

# The 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

August 31, 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                      “Chorale Prelude on ‘St. Magnus’”                      Blake

Call to Worship *(Inspired by Psalm 81 and 112)*

Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to God.

**Happy are those who revere the Holy One. Generation to generation,  
delight in God’s blessings.**

Sing aloud to God our righteousness; shout for peace to God.

**We rise from the depths in mercy, grace, and justice.**

Sing aloud to God our hope; shout for love to God.

**Our hearts are steady and secure. Worship the Holy One!**

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray.

**God of Glory, we acknowledge your presence among us as we gather.  
You have knit us together as a community. In your kin-dom, the first  
will be last and the last will be first. We only exalt you yet you come  
near to us. Dwell in the praises we voice, in the hope to which we  
cling, and the love that persists. Reveal yourself to us, Great One, and  
we will declare and spread your goodness in the land of the living.  
Amen.**

First Reading of Scripture

Genesis 18:1-15 CEB

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

**Righteous God, forgive us for the positioning we do. We seek elevated  
places and too often fail to notice the absences at your table. Our  
tables are segregated by the ways we diminish the beautiful  
distinctiveness you celebrate among us. We live in complacency while  
the world around us weeps in pain, suffering, and despair. Break our  
hearts, O God, so that we will seek your kin-dom more than our own  
acquittal. Convict our spirits to propel us to reshape the world into  
your vision of beloved community—repaired, restored, and reconciled.  
Amen.**

Words of Grace

Beloved, the Holy One is righteous and just as well as compassionate  
and faithful to forgive the contrite heart. God will give you strength and  
courage to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly.

**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

**Gracious and Generous God, receive these gifts in faith and trust. Help us to be good stewards of the resources you have given to us and bless our generosity for your glory. Amen.**

Second Reading of Scripture

Genesis 18:16-19:28 CEB

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

**Thanks be to God!**

Hymn No. 626

*“O God of Every Nation”*

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.**

+ Closing Hymn No. 621

*“For the Healing of the Nations”*

+ Benediction

+ Postlude

*“Rock of My Salvation”*

Wetherill

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**Service Prayers for the Twelfth 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-12c-august-31/>

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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)

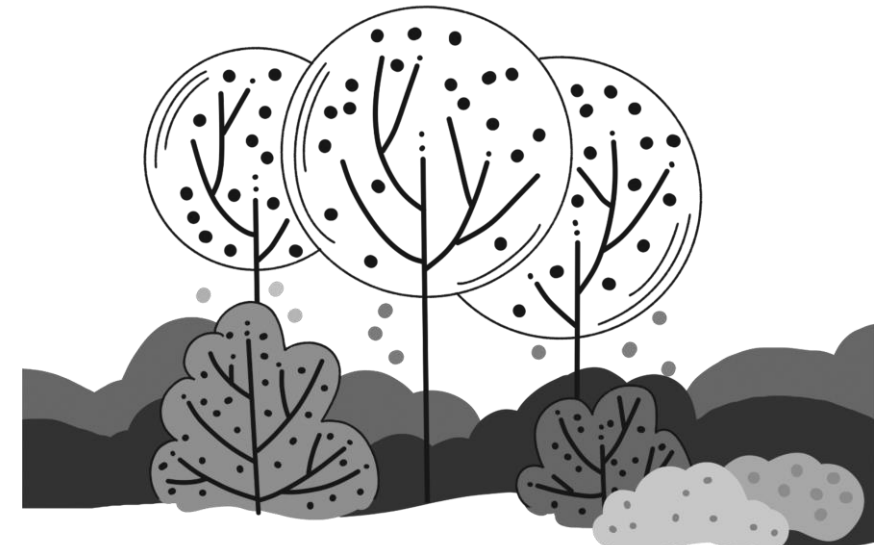
**We commit ourselves...**

**to worship God**

**to form faithful followers of Jesus**

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

*We care as Christ cares.*



"The Lord appeared to Abraham at the oaks of Mamre while he sat at the entrance of his tent in the day's heat. He looked up and suddenly saw three men standing near him."

-Genesis 18:1-2 CEB



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August 31, 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

# AUGUST 31, 2025

## Serving This Morning

Liturgist: Lee Parks

Ushers: Rudy & Darlene Ahmann Greeters: Lee & Susan Newman

Sound Tech: Harvey Mefford Video 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.

