March 21 -	7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
Next Sun., March 23 -	3rd Sunday in Lent
	9:00 a.m. Worship
	10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour

Lenten Bible Studies – Lenten Bible Studies will be held on the following dates/times/areas:

Wed., March 19 – 11:00 a.m. (chapel); 6:00 p.m. (lower commons)

Wed., March 26 – 11:00 a.m. (chapel); 6:00 p.m. (lower commons)

Wed., April 2 – 11:00 a.m. (chapel); 5:00 p.m. (lower commons)

Wed., April 9 – 11:00 a.m. (chapel); 5:00 p.m. (lower commons)

Mon., March 17 – Newsletter articles for the April 'Spirit of Zion' newsletter are due in the church office on Monday, March 17th. The newsletter will be assembled on Wednesday, March 26th at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

During the month of March – Spring clean up at the Zion Cemetery will be from March 1st to March 31st. Please remove any items you may want to keep before these dates and they may be placed back after March 31st. Thank you!

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!

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

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