

The 7th Sunday of Easter

June 1, 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 "A Time of Worship" Landon

Call to Worship (Psalm 97 – selected verses)

The Lord rules! Let the earth rejoice! Let all the islands celebrate!
Clouds and thick darkness surround God. God's throne is built on righteousness and justice.
Those of you who love the Lord, hate evil! God guards the lives of faithful ones, delivering them from the power of the wicked.
Rejoice in the Lord, righteous ones! Give thanks to God's holy name!

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray.
God Most High, we gather to honor and glorify you. Receive our invitation to dwell with us. Enfold us in your presence and fill us again with holy awe and mystery. We are yours and we claim you as our God. Amen.

First Reading of Scripture Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21 NRSVUE

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

Thanks be to God!

+ Opening Hymn No. 22 "Let All Things Now Living"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Blessed One, you created human beings for your glory and pleasure. Forgive us for being self-absorbed and choosing to live solely for ourselves. Forgive us for ignoring the prompting of your Spirit, your purpose for our lives, and for placing our will above yours. Grant us courage to share in Christ's sufferings, to be his witnesses, and to carry your loving compassion to a hurting world. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

As the Body of Christ, we are empowered by the Holy Spirit to be Christ's witnesses. Each of us has our own story of what Jesus' life means for us. Through our stories we can convey hope to the hopeless, joy to the downtrodden, and peace where there is turmoil. Rejoice! God forgives our missteps and leads us from beginning to the end. 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

Ever-present and loving God, your Word tells us to cast our cares on you because you care for us. In faith and trust we present these gifts, and ourselves, to you. Bless and multiply them to meet the needs, both hidden and apparent, of your beloved ones. Amen.

Second Reading of Scripture

John 17:20-26 NRSVUE

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

Thanks be to God!

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. 689

“One Bread, One Body”

Holy Communion

Invitation

An Affirmation of Faith – UCC Statement of Faith (adapted by Robert Moss)

We believe in God, the Eternal Spirit, who is made known to us in Jesus our brother, and to whose deeds we testify:

God calls the worlds into being, creates humankind in the divine image, and sets before us the ways of life and death.

God seeks in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

God judges all humanity and all nations by that will of righteousness declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord, God has come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the whole creation to its Creator.

God bestows upon us the Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

God calls us into the church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be servants in the service of the whole human family, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

God promises to all who trust in the gospel forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, the presence of the Holy Spirit in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in that kingdom which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto God. Amen.

Remembrance

Invocation

It is a right and good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, All-loving God. Alpha and Omega, whose love knows no bounds. We thank you for the promise of your redemptive work: that every piece of our lives shall work together for good through You. We lay before you today our brokenness, our pain, and our hardships, that you might heal and make us whole anew. Bless these simple symbols of the earth, that through the marriage of our faith and your grace, they may become for us Christ's presence. Come, Holy Spirit, and transform us through the sharing of this meal. Amen

Breaking of the Bread & 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 Eck 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

Holy One, we give you thanks for the gift of your presence in the simplicity and splendor of this sacred meal. Stay with us as we continue to imagine and proclaim the great possibilities of your love and justice. May the good news of your abiding care bring a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world. Amen.

+ Closing Hymn No. 587 *“Make Me A Channel of Your Peace”*

+ Benediction

+ Postlude *“Blessed Art Thou”* Patterson

Liturgy adapted from Worship Ways **Witnesses to Hope: Service Prayers for the 7th Sunday of Easter was written by the Rev. Renee C. Jackson

We welcome Rev. Karen Eck as our Guest Pastor while Rev. Nicholas is on vacation. Rev. Eck is a retired United Church of Christ clergy member who lives in Foristell with her husband of (almost) 50 years. She spent most of her adult life in Colorado and came to Missouri in 2012 to serve as pastor at Friedens Peace in New Melle. Karen enjoys reading, crocheting, gardening, volunteering, and spending time with family and friends. **Welcome Rev. Eck!**

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

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Council President: Fern Dewert

