

# The 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 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                      *“We Believe in One True God”*                      Glyncannon

Call to Worship

Children of God, some of us come today with songs of joy, rejoicing at all God has done for us.

**We come to remember God’s steadfast love and faithfulness.**

Some of us come today with songs of mourning in our hearts, feeling the weight of loss, isolation, and loneliness.

**We come to remember God’s steadfast love and faithfulness.**

Some of us come today with songs of worry and distress, overwhelmed by the troubles and the sufferings of the world.

**We come to remember God’s steadfast love and faithfulness.**

In our joy, our sorrow, our isolation, and our worry, God is faithful!

**We come to sing God’s praises, for in all things, God’s steadfast love and faithfulness never fail. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray.

**Gracious God, your Word is not far away, but near us. It is on our lips. It is in our hearts. Grant us stillness this morning, that we may be mindful of your presence and open to your Word. Help us always to know that you are near, in stillness and in turmoil, in calm and in storm. Help us always dwell in your presence, listen for your Word, and reach for your hand. Amen.**

First Reading of Scripture

Romans 10:5-15 NRSV

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

**Thanks be to God!**

+ Opening Hymn No. 326                      *“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”*

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

God is with you, Christ is present, the Holy Spirit surrounds you and unites us all.

**But we have turned our eyes to the challenges of this life, lost our focus on God, and are sinking in sin.**

You can begin again. Imagine a new way of being.

**We have cast aside our dreams to maintain the familiar. We have cast aside the dreams of others, fearful of what they might mean.**

God loves you, Christ will lift you from the waves of doubt, and the Holy Spirit will rescue you from currents of insecurity and alienation. In these moments of quiet reflection, confess to God all that separates you from God and one another.

(Offer silent prayers of confession.)

Words of Grace

Take heart, do not be afraid. Every one who calls upon God’s name will be saved. We are forgiven.

**We are forgiven. Thanks 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](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

**Faithful God, we lift our voices and our gifts in grateful memory of your saving work. You call us to sing of your goodness and to remember your wonders, even when the way forward is hidden from view. Use these offerings for hope and healing in a hungry world. Make us instruments of**

**your purpose—seeds of justice, salt of compassion, and signs of your steadfast love. Receive what we bring as praise made tangible, and send us out as a people who remember, who trust, and who sing of your deliverance in every season. Amen.**  
(Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b)

Second Reading of Scripture 1 Kings 19:9-18 NRSV  
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church...  
**Thanks be to God!**

Special Music “This Little Light of Mine” Olstead  
Liz Pace & Karen Stafford, flutists + Danny Pace, pianist

Sermon What Are You Doing Here?

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. 470 “Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”  
+ Benediction  
+ Postlude “The Heavens Rejoice!” Ritter

Call to Worship written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, UMC Discipleship Ministries, May 2026.  
Gathering Prayer written by Steve Garnaas-Holmes, [www.unfoldinglight.net](http://www.unfoldinglight.net)  
Prayer of Transformation written by Rev. Dr. Bob Gross and posted on the Worship Ways website of the United Church of Christ at [https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/pentecost\\_10\\_august\\_9/](https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/pentecost_10_august_9/).  
Prayer of Dedication from <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/>

**Welcome!** A special thank you and welcome to Rev. Dr. Susan King for serving as our Guest Pastor while Rev. Nick is on vacation. She is a semi-retired church pastor and hospital chaplain.

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 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost +  
August 9, 2026 + 9:00 a.m.  
Zion United Church of Christ  
Union, Missouri

# SUNDAY NEWS

# AUGUST 9, 2026

**The vase of flowers in the chancel area** are given in loving memory of Dennis Harrison by his family Maxine, Matthew & Erin Harrison.

## **Serving This Morning**

Liturgist: Sue Leicht  
Ushers: Dennis & Karen Tucker  
Greeter: Kevin Vorderbruegge  
Sound Tech: Harvey Mefford Video 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 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 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:

2<sup>nd</sup> 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 9, 2026 to August 16, 2026**

|                        |                                                   |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Today -</b>         | <b>The 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b> |
|                        | <b>9:00 a.m. Worship</b>                          |
|                        | <b>10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour</b>                 |
| <b>Mon., Aug. 10 -</b> | 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee (classroom)           |
| <b>Wed., Aug. 12 -</b> | 9:30 a.m. Called to Care (classroom)              |
|                        | 12:00 noon Loops of Love (lower commons)          |

**Thurs., Aug. 13 -** 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Quilting Circle  
**Fri., Aug. 14 -** 7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in Use  
**Next Sun., Aug. 16 - The 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**9:00 a.m. Worship**  
**10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour**

**September Newsletter Articles Due – Wed., Aug. 12** – Newsletter articles for the September 'Spirit of Zion' newsletter are due in the church office on Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>. The newsletter will be assembled on Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> beginning at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

**Bourbeuse River Operation Clean Stream – Saturday, August 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 UCC Blood Drive – Sun., Sept. 6** - Zion Church will be hosting a Blood Drive on Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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