

The 6th Sunday after Pentecost

July 5, 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 "Alla Breve in D Major" J. S. Bach

Call to Worship *(Inspired by Psalm 45)*

In joy and gladness, enter the presence of the Sovereign One who rules and reigns over all creation. Worship the Holy One!

The voice of the Holy One is powerful and gracious, loving and challenging, compassionate and convicting.

In joy and gladness, receive the fresh wind of the Spirit who ignites our hearts and connects us to one another. Worship the Holy Spirit!

The voice of the Holy Spirit gives wisdom, discernment, comfort, and confirmation.

In joy and gladness, follow the path of the Embodied One. Worship God With Us!

The voice of God With Us models for us what to say and how to live. Praise God!

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of all nations and all peoples, bless us as we gather in your name. Open us to vessels in building your kin-dom and spreading the good news of life and liberty. May we drink from the well of your abundance. May our cups overflow with your love. May our hearts burn in your presence. Be with us in this time and place. Amen.

First Reading of Scripture Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 NRSVue
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church...

Thanks be to God!

+ Opening Hymn No. 24 "God You Spin the Whirling Planets"

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Holy One, we come before you from different perspectives. Some come in a spirit of celebration. Others bring lament and despair. All of us benefit from the power of transformed lives, individually, relationally, and communally. We pray in the assurance that new life is available. We ask for the strength, courage, and persistence to seek your kin-dom, peace, justice and righteousness in any and all circumstances and for all people and creation. Amen.

Words of Grace

The God of the covenant is still with us. By the power of the Spirit, we receive the fruit necessary to fuel our shared commitment and commission to building the world as God would have it over the world we inherit. God has given us everything we need to contribute, including the community of faith so that we do not labor alone.

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

Giving God, make us a people who not only receive your gifts, but empower us to give in mutual measure so that all needs are met. Bless these gifts and amplify their impact as a witness to your goodness and so all may flourish in your name. Amen.

Second Reading of Scripture Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 NRSVue

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

Thanks be to God!

Special Music

“Variations on a German Hymn”

Georg Böhm

Paul Klemme, guest organist

Sermon

“Drink”

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”

Statement of Faith

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

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.

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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.

Holy Communion

+ Sharing of the Elements

The Lord’s Table is open to all. Today, we will come forward, through the center aisle, where Rev. Shumway 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.

+ Closing Hymn No. 502

“Be Thou My Vision”

Benediction

(Following the Benediction, please be seated for the Postlude by Paul Klemme. Thank you.)

Postlude

“André Campra ”

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Today's Worship Materials come from *Journeyed on by Stages: Service Prayers for the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost 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/after-pentecost-6a-july-5/>

Welcome! A special thank you to Rev. Susan Shumway for serving as our Guest Pastor while Rev. Nick is on vacation. Susan is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, and has lived in O'Fallon for over 20 years. She is grounded in her faith, and has three sons. She obtained her BA in History from UMKC, her Master of Divinity from Texas Christian University, and completed her Chaplain Residency at Children's Medical Center, Dallas.

Susan works as an interim pastor in the United Church of Christ, as a Hospice Chaplain, and takes Emergency Call at local hospitals. Susan has been involved in St. Charles County Equality Coalition, St Charles Progressive Democrats, National Women's Political Caucus - STL, Missouri Women's Political Caucus, Empower Missouri, Missouri Jobs with Justice, and is an active member in the United Church of Christ.

In her "free" time, Susan is running for Missouri State Senate.

Our guest organist this morning is Dr. Paul Klemme, son of Armin & Norma Klemme. Paul is Minister of Music Ministries at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Salem, Oregon. Welcome!

