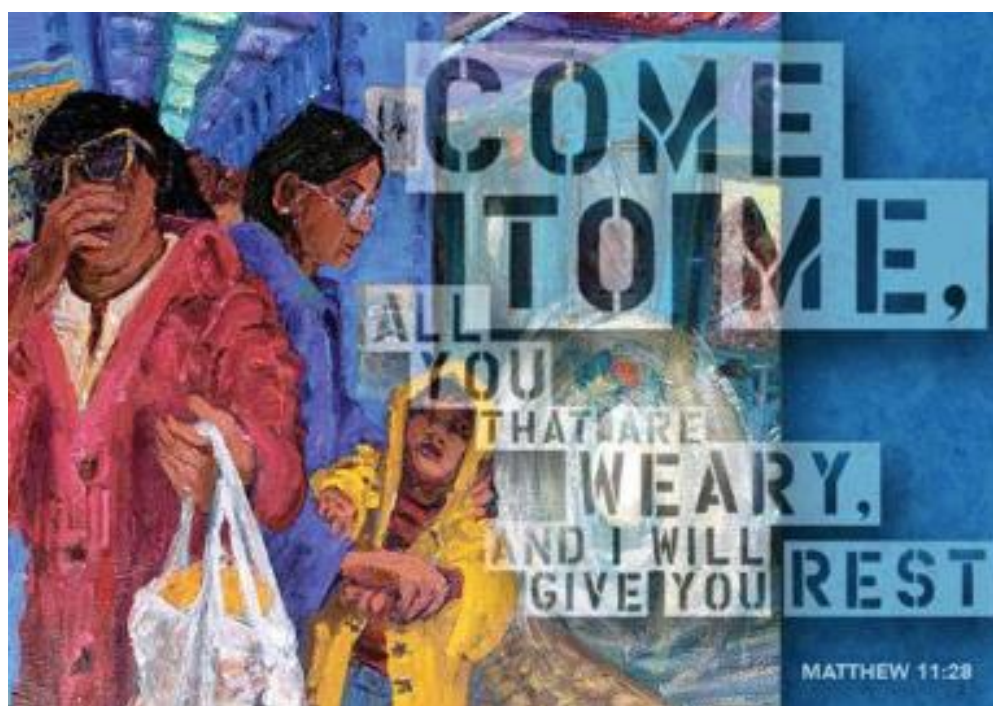


ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 9, 2023 10:00am

"How much am I willing to put myself out for others, as John and Jesus did? I pray not to be imprisoned in my comfort zones." *Unknown*



WALKING WITH PURPOSE 



Our Mission Statement

To share the gospel of Christ in such a way that we find God, grow our faith, discover our purpose, and make a difference.

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Walking With Purpose

Meditation of the Week: "Faith is not merely a journey of the feet. It is a journey of the heart." ~Aiden Wilson Tozer~

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

** All who are able may stand*

Gathering Music "Concerto in G major" Antonio Vivaldi

Ringling of the Bells

Prelude "La Rejouissance" George Frideric Handel

Words of Welcome

*Call to Community

We come to celebrate God's blessings to us.

Surely God is in this place!

We come to open ourselves to God's guidance and love.

Surely God is in this place!

We come to see more clearly God's presence in our lives.

Surely God is in this place!

We come to see God in this community of seekers.

Surely God is in this place!

We come to pray, praise, and offer ourselves to God.

Surely God is in this place! Let us praise the One who comes to us!

*Opening Hymn "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" Black #1

First Reading Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Lector Rae Smith

So, he said, 'I am Abraham's servant. The LORD has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels, and donkeys. And Sarah, my master's wife, bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, "You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son."

'I came today to the spring, and said, "O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, 'Please give me a little water from your jar to drink,' and who will say to me, 'Drink, and I will draw for your camels also' let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master's son."

'Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water-jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring and drew. I said to her, "Please let me drink." She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, "Drink, and I will also water your camels." So, I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, "Whose daughter are you?" She said, "The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him." So, I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshipped the LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.' And they called Rebekah, and said to her, 'Will you go with this man?' She said, 'I will.' So, they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, 'May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes.' Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus, the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.

Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, 'Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?' The servant said, 'It is my master.' So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So, Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

Children's Time

Special Music

"Four Spirituals"

Flute choir

Children are dismissed for Childrens Church

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Second Reading

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

'But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, "We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn." For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, "He has a demon"; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, "Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!" Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.'

At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

The Message

Holding One Another Up

Reception of New Members Tara Marie Sanders, Brian Richard Johnson, and Frank Anthony Gerlando

Welcome and Introduction of Candidates Address and Questions of the Candidates

Pastor Katie: Frank Anthony Gerlando do you desire to affirm your baptism into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Frank Anthony Gerlando: I do.

