

# The 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 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                      “God, the Almighty”                      Davidson

Call to Worship (inspired y Psalm 25)

To you, O God, we lift up our souls. We trust you!  
**Make your ways known to us. Teach us your truths.**  
To you, O God, we lift up our souls. We follow you!  
**Lead us in your ways. Your path liberates and saves.**  
To you, O God, we lift up our souls. We worship you!  
**Guide us in humility and goodness. Praise the Holy One!**

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray,  
**Living Water, we delight in your presence. You sustain us in dry moments and seasons. Quench our thirst for word and revelation. Let your Spirit flow among us. Send a river of anointing, power, and encouragement in this assembly. We come to worship you and declare that you are with us...and we are with you. Amen.**

First Reading of Scripture                      Psalm 29 NRSVue

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

Mission Moment – Back Bay Mission                      Jeanne Lischer

+ Opening Hymn No. 48                      “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy Presence, you demonstrate the way of love and community, yet so often we turn immediately to quarrels and complaints against one another and against you rather than helpful ways of communicating and confronting conflict. Teach us to be loving even as we struggle. Stir up compassion and accountability in our interactions.

**Remind us that you are with us even through tests, trials, and disappointments. Transform us with trust and care to be faithful and to seek you in prayer when we feel driven to quarrel and complain. Amen.**

Assurance of Grace

The Holy One meets us with compassion and care even when we do not embody our best or strive for the goodness of God. Let us follow in the path of trust and faithful remembering of what God has done for us and how God has empowered us for transformation and new life. By the grace of God, your sins are forgiven!

**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](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

**God who Provides, as we present our offerings before you, sanctify them for your glory and magnify them for your people. Amen.**

Second Reading of Scripture                      Genesis 6:5-15, 7:6-12; & 8:13-17 NRSVue  
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church...  
**Thanks be to God!**

Hymn No. 626                      “O God of Every Nation”

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. 84                      “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

+ Benediction

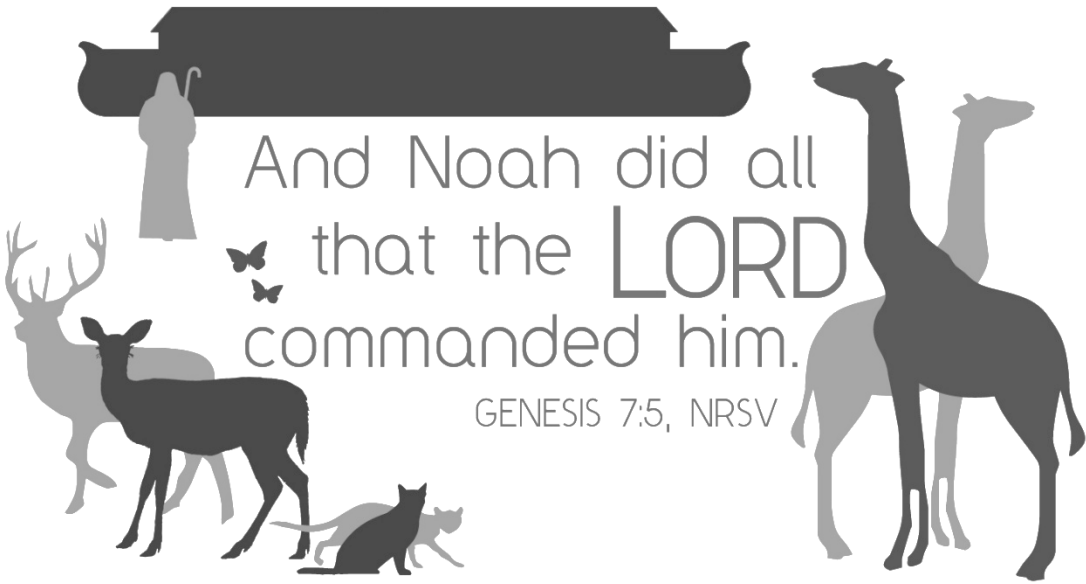
+ Postlude                      “Te Deum Laudamus”                      Nordman

Today’s Worship Materials come from **Service Prayers for the Eighteenth 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-18a-september-27/>

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                      **Administrative Assistant:** Connie Thompson  
**Minister to Youth & Families:** Alysha Petry                      **Coordinator of Elementary Youth:** Mandy Frick  
**Organist:** Brenda Herring                      **Council President:** Fern Dewert  
**Music Director:** Dr. Karen Stafford                      **Church Custodian:** Joy Bradley

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 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost +  
September 27, 2026 + 9:00 a.m.  
Zion United Church of Christ  
Union, Missouri

# SUNDAY NEWS

# SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

## Serving This Morning

Liturgist: Jeanne Lischer

Ushers: Bill & Fern Dewert

Greeters: Bill & Fern Dewert

Sound Tech: Alan TenEyck 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.