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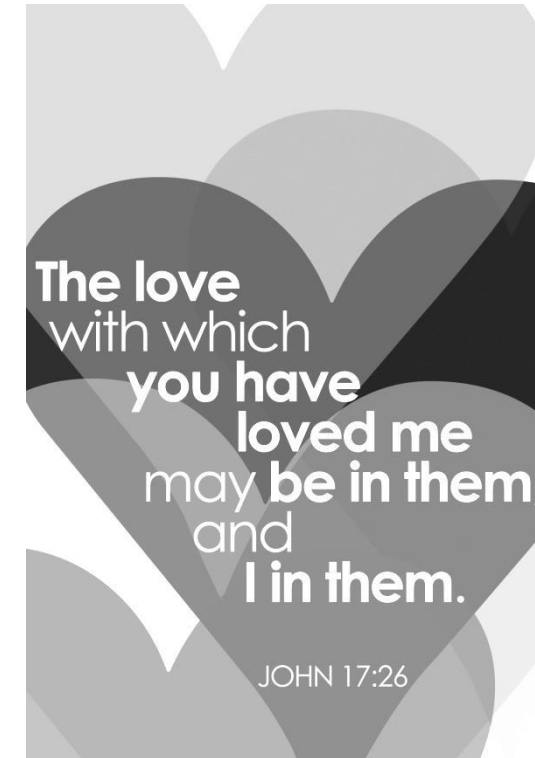
We commit ourselves...

to worship God

to form faithful followers of Jesus

and to care for our wider community.

We care as Christ cares.



+ The 7th Sunday of Easter +
June 1, 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

JUNE 1, 2025

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.

Serving This Morning

Liturgist: Alysha Petry

Ushers: Gale Claggett, Vicki Hooper Greeter: Kevin Vorderbruegge
Communion Stewards: Bill & Fern Dewert, Carl Ridder, Connie Thompson
Camera Tech: Dan Mossoney Sound Tech: John Crane
(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.

This Morning - There will be a Special Congregational Meeting this morning following the worship service in the sanctuary. This will be an informational meeting concerning the Hansen Trust.

During June - During the month of June we will again be collecting items for the USO at Lambert International Airport in St. Louis. A 'wish list' of items to donate and a box to place donations is located in the lower commons. Thank you for your donations!

Vacation Bible School Donations - Donations are needed for Vacation Bible School. Stop by the bulletin board in the lower commons to see what is needed. Each bear on the board has one item listed on it. Please consider grabbing a bear and return it with the item by June 13th. Thank you!

On Our List For Prayers

Health and Healing:

Jim Doehring	Phyllis Olson	Carolyn Donoho	Charlotte Ellison
Kim Yenzer	Kevin Vorderbruegge	Myrt Dunigan	Bruce Crane (at New Haven Care Center)
Anne Parker (at Willow Brooke in Union)		Dave Hall (bypass surgery)	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)		Jamie Koch (friend of Hettie Becker)	
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)		
Pat Pappas (sister of Jim Doehring)	Nancy McKenzie (sister of Vicki Hooper)		
Bill Stolle (friend of Jim Doehring)	Eileen Lischer (mother of Jeanne Lischer)		
Randy Gortney (son in law of Hettie Becker)			

Church Family Undergoing Cancer Treatment:

Brenda Viehland	Jake McNeil (member of Zion & son of Sarah Davenport)
Skip Buehrle	Susie Andell Linda Kroeter
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)
Erica Sterling (friend of Amy Dewert)	

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 in the lower commons classroom. They are discussing the book *'If God is Love Don't Be a Jerk'* by John Pavlovitz.

Christian Education/Faith Quest/Youth News

June 16-19 – Vacation Bible School – Registration is now open for this year’s Vacation Bible School which will be held on Monday, June 16 through Thursday, June 19 from 6-8 p.m. Register through the website at www.zionunion.org. Join us for a ‘wild’ good time!

Church Calendar – June 1, 2025 to June 8, 2025

Today -	The 7th Sunday of Easter 9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion 10:00 a.m. Special Congregational Meeting (sanctuary) 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour
Wed., June 4 -	12:00 noon Loops of Love (lower commons)
Thurs., June 5 -	8:00 a.m.-12 noon Quilting Circle 6:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
Fri., June 6 -	7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
Next Sun., June 8 -	Pentecost Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour 10:00-11:30 a.m. Anniversary Brunch in Fellowship Hall

Next Sun., June 8 – The congregation is invited to a Brunch Celebration in honor of the 40th Wedding Anniversary of Gary & Karen Stafford next Sunday, June 8th from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP to Liz at 314-650-6345.

Sun., June 22 – Our worship on Sunday, June 22nd will be a Hymn Sing. Please let Jeanne Lischer or the church office know **by June 15th** your favorite hymn and we will include as many as possible. (Hymns do not need to be in our hymnal.)

Drumming Circle – Please note: There will be NO drumming circle until the fall.

Joyful Noise and Alleluia Kids will resume in the fall.

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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