

The 16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 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

“Lord, Take My Heart”

Overholt

Call to Worship: *(Inspired by Psalm 103)*

Bless the Holy One! Bless God’s holy name!

Bless God our Healer, Redeemer, and Friend.

Bless the Holy One! Remember the works of God.

Bless the God who saves us, loves us, and forgives us.

Bless the Holy One! Bless the God of life and justice!

Bless the One whose love and mercy endure but whose anger does not.

Bless God, O our souls!

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of Heaven and Earth, we bask in your presence. We thank you for being our Companion and Counselor. Receive our praise, thanksgiving, worship, and petitions. You are the object and center of our worship, so we fix our attention on you. We remember your awesome acts. We worship you for who you are. Amen.

Bible Presentations

First Reading of Scripture

The Book of Belonging: “A Very Good Song”

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

Thanks be to God!

+ Opening Hymn No. 40

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession *(Inspired by Romans 14)*

Holy One, you have given us companions in life, family, friends, and neighbors. Help us live in ways that reflect your goodness, righteousness, and truth. Help us to love our neighbors with the fullness of shared life, accountability, and community. Help us repair what has been damaged, redeem what has been lost, and restore what has been broken for your name’s sake. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Beloved, God blesses us with the gift of accountability so that we need not settle for forgiveness that trivializes harm, ignores the need for repair, and leaves relationships fractured. God has given us accountability so that we may be transformed both individually and collectively, offender and offended, perpetrator and survivor for restoration, reconciliation, and righteousness. Receive the conjoined gifts of accountability and forgiveness.

We are forgiven. 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.

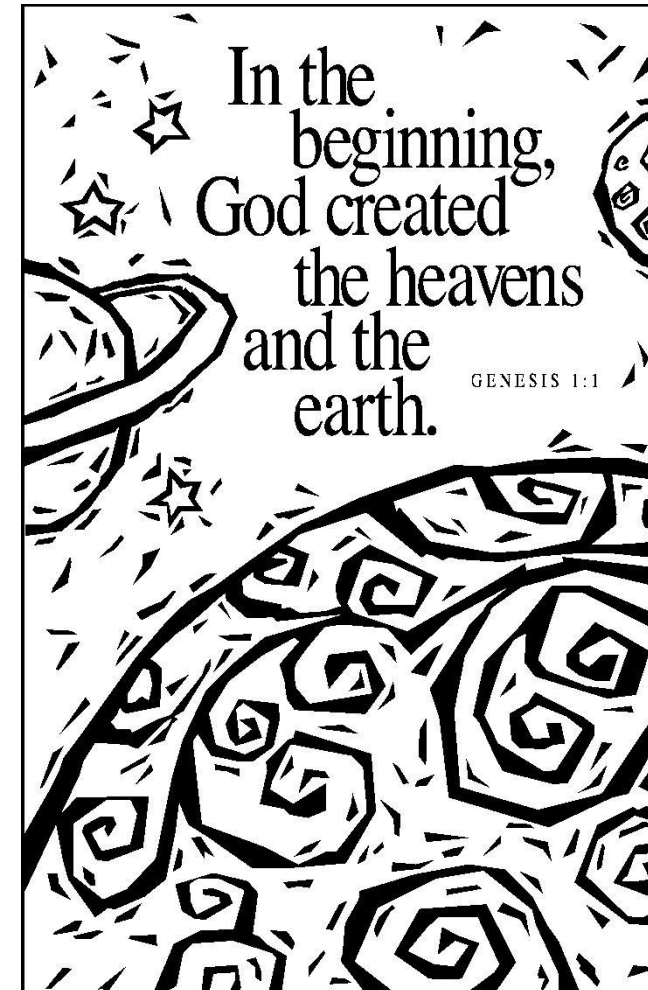
Generous God, magnify the offerings we bring, and may they be fruitful for the nurture and care of creation, the faithfulness of your church, and the needs of the communities and world we inhabit. Be glorified through our generosity. Amen.

Thanks be to God!

Wetherill

Zion United Church of Christ
Union, Missouri

We care as Christ cares.



SUNDAY NEWS

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

Serving This Morning

Liturgist: Alysha Petry
Ushers: Dennis & Karen Tucker
Greeter: Maxine Harrison
Sound Tech: Alan TenEyck 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.