Pastor Katie: Tara Marie Sanders and Brian Richard Johnson do you desire to be baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Tara Marie Sanders and Brian Richard Johnson: I do.

Pastor Katie: We thank you, God, for the gift of creation made known to us in water and word. Before the world had shape and form, your Spirit moved over the waters. Out of the waters of the deep, you formed the firmament and brought forth the earth to sustain all life. In the time of Moses, your people Israel passed through the Red Sea waters from slavery to freedom and crossed the flowing Jordan to enter the promised land. You have come to us through water in the stories of Jesus who was nurtured in the water of Mary's womb, baptized by John in the water of the Jordan, and became living water to a woman at the Samaritan well. Jesus washed the feet of the disciples and sent them forth to baptize with water and spirit. Bless by your Holy Spirit, gracious God, this water. Bless all who touch and taste this water that may be ever reminded of your abiding presence and claim on their lives. Amen. (UCC Book of Worship, adapted)

Pastor Katie: Tara Marie Sanders, I baptize you with faith in the living God, Source, Servant and Guide.

May the Spirit be upon you, child of God, disciple of Christ, and member of the Christian church.

Pastor Katie: Brian Richard Johnson, I baptize you with faith in the living God, Source, Servant and Guide.

May the Spirit be upon you, child of God, disciple of Christ, and member of the Christian church.

Pastor Katie: The Holy Spirit be upon you, Tara Marie Sanders and Brian Richard Johnson, children of God, disciples of Christ and members of the church.

Pastor Katie: However, it is that you have come today, we rejoice that you are here and have chosen to become a member of Zion Reformed United Church of Christ. We are an inclusive, caring, justice-seeking, joyful community of faith that is called to embody God's love through worship, study, fellowship, and service. We celebrate diversity and believe that all people are included in God's unconditional love and grace.

Therefore, will you covenant with us to attend worship, invite, and welcome others, and move forward on your spiritual journey with us?

Tara Marie Sanders, Brian Richard Johnson, and Frank Anthony Gerlando: I will, with the help of God.

Pastor Katie: Will you covenant with us to seek daily to live and act in ways that help make Jesus' example of God's love for all people real, and to support this church and its ministries by giving as you are able of your time, talent, and financial resources?

Tara Marie Sanders, Brian Richard Johnson, and Frank Anthony Gerlando: I will, with the help of God.

Pastor Katie: Will you covenant with us to further God's work and reflect the teachings of Jesus by standing with those who suffer and serving all humanity?

Tara Marie Sanders, Brian Richard Johnson, and Frank Anthony Gerlando: I will, with the help of God and this faith community.

Pastor Katie: Do you then, as persons who have affirmed these covenants, seek to become one in spirit with the members of Zion Reformed United Church of Christ?

Tara Marie Sanders, Brian Richard Johnson, and Frank Anthony Gerlando: I do.

Pastor Katie: Members of the family of God, I commend to you these persons. Do all in your power to affirm their faith journey, strengthen their hope, and embrace them in love.

Congregation: We give thanks for the faith God has worked within you. We welcome you wherever you are on your faith journey with our love, acceptance, and respect. We pledge to work together as a community of faith to provide opportunities for worship, study, fellowship, celebration, and service. We promise to give spiritual and emotional care and support in times of need; and to be faithful as fellow stewards of God's grace. Together we will work for peace and social, economic and ecological justice and strive to bring about the world that we believe God intends.

What We Believe

Our vision for our church is:

To Share God's Inclusive Love, Uniting Us with Our Community

The mission God sends us out to do is:

To share the gospel of Christ in such a way that we find God, grow our faith, discover our purpose and make a difference.

As followers of Christ, we share these Core Values:

We are a Community: Where we show Love of God and One Another by

- **Welcoming all people.**
- **Celebrating unity and diversity.**
- **Working in partnership with other churches.**

We embrace our Spiritual life: Where God Is Still Speaking by

- **Encouraging people on their faith journey**
- **Listening through prayer**
- **Forgiving and being forgiven**

Invitation to Give

Offertory

"Postlude on the "Austrian Hymn""

Josef Haydn

Choral Response

"Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart"

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks, because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks, because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son.**

**And now let the weak say 'I am strong',
let the poor say 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for us;**

**And now let the weak say 'I am strong',
let the poor say 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks**

Blessing Our Gifts

We offer our gifts to God

who claims us as children; who names us beloved who celebrates our presence.

We offer our gifts to a loving God.

Thanks be to God!

