

The 3rd Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026

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 *“Take the Name of Jesus With You”* Broughton

Call to Worship (*Inspired By Psalm 116*)

We call upon the name of the Holy One who hears our cry and responds to our prayer. What shall we return to the Holy One for all the blessings we receive?

We will call upon the name of the Holy One for as long as we live.

The Holy One has been our Companion in suffering and our Comforter in anguish. What shall we return to the Holy One for their presence among us?

We will serve the Holy One and be companions and comforters for God’s people.

The Holy One has given a new covenant of salvation, redemption, and restoration for the world. What shall we return to the Holy One for the gift of covenantal love?

We will declare the goodness of God with praise and thanksgiving. Hallelujah! Bless the name of the Holy One!

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray.

Living God, you are the fire that burns within us. You open our hearts to your presence, revealed in word and song, in hospitality and friendship, in sacrament and presence. Open our minds again so that we may recognize you when you meet us in unexpected moments. Let us encounter you in every phase and movement of worship that we might know you and love you more than before we gathered. And, may that love burn brightly like the sun

cutting through the gloom of the storm to inspire us to go on with renewed hope and spirit. Amen.

First Reading of Scripture

Luke 24:13-35 NRSVue

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

Thanks be to God!

+ Opening Hymn No. 35 *“Morning Has Broken”*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Spirit of the Living God, we ask you to meet us in those moments when we recognize that we have caused, through action or inaction, through words or silence, through participation or lack of participation, that we have caused or allow harm to take place. In those moments, allow our hearts to break in order to be mended with the burning fire of repentance and sharpening. In those moments, let our hearts cry, “what should we do?” In those moments, guide us to wisdom and discernment, so that we would not only be forgiven but gifted with the work of repair and restoration. Amen.

Words of Grace

Beloved, the Holy Spirit continues to be our present companion. When we seek them, the Spirit responds with wisdom, hope, and peace. Be encouraged that the Holy One awaits to meet us where we are in order to journey with us to where we could be for the glory of God and the good of the world.

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

**Generous God, we pray that these gifts will bring glory to your name and
bless your creation through good stewardship, Spirit-led discernment, and
generous love. Amen.**

Second Reading of Scripture:

Acts 2:14-24, 36-41 NRSVue

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

Thanks be to God!

Anthem

“This Is My Father’s World”
Chancel Choir

Sheppard

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. 551

“As A Fire Is Meant for Burning”

+ Benediction

+ Postlude

“Go Out with Praise”

Martin

Going On: Service Prayers for the Third Sunday in Easter Year A was written by the Rev. Dr.
Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

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 3rd Sunday of Easter +
April 19, 2026 + 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

APRIL 19, 2026

Serving This Morning

Liturgist: Carla Kilgore

Ushers: Brad Parker & Connie Thompson Greeter: Marilyn Freiermuth
Sound Tech: David Bean Camera 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.

This Morning & Next Sun., Apr. 26 – Eco-Resources Display – Green Team members will be in the lower commons before and after worship with some of the many sustainable and/or recycled products that can help you in your journey to be a mindful consumer and faithful steward of earth's resources.

This Afternoon – Zion will be hosting the Eastern Association Spring Meeting this afternoon 2-5 p.m. Everyone is invited to join the meeting in person or on Zoom. The theme of the meeting is "Understanding Missouri Ballot Initiatives" which include a panel discussion on the issues coming to your ballot. A flyer is posted on the lower commons bulletin board for more information.

This Morning-Mon., Apr. 27 – Silent Auction of Church Inventory – Silent Auction from April 19-April 27 on Sunday mornings and during regular office hours. Auction ends at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 27th. Notification day will be Tuesday, April 28th; If you have any questions please contact Darlene Ahmann.