"Strengthen the Church" Offering - We will collect the special 'Strengthen the Church' offering through the month of September. The special mission offering supports the formation of new congregations and the renewal of existing ones, fund new programs for youth and young adults and sponsor leadership development for the whole church. Offering envelopes were included in the September newsletter and additional offering envelopes are available by the offering plate. Thank you for your gifts!

Festival of Sharing - We will be receiving monetary donations for the Festival of Sharing during the month of September. The Festival of Sharing supports projects and programs that help our neighbors in Missouri and beyond with hunger, poverty and injustice. Please make your checks payable to Zion UCC and in the memo portion "FOS donation" - envelopes are next the offering plate for your gifts. If you would like more information about the Festival of Sharing please visit their website at www.festivalofsharing.org.

On Our List for Prayers

Health and Healing:

Jim Doehring	Phyllis Olson	Carolyn Donoho	Charlotte Ellison
Brenda Viehland	Kim Yenser	Kevin Vorderbruegge	Hettie Becker
Sarah Berghorn	Gerry Hoelscher	Wayne & Ellen Brinkmann	Carla Kilgore
Barb Harvey (at home)	Susie Andell	Chris Branch (niece of Gerry Hoelscher)	
Sharon Waldrop (friend of Jim Doehring)		Darlene Farrell (sister of Charlotte Ellison)	
Mitch Angell (friend of Charlotte Ellison)		Keith (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)	
Shelly Ware (friend of Hettie Becker)			

Sympathy Is Extended to:

Joy Bradley (our custodian) & family on the death of her husband who died on September 9th.

Church Family Undergoing Cancer Treatment:

Linda Kroeter	Jake McNiel (member of Zion & son of Sarah Davenport)
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)	Rich (friend of Jim Doehring)

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

Bible Presentation – This Morning – This morning is Children's Bible Presentation for 2nd & 3rd grade students during the 9 a.m. worship service.

RALLY DAY! – This Morning – RALLY DAY is today from 10-11 a.m.

Youth Event – This Afternoon – All youth are invited to the Youth Event at The Alley in Washington this afternoon from 1-3 p.m. RSVP to Alysha at apetry@zionunion.org. A waiver to play at The Alley needs to be signed before attending. Alysha will email the waiver link after she receives your RSVP.

Church Calendar – September 13, 2026 to September 20, 2026

Today -	The 16th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour/Green Team 10:00 a.m. Christian Education 1:00-3:00 p.m. Youth Event at The Alley in Washington
Mon., Sept. 14 -	6:30 p.m. Finance Committee (classroom)
Tues., Sept. 15 -	1:30 p.m. Book Club (lower commons)
Wed., Sept. 16 -	12:00 noon Loops of Love (lower commons) 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal (chapel)
Thurs., Sept. 17 -	8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Quilting Circle 1:00 p.m. Historical Team (conference room)
Fri., Sept. 18 -	7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in Use
Next Sun., Sept. 20 -	The 17th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour 10:00 a.m. Christian Education

Chancel Choir Rehearsals – Please note: Rehearsal time for the Chancel Choir has been changed. They will start rehearsals at 7:00 p.m. beginning September 16th.

Zion Book Club – Tues., Sept. 15 – The next gathering of Zion's Book Club will be on Tuesday, September 15th at 1:30 p.m. in the lower commons. They will be reading the book *"My Friends"* by Fredrick Backman.

CPR/AED Training – Sun., Sept. 27 – For those interested, there will be a CPR/AED Training following the worship service on Sunday, September 27th in the Fellowship Hall. This is open to everyone interested. More details to follow.

'Undie Sunday' – Sun., Oct. 4 – Jeanne & Sally Lischer will be volunteering at Back Bay Mission with a group from St. Peter's UCC in Washington in October. Back Bay Mission serves those living in poverty in Biloxi, Mississippi. One of Back Bay's ministries is the Micah Day Center for homeless residents. A big need is underwear, so we'll be collecting underwear on 'Undie Sunday', October 4th. We need new underwear for both men and women – adult M, L, & XL. Please no white underwear. There is a box in the lower commons for your donations. Thank you!

CASA is looking for Volunteers! – CASA of Mideast Missouri advocates for children in the foster care program in Franklin, Gasconade & Osage counties. They are seeking to train volunteers. The next CASA volunteer training session begins in mid-October with an application deadline for October 1st. To apply, donate or learn more about CASA please call 636-583-4422.

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