**"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](http://www.festivalofsharing.org).

**"These Days" Devotionals for October-November-December** are now available in the literature rack at the top of the grand staircase.

**CPR/AED Training - This Morning** - For those interested, there will be a CPR/AED Training following the worship service this morning in the Fellowship Hall. This is open to everyone interested.

## On Our List for Prayers

### **Health and Healing:**

|                                                  |                 |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Jim Doebling                                     | Phyllis Olson   |
| Brenda Viehland                                  | Kim Yenzer      |
| Sarah Berghorn                                   | Gerry Hoelscher |
| Barb Harvey (at home)                            | Susie Andell    |
| Sharon Waldrop (friend of Jim Doebling)          |                 |
| Mitch Angell (friend of Charlotte Ellison)       |                 |
| Tammy Wettling (friend of Charlotte Ellison)     |                 |
| Heather Gooch (great niece of Charlotte Ellison) |                 |
| Bob Truel (husband of Shirley Truel)             |                 |
| Nancy McKenzie (sister of Vicki Hooper)          |                 |
| Mike Bailey (husband of Leslie Bailey)           |                 |
| Glenda Foster (friend of Charlotte Ellison)      |                 |
| Mary Dobsch (sister of Charlotte Ellison)        |                 |
| Pat Pappas (sister of Jim Doebling)              |                 |
| Hallie Sammett (friend of Brenda Viehland)       |                 |
| John Carter (friend of Sandy Stierberger)        |                 |

|                                                           |                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Carolyn Donoho                                            | Charlotte Ellison |
| Kevin Vorderbruegge                                       | Hettie Becker     |
| Wayne & Ellen Brinkmann                                   | Carla Kilgore     |
| Chris Branch (niece of Gerry Hoelscher)                   |                   |
| Darlene Farrell (sister of Charlotte Ellison)             |                   |
| Keith (friend of Jim Doebling)                            |                   |
| Eric Heitman (nephew of Jim Doebling)                     |                   |
| S (Karen Stafford's CASA buddy)                           |                   |
| Heather Frederick (niece of Marilyn Freiermuth)           |                   |
| Josh & Tricia Pardee-Jacka (friends of Charlotte Ellison) |                   |
| Cindy Roach (friend of Charlotte Ellison)                 |                   |
| Vanessa Dobsch (niece of Charlotte Ellison)               |                   |
| Aubrey Reed (granddaughter of Charlotte Ellison)          |                   |
| Jamie Koch (friend of Hettie Becker)                      |                   |
| Sophia Muller (daughter-in-law of Jeff & Denise Muller)   |                   |
| Shelly Ware (friend of Hettie Becker)                     |                   |

### **Beginning Their Life Together:**

Abby Wilson & Kyle Luecke were married yesterday afternoon at Zion Church by Rev. Knoblauch.

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

Linda Kroeter  
Keith Wadley  
Cynthia Johnson (friend of Karen Stafford)  
Kim Gallagher (friend of Chris & Dawn Robinson)  
Allen Coffman (friend of Shawn Pehle)  
Aaron Dixon (nephew of Dan Mossoney)  
Brenda (friend of Hettie Becker)  
Willie Beckett (nephew of Vicki Hooper)  
Sammie Baker (friend of Brenda Viehland)  
Matthew (friend of Richard & Kathy Young)  
Julie Borgmann (niece of Fern Dewert)  
Rich (friend of Jim Doebling)

