

The 16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 28, 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

“The Church’s One Foundation”

Mansfield

Call to Worship (*Inspired Psalm 146*)

Praise God! Praise the Holy One, O my soul!

We will sing praises to God our whole lives long!

Praise God in whom we may trust. Praise God in whom we may hope.

Happy are we whose hope is in the Maker of heaven and earth.

The Holy One lifts the bowed down. The Righteous One loves justice.

The Holy One brings the way of the wicked to ruin. Praise God who reigns forever!

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray.

God our Comforter and our Confronter, speak to our souls. Engage our spirits with truth and compassion. Stir our hearts with your vision of a world full of your love and hope. Inspire us through your word, meet us in the moment, and infuse us with joy and courage to pursue your way. Guide us on the journey even as you dwell in our worship so that we may honor you and be restored in you. Amen.

First Reading of Scripture

Genesis 23:1-20 CEB

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

Thanks be to God!

+ Opening Hymn No. 523

“Soon and Very Soon”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Compassionate God, we need to repent. We confess that too often we only care about our own suffering and discomfort and ignore the pain and troubles of our neighbor. We turn away or even contribute to the plight of others. We feast on systems that create deprivation and inequity. We enjoy the spoils of war that leave human siblings to subsistence in rubble and ruins. We accept distortions of the gospel that claim that your creation is insufficient to meet the needs of your beloved when your kin-dom enables all to flourish. Meet us as we turn back to your way and your reign. Liberate us so that we may be instruments of restoration, repair, and renewal in your name. Amen.

Words of Grace

God’s mercy endures and renews. The world envisioned by the Holy One is available when we believe it, commit to it, and pursue it with all our being. Receive God’s grace to do a new thing, in word and in deed, so that the world may know the love of God, the hope of God, and the promise of God through what we say, how we live, what we do, and the fruit we produce.

We are forgiven and free, 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.

+ 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, receive these gifts as expressions of trust and love of You and care and love of your beloved. Magnify them for your glory and bless those who give in faithfulness and hope. Amen.

Second Reading of Scripture

Genesis 24:1-10 & 25:1-11 CEB

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

Thanks be to God!

Hymn No. 580

"We Are Called to Be God's People"

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. 716

"God Be with You"

The closing hymn is sung in memory of *Jim Petero*.

+ Benediction

+ Postlude

"Allemanda"

Corelli

Service Prayers for the Fifteenth 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-15c-september-21/>

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)

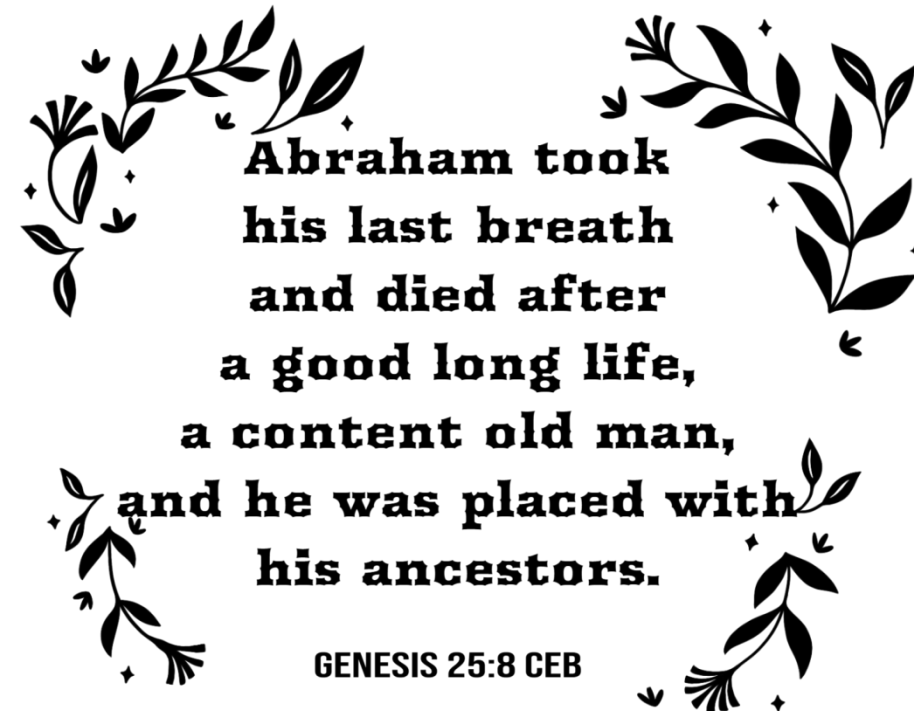
We commit ourselves...

to worship God

to form faithful followers of Jesus

and to care for our wider community.

We care as Christ cares.



