

# The 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

August 3, 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

*“Ragtime”*

Strommen

Clarinet Duet: Liz Pace & John Phillips

Call to Worship *(Inspired by Psalm 107)*

Hallelujah! Give thanks! Give thanks to God!

**For the Holy One redeemed us and sustained us through the time of trouble.**

Give thanks to the Holy One, for God is good!

**For the Compassionate One heard our cry and sustained us through the time of trouble.**

Give thanks to the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

**Hallelujah! Give thanks! Give thanks to God!**

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray.

**Amazing God, we honor and celebrate your presence among us. We rejoice in your goodness and delight in your wonderful works. We lament the suffering of the world and take courage that you are with us. We ask that you make your presence known to us. Speak, O God, for we attune our attention to your guidance. Receive our praise as we glorify your name! Amen.**

First Reading of Scripture

Psalm 107:1-16, 39-43 NRSVUE

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

**Thanks be to God!**

+ Opening Hymn No. 477

*“Come and Find the Quiet Center”*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, too often we seem determined to turn away from you. You, however, continually call us to repentance—to turn-back to you and your way. We pray for fortitude to remain on the path set by Jesus and embody the ministry of Christ in the world. Deliver us from the insignificant concerns that distract us and empower us to do the work you have called us to do. Most of all, grant us grace to be the people you have made us to be.**

Words of Grace

Beloved, you have received an inheritance of riches in God. These treasures of hope, strength, encouragement, peace, grace, joy, rest, and love are yours to claim. They are yours to live. Receive them freely and abundantly.

**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. 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, bless these offerings, prosper the work of our hands, and the gifts we bring. We dedicate them to your kin-dom forever and ever. Amen.**

Second Reading of Scripture

Genesis 15 CEB

Special Music

*“Our Great Savior”*

arr. Everson

Saxophone Duet: Liz Pace & John Phillips

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.

Holy Communion

Invitation

Statement of Faith *(United Church of Christ Statement of Faith in the form of a doxology)*

Let us pray.

**We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify: You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death. You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin. You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.**

**In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.**

**You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.**

**You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, 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.**

**You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end. Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.**

Remembrance

Invocation

**Come Holy Spirit, come, move across this table, across this grain and grape, across our very lives, renewing and refreshing us for the journey to come. We have gathered at your table ready for a foretaste of your reign of justice, love, and peace. Bless these elements and each of us in service of your realm, now and forever. 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 bread in your hand. (All Bread is Gluten-Free)*  
*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

**Loving God, we give you thanks for inviting us to this meal. May we always remember your love for us has no bounds. May we always embody the love you have given us. And may we go from this table ready to join you in your reign of reconciling love and renewing peace through all the world. Amen.**

+ Closing Hymn No. 515      *“Hymn of Promise”*

+ Benediction

+ Postlude      *“Glory and Majesty”*      Moore

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**Service Prayers for the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost** was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.  
<https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/after-pentecost-8c/>

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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)

**We commit ourselves...**

**to worship God**

**to form faithful followers of Jesus**

**and to care for our wider community.**

*We care as Christ cares.*



**After the sun had set  
and darkness had deepened,  
a smoking vessel  
with a fiery flame passed  
between the split-open  
animals.**

**That day the Lord  
cut a covenant with Abram  
Genesis 15:17-18a CEB**

+ The 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost +  
August 3, 2025 + 9:00 a.m.  
Zion United Church of Christ  
Union, Missouri

# SUNDAY NEWS

# AUGUST 3, 2025

**The flowers on the altar** are given in memory of Bob Hansen by friends.

**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: Karen Tucker  
Ushers: Dave & Linda Hall Greeters: Linda Kinworthy  
Communion Stewards: Bill & Fern Dewert, Ron & Pam Griffin  
Sound Tech: Harvey Mefford Video Tech: Gil Bisjak  
(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.

## **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)		Dennis Harrison (at St. Clair Nursing Center)	
Chris Branch (niece of Gerry Hoelscher)		Jim Petero (at Veteran's Home in St. James)	
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)		Laurie Becker	
Heather Frederick (niece of Marilyn Freiermuth)			

### **Church Family Undergoing Cancer Treatment:**

Brenda Viehland	Linda Kroeter	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)		Erica Sterling (friend of Amy Dewert)

### **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)

## **Church Calendar – August 3, 2025 to August 10, 2025**

<b>Today -</b>	<b>The 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost/Communion</b>
	<b>9:00 a.m. Worship</b>
	<b>10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour</b>
<b>Wed., August 6 -</b>	12:00 noon Loops of Love
<b>Thurs., August 7 -</b>	8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Quilting Circle
	6:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in Use
<b>Fri., August 8 -</b>	7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in Use
<b>Next Sun., August 10 -</b>	<b>The 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>
	<b>9:00 a.m. Worship</b>
	<b>10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour</b>

**General Synod Discussion - Sun., August 17** – Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall following the service on Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup> to join Alysha Petry, Karen Stafford and Skyler Grimm Hardin as they share their experiences from the latest General Synod.

**Zion Book Club – Tues., August 19** – Zion Book Club will be meeting on Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> in the lower commons. The book they will be discussing is "*The Secret Life of Bees*" by Sue Monk Kidd. All are invited to join the group!

**Round Table Discussion – Sun., August 24** – The second Round Table Discussion on the Hansen Trust will be held on Sunday, August 24 following the worship service in the fellowship hall. We will continue discerning how the money will be used for general charitable purposes.

**Help Thyself Meals** - The gardens are planted and summer meals are being prepared for you from the Help Thyself group. Please take advantage of this opportunity. Be sure to mark the chart if you are taking meals or if you are donating meals. This is very helpful to the committee. We are here for you. Kathy Young (314-580-3105), Carol Rohrbach (636-583-3659), Ann Hartley (636-346-5911), Dorothy Mitana (636-239-1296), Maxine Harrison (636-583-2159) and Donna Bocklage (636-584-4888).

**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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**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