



## 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

**Generous God, may the gifts that we bring reflect the image we bear.  
Be glorified through our generosity and the meeting of needs among  
and beyond us. Amen.**

### Second Reading of Scripture

Acts 7:1-8 & 44-60 NRSVue

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church...  
**Thanks be to God!**

### Anthem

*“Bound for Jubilee”*  
Chancel Choir

Eilers

### 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. 697 (2 times) *“Eat This Bread”*

## Holy Communion

### Invitation

An Affirmation of Faith A New Creed, (United Church of Canada, rev. 1995)

**We are not alone, we live in God’s world.**

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God’s presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.**

### Remembrance

### Invocation

Let us pray:

**God of banquets and backyard barbeques, bless by your Holy Spirit these gifts of your creation. Help us to gather your people, serve your creation, and be ready to leave this place in the good hope that your realm has gotten a little closer. May this meal serve as a reminder that we are always invited to pull up a chair and share in your grace. 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**

Let us pray,

**Gracious host, we give you thanks for this meal and our shared time together. May it strengthen us for life's journey. Granting us the courage and resolve to be your people, to love generously, to hope relentlessly, and to do the good that is ours to do. Bless us, that we may bless the world. Amen.**

+ Closing Hymn No. 716

*"God Be with You"*

+ Benediction

+ Postlude

*"Postlude in C"*

Troutman

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Today's Worship Materials come from Do the Works: Service Prayers for the Fifth 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. <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter-5a-may-3/>

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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)

**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 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter +**

**May 3, 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

# MAY 3, 2026

**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: Gil Bisjak  
Ushers: Ron & Pam Griffin Greeter: Marilyn Freiermuth  
Communion Stewards: Bill & Fern Dewert, Ken & Carol Rohrbach  
Sound Tech: Matt Herring Camera Tech: David Bean  
(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 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)	

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

Linda Kroeter	Jake McNeil (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 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

**This Morning** - All Sunday School classes will meet from 10-11 a.m.; *Faith Quest* - preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade will meet in the Bible Max Theatre; grades 7-12 will meet in the high school room.

**This Morning & Next Sun., May 17** - This morning & next Sunday, May 17 the Bible Buck Store will be OPEN! Children will get to spend their Bible bucks they earned throughout the Sunday School year.

**Sun., May 17** - Please note that Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> will be the last day of Faith Quest for the program year.

## Church Calendar – May 3, 2026 to May 10, 2026

<b>Today -</b>	<b>The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter/Communion</b> <b>9:00 a.m. Worship</b> <b>10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour</b> <b>10:00 a.m. Christian Education Hour</b>
<b>Wed., May 6 -</b>	12:00 noon Loops of Love (lower commons) 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal (chapel)
<b>Thurs., May 7 -</b>	8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Quilting Circle 6:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in Use
<b>Fri., May 8 -</b>	7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in Use
<b>Sat., May 9 -</b>	10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hall in Use
<b>Next Sun., May 10 -</b>	<b>The 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter/Mother's Day</b> <b>9:00 a.m. Worship</b> <b>10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour</b> <b>10:00 a.m. Christian Education Hour</b>

**Next Sun., May 10 & Sun., May 17 – *Bread for the World Offering of Letters*** - The Outreach Team will again be sending letters to members of Congress advocating for funding for the hungry in the U.S. and nationwide.

**Next Sun., May 10 & Sun., May 17 – *Church World Service Blanket Sundays*** – We are again having our annual Church World Service Blanket Sundays next Sunday, May 10 & Sunday, May 17 for those who would like to donate a blanket in memory/honor of someone. Each blanket costs \$10 each.

**Sat., May 23 – Shannondale Grand Opening** – The Green Team and Zion Fellowship are planning a field trip to Shannondale for the Grand Opening of the new Craft House on Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>. We'll leave from church at 9 a.m. Please sign up by May 17<sup>th</sup> if you'd like to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne Lischer.

**Sat., June 6** – All who are interested are invited to a dinner and show "*Murder by Magic*" at St. Paul's UCC, Marthasville, Missouri, on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. Cost of the steak dinner is \$50 per person; chicken dinner is \$45 per person. A sign up sheet is posted on the lower commons bulletin board. Please note: There are only 2 seats left. ***Deadline to sign up is May 9<sup>th</sup>.***

**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! A sign up sheet is posted on the lower commons bulletin board.

**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.

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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