+ The 16th Sunday after Pentecost +

September 28, 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

SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

Serving This Morning

Liturgist: Gil Bisjak
Ushers: Bill & Fern Dewert Greeter: Cindy Groenke
Sound Tech: Alan TenEyck 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.

"Great and Wide" – Strengthen the Church Offering – The Strengthen the Church Offering furthers the work of our conferences and the national UCC as we work together to strengthen and renew existing congregations, fund leadership development, and provide exciting new programs for youth and young adults. The offering is divided with 50% staying regionally within our conference and 50% supporting the national ministries. Offering envelopes are available during the month of October and are next to the offering plate in the narthex. Thank you for your support!

Festival of Sharing – We will be receiving monetary donations for the Festival of Sharing during the month of September. The Festival of Sharing supports projects and programs that help our neighbors in Missouri and beyond with hunger, poverty and injustice. Please make your checks payable to Zion UCC and in the memo portion "FOS donation". If you would like more information about the Festival of Sharing please visit their website at www.festivalofsharing.org.

"These Days" Devotionals for October/November/December are now available in the literature rack located at the top of the grand staircase.

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 Aspen Valley Fox Crest in Washington)	Chris Branch (niece of Gerry Hoelscher)		
Jim Petero (at Veteran's Home in St. James)	Kay Sterling (friend of Verlyn Yarbrough)		
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)		

Sympathy Is Extended to:

Judy Petero & family on the death of her husband Jim who died on September 22nd. Funeral service for Jim was on September 24th with Rev. Knoblauch officiating.

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)	Sharon Birke (sister of Ron Griffin)

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)

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 – September 28, 2025 to October 5, 2025

Today -	The 16th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour
Wed., Oct. 1 -	12:00 noon Loops of Love (lower commons) 5:00 p.m. LOGOS 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal (chapel)
Thurs., Oct. 2 -	11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. UCC Retired Pastor's Group (fellowship hall) 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Quilting Circle 6:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in Use
Fri., Oct. 3 -	7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in Use
Next Sun., Oct. 5 -	The 17th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour 10:00 a.m. Special Congregational Meeting (sanctuary) 10:00 a.m. Informational Budget Meeting (fellowship hall)

Special Congregational Meeting – Next Sunday, October 5, 2025 - A Special Congregational Meeting is called by the Zion Church Council next Sunday, October 5, 2025, to discuss and approve the recommendation of the Council to install a new network and wifi system that will be needed for the new security cameras and provide internet throughout the church. AQM (in Union) presented an estimate of \$6,976.90 for the project. The family of Rob Soetebier donated \$1,000 in his memory be used for upgrades to the internet. The Council proposes the remainder be paid from the Building & Properties Restricted Funds.

Informational Budget Meetings – Next Sun., Oct. 5 & Sun., Oct. 19 - The Church Council has scheduled informational Budget Meetings next Sunday, October 5th and Sunday, October 19th following the 9 a.m. worship service in the fellowship hall. This will be a time for members to review the proposed 2026 budget and ask questions. A copy of the proposed 2026 budget is now available on Sunday mornings on the table in the narthex next to the bulletins. We will still meet on November 2nd for our congregational meeting.

CROP Walk – Sun., Oct. 12 – Sign up for the CROP Walk on Sunday, October 12th beginning with registration at Zion at 12:30 p.m. and the Walk beginning at 1 p.m. Walkers are also asked, if possible, to bring non perishable food items to the Walk to add to the impact against hunger. A sign up sheet is posted on the lower commons bulletin board.

Meditative Drum Circle – Meditative Drum Circle is back! Come join us for a time of reflection and fellowship through rhythm on the 3rd and 4th Wednesdays of the month beginning October 15 from 6:15-7:15 p.m. in the Chapel.

Zion Book Club – Tues., Oct. 21 – Zion Book Club will be meeting on Tuesday, October 21st in the lower commons at 1:30 p.m. The book they are reading and will be discussing is "*Remarkably Bright Creatures*" by Shelby Van Pelt.

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.

Hope Ranch of Missouri will be accepting several new teen girls as residents in the next few weeks. Needed supplies include: shampoo and conditioner, deodorant, body wash or bar soap, feminine hygiene products, facial tissue toilet paper, toothbrushes, toothpaste, hair brushes. In addition, household cleaning supplies are needed to replenish stores to save money for other uses. Supplies include: paper towels, microfiber cleaning cloths, Mr. Clean kitchen sponges, Dawn dish soap, dishwasher tablets, rinse aid for dishwashers, all-purpose cleaner, laundry detergent, dryer sheets, Swiffer refills, 33-gal trash bags, windex, toilet bowl cleaner. Please consider a donation of the above items and drop them off at the church office. Thank you!

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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