Zion United Church of Christ, 115 S. Washington Ave., Union, MO 63084-1849

Home Page address is: www.zionunion.org

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Church Office: (636/583-2814)

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Organist: Brenda Herring

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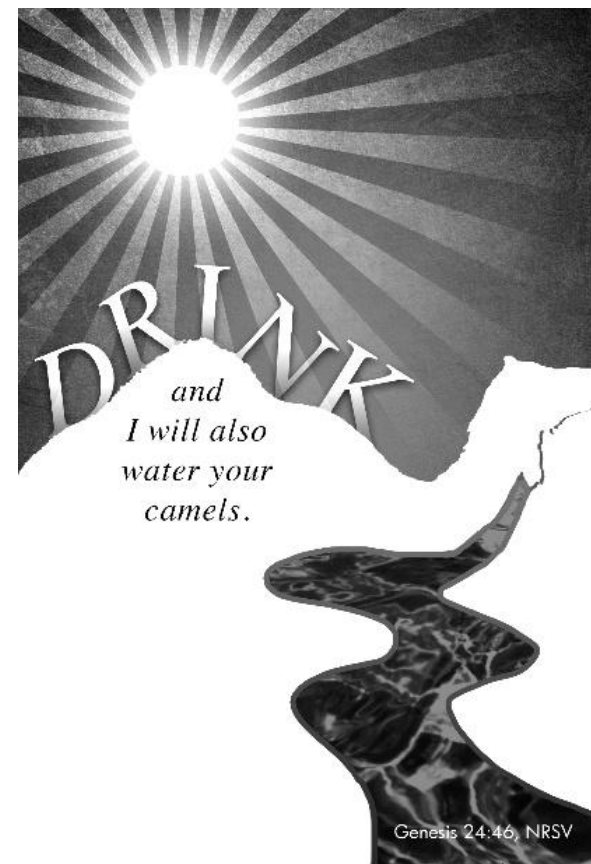
We commit ourselves...

to worship God

to form faithful followers of Jesus

and to care for our wider community.

We care as Christ cares.



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July 5, 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

JULY 5, 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.

The flowers in the vases next to the railing are given by Rev. Armin & Norma Klemme in honor of their children; in honor of the 30th Wedding Anniversary of Paul Klemme & Sue Hale (June 15); the birthday of Phillip Klemme (June 19); the birthdays of Esther Schmidt & Elizabeth Klemme (July 5); and their 71st Wedding Anniversary.

Serving This Morning

Liturgist: Alysha Petry
Ushers: Maxine Harrison & Lee Parks
Greeter: Colleen Simons
Communion Stewards: Bill & Fern Dewert, Kirk & Sallie Hancox
Sound 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.

"These Days" devotional books for July-August-September are available in the literature rack 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 Yenzen	Kevin Vorderbruegge	Hettie Becker
Sarah Berghorn	Gerry Hoelscher	Wayne & Ellen Brinkmann	
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)		
Ada Price (daughter of Mindy Gerstner's friend)	John Carter (friend of Sandy Stierberger)		

Church Family Undergoing Cancer Treatment:

Linda Kroeter	Jake McNeil (member of Zion & son of Sarah Davenport)
Susie Andell	Keith Wadley
Sarah Reed (daughter-in-law of Charlotte Ellison)	Cynthia Johnson (friend of Karen Stafford)
Don Frankenberg (uncle of Phyliss 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)	Ken Laboube (friend of Hettie Becker)

Various Concerns:

Prayer for our country and those actively serving:

2nd Class Petty Officer Aviation Structural Mechanic E-5 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

Vacation Bible School – Sat., July 18 – Mark your calendars now! Enjoy a day of camp activities in VBS style at Camp MoVal from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Participate in archery, boating, games, music, bible story and crafts. Lunch will be provided. Register at <https://form.jotform.com/222334386499062>. We hope you all can join us at our ONE DAY VBS at Camp MoVal!

Annual Pool Party – Sat. July 18 – Everyone is invited to the Zion Annual Pool Party at Camp MoVal on Saturday, July 18th from 3-5 p.m. Hotdogs and snow cones will be provided. Bring a snack to share.

Church Calendar – June 28, 2026 to July 5, 2026

Today -	The 6th Sunday after Pentecost/Communion 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour
Wed., July 8 -	9:30 a.m. Called to Care (classroom) 12:00 noon Loops of Love
Thurs., July 9 -	8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Quilting Circle
Fri., July 10 -	7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in Use
Sat., July 11 -	10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hall in Use
Next Sun., July 12 -	The 7th Sunday after Pentecost/Communion 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour

Bake Sale Donations Wanted – During the Rummage Sale on Friday, July 31st, there will be a Bake Sale in the lower commons. If you would like to donate baked goods, produce, and home-canned goods please bring them to the church on or before July 31st. Please price the items you donation. If you have any questions, please contact Hettie Becker. Thank you!

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.

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