

The 12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 2026

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 *"Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown"* Mansfield

Call to Worship (inspired by Psalm 133)

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

We gather together to worship the Holy One in unity!

How very good and powerful it is when we commit to the kin-dom of God!

We gather together to discern God's will and declare God's reign!

How very good and hopeful it is when we reconcile and repair our brokenness and bless one another!

We gather together to love and to serve! Praise the Holy One!

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray.

Gracious and Healing God, in your presence, we find the fullness of joy, love, and life. Expand our vision and write a new way forward upon our hearts. We seek your wisdom and guidance. We need your comfort and conviction. We trust your provision and power. As we come near to you, we affirm your goodness and the goodness within us. Receive our presence and our dreams of the world you help us make possible. Amen.

First Reading of Scripture

Isaiah 56:1-8 NRSVue

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

Thanks be to God!

+ Opening Hymn No. 355 *"This Is a Day of New Beginnings"*

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

God of abundance, forgive us for living as if scarcity is an unavoidable reality. Forgive us for allowing siblings in our neighborhoods, communities, and world to live in poverty as an unending condition. Forgive us for not trusting in your abundance, and propel us to defy the temptation to adopt a scarcity mindset due to challenging economic conditions. Empower us to participate in mutual sharing of resources, as well as to demand and create equitable systems that eliminate poverty for all your creation. Amen.

Words of Grace

Beloved, Creator has crafted a world full of all we need. Embrace abundance as an act of faith and trust in the God who provides, who redeems, and who repairs. The kin-dom will come as we insist upon it, and the Holy One meets us in our commitments.

We are forgiven and free, praise be to God!

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, receive these gifts as a deposit into the kin-dom and an act of trust and gratitude. May these offerings provide for the needs of our neighbors and enable this faith community to offer ministry in your name and your honor. Amen.

Second Reading of Scripture
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church...
Thanks be to God!

Special Music
“Beautiful Savior”
Liz Pace & Gary Stafford

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. 350 *“The Summons”*

+ Benediction

+ Postlude *“Allegro Energico”* Cappelen

Today’s worship materials come from **Will Not Come to Poverty Service Prayers for the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost Year A**, which 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.



*How very good
and pleasant it is
when kindred live
together in unity!*

Psalm 133:1

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August 16, 2026 + 9:00 a.m.
Zion United Church of Christ
Union, Missouri

SUNDAY NEWS

AUGUST 16, 2026

The flowers on the altar are given in honor of the 55th Wedding Anniversary of Ken & Carol Rohrbach by Audra, Travis & Lauren Arand.

Serving This Morning

Liturgist: Matthew Herring

Ushers: Rudy & Darlene Ahmann

Greeters: Bill & Fern Dewert

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	Hettie Becker
Sarah Berghorn	Gerry Hoelscher	Wayne & Ellen Brinkmann	Carla Kilgore
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 McNiell (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 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)	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)

Church Calendar – August 16, 2026 to August 23, 2026

Today -

The 12th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour

Mon., Aug. 17 -

7:00 p.m. Church Council (classroom)

Tues., Aug. 18 -

1:30 p.m. Book Club (lower commons)

6:30 p.m. Security Team Meeting (classroom)

Wed., Aug. 19 - 12:00 noon Loops of Love (lower commons)
6:30 p.m. Low Voice Choir Rehearsal (chapel)

Thurs., Aug. 20 - 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Quilting Circle

Fri., Aug. 21 - 7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in Use

Next Sun., Aug. 23 - The 13th Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 a.m. **Worship/Sacrament of Baptisms**
10:00 a.m. **Fellowship Hour**

September Newsletter Articles Due – Mon., Aug. 17 – Final newsletter articles for the September 'Spirit of Zion' newsletter are due in the church office on Monday morning. The newsletter will be assembled on Wednesday, August 19th beginning at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

Bourbeuse River Operation Clean Stream – Sat., Aug. 22 – The Green Team is looking for volunteers interested in this long-running event to care for the Bourbeuse River and its surroundings. We will be picking up trash at the Union access (near Dickey Bub) from 8-10am on Saturday, August 22. Gloves and trash bags will be provided. Please sign up on the lower commons bulletin board. All ages are welcome! Contact Jeanne Lischer for more information.

Zion Fellowship Event – Next Sun., Aug. 23 – Zion Fellowship and all who are interested are invited to a Piano Recital by Dr. Shelly Moorman Stahlman at St. Clair United Methodist Church next Sunday, August 23rd at 3 p.m. Dinner will follow at Gibby's Restaurant in St. Clair. A sign up sheet is posted on the lower commons bulletin board for all who are interested in attending this event.

Zion UCC Blood Drive – Sun., Sept. 6 – Zion Church will be hosting a Blood Drive on Sunday, September 6th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. **Click here** to schedule your appointment today or scan the QR code. If you have trouble accessing the sign up please contact the church office and we will be able to sign up for you! Invite your friends and neighbors who may be interested in donating. There are 24 slots available for sign up. 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.

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