Jake McNiel (member of Zion & son of Sarah Davenport)  
Sarah Reed (daughter-in-law of Charlotte Ellison)  
Don Frankenberg (uncle of Phyliss Fink)  
Trish Kennedy (friend of Charlotte Ellison)  
Marissa Schollenberger (friend of Tom & Gayle Williams)  
Mike Meyer (friend of Mandy Frick)  
Britt Fassler (daughter of Nancy Kossmann)  
Erica Sterling (friend of Amy Dewert)  
Jenny Brittingham (friend of Richard & Kathy Young)  
Monty McGavock (brother of Kathy Young)  
Ken Laboube (friend of Hettie Becker)  
Ronnie Williams (brother of Gail Mefford & Tom Williams)

### **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)

## Christian Education/Faith Quest/Youth News

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

### Church Calendar – September 27, 2026 to October 4, 2026

|                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Today -</b>             | <b>The 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b><br><b>9:00 a.m. Worship</b><br><b>10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour</b><br><b>10:00 a.m. Christian Education/Adult Education</b><br><b>10:00 a.m. CPR/AED Training (fellowship hall)</b> |
| <b>Wed., Sept. 30 -</b>    | 12:00 noon Loops of Love (lower commons)<br>7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal (chapel)                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Thurs., Oct. 1 -</b>    | 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Quilting Circle<br>6:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in Use                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Fri., Oct. 2 -</b>      | 7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in Use                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Sat., Oct. 3 -</b>      | 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. CROP Rock-A-Thon at Fink's Alps Store                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Next Sun., Oct. 4 -</b> | <b>The 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost/World Communion Sunday</b><br><b>9:00 a.m. Worship</b><br><b>10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour</b><br><b>10:00 a.m. Christian Education/Adult Education</b>                                  |

**'Undie Sunday' – Next 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', next Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. 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!

**Informational Budget Meetings – Next Sun., Oct. 4 & Sun., Oct. 18** – The Church Council has scheduled informational Budget Meetings next Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> following the 9 a.m. worship service in the fellowship hall. This will be a time for members to review the proposed 2027 budget and ask questions. A copy of the proposed 2027 budget is now available on Sunday mornings on the table in the narthex next to the bulletins. We will still meet on November 8<sup>th</sup> for our congregational meeting.

**LOGOS Adult Education – Wed., Oct. 7** – LOGOS is continuing its adult educational offerings on October 7 at 5:00 p.m. with some hopeful news for the planet! We often seem to hear from people spreading gloom and hopelessness about what is happening to our beautiful Earth. While it's concerning that the average temperature each year has been higher, and severe weather events are becoming increasingly frequent, this is not the time to despair. ENCOURAGING ADVANCES ARE BEING MADE WORLDWIDE to meet climate change in many countries. We are seeing more and more interest in restoring and maintaining our natural environment, as people as awareness rises and solutions are found. The Green Team will host a short video presentation and a discussion on this hopeful news followed by our LOGOS community meal. Please notify Alysha if you plan to join us. Everyone is invited!

**Special Congregational Meeting – Sun., Oct. 11** – In August, Alysha Petry was approved for ordination pending call by our Eastern Association Committee on Ministry. In coordination with our Personnel Committee, Finance Committee, and Church Council, Alysha has reached a call agreement to serve this church in a new role as Associate Pastor of Faith Formation. Alysha now needs Congregational Approval to accept this call agreement. On October 11, 2026, Alysha will lead our Sunday service, and following the service, the congregation will vote to approve her call. With congregational approval, Alysha will set a service of Ordination later in the year.

**CROP Rock-A-Thon & CROP Walk** – Sign up sheets are posted on the lower commons bulletin board for the upcoming CROP Rock-A-Thon & CROP Walk. This is the 35<sup>th</sup> year for the CROP Walk in the Union Community. There will be two opportunities to help those dealing with hunger. Unless someone steps up to chair the Walk, this will be the 35<sup>th</sup> and last CROP Walk in the Union Community. We want to make this a BIG WALK to celebrate our 35 years of caring about hungry people, supporting the Union Food Pantry and Second Blessings as well as Church World Service (CROP). We only walk one mile in spirit with those who have to sometimes walk miles to get a jar of water and food. For those participating in the Walk we would like to request that each walker please bring a few food items to be divided between the Union Food Pantry and Second Blessings Pantry. Last year we divided 100 items with the same pantries.

**Shelving for Sale** – Some shelving, a base cabinet and wall cabinets are available to the congregation by silent auction bid. Items are located in the northeast corner of the fellowship hall including bid sheets. Bidding closes at 4 p.m. on October 12<sup>th</sup>.