

The 4th Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025

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 *“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”* Shelley

Call to Worship

Our God is a shepherding God.

Our God knows us by name.

Our God will never stop searching for us.

So if you feel lost,

then know that God is seeking you.

If you feel found,

then know that God will never leave.

This is the promise of scripture.

This is the promise of God’s love.

Let us worship our with-us God.

Gathering Prayer

Shepherding God, You look for us. You search for us. You turn every corner and climb every mountain. You call our name until your voice is hoarse. When we lose our way, you never stop seeking after us. So once again we pray, find us in this moment. Look for us. And then surround us with your presence, so that we might feel you near. With hope we pray, with hope we listen. Amen.

First Reading of Scripture

Psalm 23 RSV

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

Thanks be to God!

+ Opening Hymn No. 422

“Amazing Grace!”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

If God is a painter,

let us be the brush.

If God is a musician,

let us be the song.

If God is an architect,

let us be the tools. Let us be the hands. Let us be the builders.

But if God is a shepherd, who never stops seeking,

let us be willing to be found, no matter how lost we feel.

Our God is never far away.

Forgive us for forgetting this good news. Amen.

Words of Grace

Family of faith, we are all a little bit lost and a little bit found. We grumble. We push back. We doubt God. We doubt ourselves. We leave the flock and lose our way. But fortunately for us, our God is a shepherding God who is always by our side. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

No matter how far we wander, we can never wander from the bounds of God’s grace. We are loved. We are forgiven. We are not alone.

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

Divine Shepherd, gather us in, surround us with your love, wrap us in your grace. With humility, we offer these gifts. Bless them and us, for furthering your way of love, peace, and justice in the world you love so much. In your name, we pray, Amen.

Second Reading of Scripture

Luke 15:1-32 NRSVUE

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

Thanks be to God!

Hymn No. 461

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

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. 68

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

The closing hymn is sung in loving memory of **Ray McClanahan**.

+ Benediction

+ Postlude

“Mighty Maker of All”

Sawyer

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

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)

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
lost & found

+ The 4th Sunday in Lent +

March 30, 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 30, 2025

The flowers on the altar are given in honor of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Bill & Fern Dewert by their children & grandchildren – Jason, Amy, Nathan, Kristi, Abigail, Blake, Camden, Hannah & Natalie.

Serving This Morning

Liturgist: Shanna Brinker
Ushers: Jeff, Denise & Connor Muller Greeter: Marilyn Freiermuth
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	Sarah Berghorn	
Carol Bean (at Life Care Center in Sullivan)		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)		
Bob Peters (friend of Bill & Fern Dewert)				

Sympathy Is Extended to:

Georgianne McClanahan & family on the death of her husband, Ray, who died on March 21st.

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)
Britt Fassler (daughter of Nancy Kossmann)	Willie Beckett (nephew of Vicki Hooper)
Dasha Musante (granddaughter of Marilyn 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 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 30, 2025 to April 6, 2025

Today -	4th Sunday in Lent
	9:00 a.m. Worship
	10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour
Wed., April 2 -	11:00 a.m. Lenten Reflection (chapel)
	12:00 noon Loops of Love (lower commons)
	5:00 p.m. LOGOS
	5:00 p.m. Lenten Reflection (lower commons)
	7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir (chapel)
Thurs., April 3 -	8:00 a.m.-12 noon Quilting Circle
	6:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in Use
Fri., April 4 -	7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
Next Sun., April 6 -	5th Sunday in Lent
	9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion
	10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour

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

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)

Sun., April 6 – Zion Fellowship will attend the New Melle Passion Play on Sunday, April 6th at 2 p.m. with a dinner to follow at a 'to be determined Washington, MO restaurant'. Please check the bulletin board in the lower commons for more details and to sign up.

Easter Lilies/Benevolent Donations - If you would like to donate an Easter lily in memory/honor of a loved one(s) the cost will be \$17 per plant. In lieu of a lily you may give a monetary donation to the Little Free Pantry/Union Food Pantry. Deadline to place order for Easter lilies is April 13th. You may fill out the form that is in the April newsletter or call the church office. 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!

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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