On Our List For Prayers

Health and Healing:

Jim Doehring	Phyllis Olson	Carolyn Donoho	Charlotte Ellison
Brenda Viehland	Kim Yenzen	Kevin Vorderbruegge	Hettie Becker
Sarah Berghorn	Gerry Hoelscher	Bruce Crane (at New Haven Care Center)	
Barb Harvey (at Cedarhurst Senior Living in Wentzville)		Chris Branch (niece of Gerry Hoelscher)	
Sharon Waldrop (friend of Jim Doehring)		Darlene Farrell (sister of Charlotte Ellison)	
Mitch Angell (friend of Charlotte Ellison)		Bill Stolle (friend of Jim Doehring)	
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)	
Bob Truel (husband of Shirley Truel)		Heather Frederick (niece of Marilyn Freiermuth)	
Nancy McKenzie (sister of Vicki Hooper)		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)		Jamie Koch (friend of Hettie Becker)	
Hallie Sammett (friend of Brenda Viehland)		Sophia Muller (daughter-in-law of Jeff & Denise Muller)	

Sympathy Is Extended to:

The family of Gerry Bedwell. Gerry died on April 12th. A celebration of life will be held at Zion Church on Friday morning, May 15th at 11 a.m.

Church Family Undergoing Cancer Treatment:

Linda Kroeter	Jake McNiel (member of Zion & son of Sarah Davenport)
Susie Andell	Sarah Reed (daughter-in-law of Charlotte Ellison)
Cynthia Johnson (friend of Karen Stafford)	Don Frankenberg (uncle of Phyllis Fink)
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)
Jenny Brittingham (friend of Richard & Kathy Young)	Matthew (friend of Richard & Kathy Young)
Monty McGavock (brother of Kathy Young)	Julie Borgmann (niece of Fern 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)

Christian Education/Faith Quest/Youth News

Next Sun., April 19 – All Sunday School classes will meet from 10-11 a.m.; *Faith Quest* – preschool through 6th grade will meet in the Bible Max Theatre; grades 7-12 will meet in the high school room.

Church Calendar – April 19, 2026 to April 26, 2026

Today -	The 3rd Sunday of Easter 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour 10:00 a.m. Christian Education Hour 2:00-5:00 p.m. Eastern Association Spring Meeting
Mon., April 20 -	7:00 p.m. Church Council (classroom)
Wed., Apr. 22 -	10:00 a.m. May Newsletter assembled (fellowship hall) 12:00 noon Loops of Love (lower commons)
Thurs., Apr. 23 -	8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Quilting Circle
Fri., Apr. 24 -	7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in Use
Next Sun., Apr. 26 -	The 4th Sunday of Easter 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour 10:00 a.m. Christian Education Hour

Mon., Apr. 20 – May Newsletter Articles – Final articles for the May ‘Spirit of Zion’ are due in the church office on Monday, April 20th. The newsletter will be assembled on Wednesday, April 22nd beginning at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

Wed., Apr. 22 – There will be NO Chancel Choir rehearsal on Wednesday, April 22nd.

Sat., Apr. 25 – Earth Day Work Day at Camp MoVal – Volunteers are needed at Camp MoVal on Saturday, April 25th for an Earth Day Work Day from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Equipment and lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Alysha (apetry@zionunion.org) by April 20th.

Next Sun., Apr. 26 – CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) would like to remind Zion members that next Sunday, April 26 is National Blue Sunday Day of Prayer for abused children. People are encouraged to join together in a day of prayer to demonstrate their support for children & families who’ve been affected by abuse, and for those who help protect abused & neglected children. There are many ways to help abused & neglected children: consider becoming a Child Advocate with CASA to support local kids in foster care - visit casamideastmo.org; connect with a Franklin County Agency serving children of abuse and/or neglect; start a Grandparent Support Group for those raising/fostering their grandchildren; volunteer at the Franklin Co. Foster Closet - visit franklincountyfostercloset.org; donate gift cards for foster teens - teens often get overlooked at Christmas Toy Drives; learn the signs of child abuse & if you suspect it occurring call the Hotline# 1-800-392-3738.

May 1-3 – Women’s Retreat at Camp MoVal – Registration is now open for the 2026 Conference Retreat at Camp MoVal from May 1-3. Registration is available for the full weekend (\$170) or day only (\$80). The theme is “*Be Still and Know*”. Contact Alysha with any questions.

A Request from the Quilters – Zion Quilters are asking if you or anyone you know has quilts that need to be quilted to please contact the church office or one of the quilters. 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!

Please note! Styrofoam collection at biospan technologies is temporarily paused. The company needs to catch up on processing its current collection before collecting more. Please note this pause will begin on April 1st and will last for several months. We will let you know when this collection resumes.

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)

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