## On Our List For Prayers

### **Health and Healing:**

Jim Doehring	Phyllis Olson	Carolyn Donoho	Charlotte Ellison
Brenda Viehland	Kim Yenzer	Kevin Vorderbruegge	Myrt Dunigan
Hettie Becker	Bruce Crane	(at New Haven Care Center)	Anne Parker (at Willow Brooke in Union)
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)		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)	
Kay Sterling (friend of Verlyn Yarbrough)			

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

Linda Kroeter	Jake McNiel (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)
Sammie Baker (friend of Brenda Viehland)	

### **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)

## Christian Education/Faith Quest/Youth News

**Next Sun., Sept. 7** – RALLY DAY is next Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> from 10-11 a.m.

**Next Sun., Sept. 7** – All youth are invited to an afternoon at Piccadilly Palace in Union from 12-2:30 p.m. for pizza, drinks, games & skating. RSVP to Alysha at [apetry@zionunion.org](mailto:apetry@zionunion.org). **Please note: Children 4<sup>th</sup> grade and younger must have a parent/guardian with them to attend.**

## Church Calendar – August 31, 2025 to September 7, 2025

<b>Today -</b>	<b>The 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>
	<b>9:00 a.m. Worship</b>
	<b>10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour</b>
<b>Mon., Sept. 1 -</b>	LABOR DAY (Church Offices closed)
<b>Wed., Sept. 3 -</b>	12:00 noon Loops of Love
	1:00 p.m. Lower Commons in Use
	5:00 p.m. LOGOS Begins!
	7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal (chapel)

**Thurs., Sept. 4 -** 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Quilting Circle  
6:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in Use

**Fri., Sept. 5 -** 7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in Use

**Next Sun., Sept. 7 - The 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**9:00 a.m. Worship**  
**10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour**  
**10:00 a.m. RALLY DAY! (Faith Quest Classes begin!)**  
**10:00 a.m. Special Congregational Meeting (sanctuary)**  
**12:00-2:30 p.m. Youth Event at Piccadilly Palace**

**Historical Display Cabinet – Dorothy Mitana** – During the month of August stop by the Historical Display Cabinet upstairs in the narthex area to see the display celebrating the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of Dorothy Mitana. Happy Birthday!

**LOGOS Adult Education – Wed., Sept. 3** – The Green Team begins a new year of LOGOS with an adult education opportunity. Mike Saxton from Shaw Nature Reserve will be speaking about habitat restoration at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, September 3. Dinner follows at 6 p.m. If you are planning to stay for dinner, please RSVP to Alysha at [apetry@zionunion.org](mailto:apetry@zionunion.org) or call the church office.

**Special Congregational Meeting – Next Sun., Sept. 7** – The purpose of the Special Congregational Meeting called by the Zion Church Council next Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> will be to approve the recommendation of the Properties Committee to install one continuous railing and clear tempered glass to the balcony for safety. The quote is \$13,190.69. The council proposed the funds to pay for the project be taken from the Building & Property Restricted Funds. The meeting will follow the morning worship service in the sanctuary.

**Special Congregational Meeting – Sun., Sept. 14** – The purpose of the Special Congregational Meeting called by the Zion Church Council on Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup> will be to approve the recommendation of the Safety Committee to install security cameras and equipment at a cost of \$9,177.68. The council proposed the funds to pay for the project be taken from the Building & Property Restricted Funds. The meeting will follow the morning worship service in the sanctuary.

**Tues., Sept. 16** – Zion Book Club will be meeting on Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. in the lower commons. The book the group is reading this month is "*The Book of Two Ways*" by Jodi Picoult. Anyone is invited to join them!

**All Congregation Ice Cream Social – Sun., Sept. 21** – The Zion Fellowship is planning on an All Congregation Ice Cream Social on Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 6 p.m. in the fellowship hall. All are invited to attend!

**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.

**CASA Seeking Volunteers** – CASA of Mideast Missouri advocates for children in foster care in Franklin, Gasconade, and Osage Counties who have experienced abuse or neglect. Trained Volunteer Advocates spend one-on-one time with these children, understanding their needs and concerns to advocate for them in court, ensuring their journey in foster care is safe and supported. The next CASA volunteer training session will begin in October with an application deadline of September 19<sup>th</sup>. To apply, donate, or learn more about CASA please visit [www.casamideastmo.org](http://www.casamideastmo.org) or call 636-583-4422.

**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