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

*Hymn of Preparation

"Gather Us In"

Claire-Marie will play it one time first

See Insert

The Story

The Meal

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 and ever. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

"To You, O God, All Creatures Sing"

Black #17

*Sending Forth

"The Revival March"

John Philip Sousa

GO FORTH IN PEACE & SERVE!

PRAYING WITH ONE ANOTHER

Prayer is one of the most important spiritual disciplines of our faith, promoting communication with God, and love for God and neighbor. Submit your prayer requests to the church office to be included on the prayer list.



Join us in prayer as we pray for all those in our communities that we have touched or that have touched us and those that simply crossed our paths. Let us also remember to pray for peace and safety around the world and to pray with and for our Zion siblings: Bruce Albright, Janis Albright, Holly Bell, Naomi Brackett, Jane Bowen, Brenda Bowers, Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, Kim &

Bill Cook, Tony Cooper, Ronald Curry Sr., Luke Edwards, Garber Family, Michael Graff Jr. (son of Sue and Mike), Teddy Grogan, Beth Gross, Lyn Hoffmaster, Jane Hollabaugh, Paul Hose, Ann Kalinoski, Rhonda Kane, Alyssa Kline, Dee Krause, Peggy Ledin, Bobby Lowman, Peggy Lowman, Jerri Livingston, Anthony Martin, Sofia Martinez, Dee McGlauckin, Teresa Moats, Heather Morgan, Mary Murphy, Barry & Amy Newlin, Annie Penick, James Penick, The Family of Sue Penick, Mary & George Pietsch, Mark Plotner, Michelle Porter, David Ridenour, Wells Ridenour, Betsy Roulette, Verna Rosenfield, Brianna Russell, Ralph & Scherry Sellers, Staci Shafer, Jeff Shade, Rae Smith, Danny & Julia Springer, Jovan Summers, Thelma Summers, Martha Tallant, Tracy Roach Walls, Haywood Watts, Eleanor Wible, Eric Wolbring, Robert Yeoman.

**Prayer Requests remain active on the prayer list for 4-weeks unless renewed.*

The lector this week is Rae Smith. The lector next week is Rich Owens.

Ushers for this week are Frank Ebersole, Carol Mooers, Rich Owens.



Next week's ushers are Domenick Gerlando, Barb Hendershot, Matt McDonald, William Wantz.

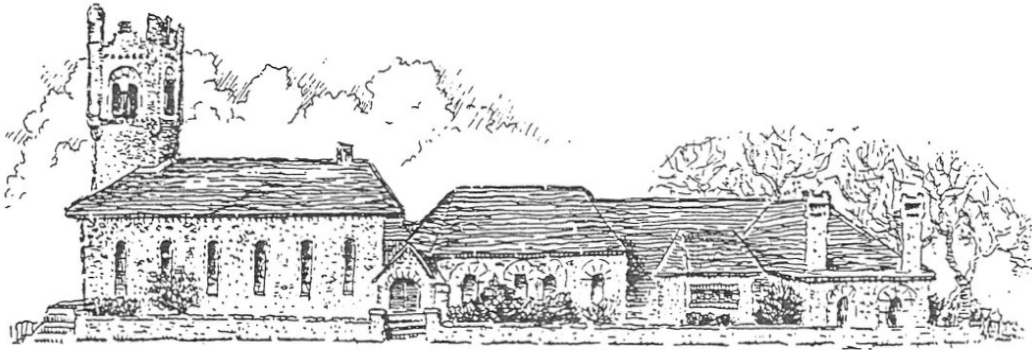


Happy Birthday	Ralph France	7/9
Happy Anniversary	Carol & Ralph France Scherry & Ralph Sellers	7/11 7/14

Upcoming Events:

- 7/9 Welcome New Members
- 7/11 Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30 pm (Downstairs in Fellowship Hall)
- 7/12 Wednesday Potluck & Worship 6:00 pm
- 7/13 Thursday Lunch Bunch 12:00 pm
4-H Club Meeting 4:30pm
- 7/15 Deadline for articles for the August Newsletter
- 7/16 Luncheon for Pastor Katie after the service. Come and Join Us! Please contact Carol Mooers for details.
- 7/17 Washington Co Ag Fair & Expo -Help Dip Ice Cream 3:00-6:30 pm Please see Kim Ridenour for details.





Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

201 North Potomac Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740

Office Hours: 8:30-12:30, Monday through Friday

Facebook: @ZionRUCC | YouTube: Zion Reformed UCC

Web: www.zionreformed.church

Email: zionrucc@myactv.net Phone: 301.739.7244



Rev Katie Penick, Interim Minister

Phone: 240.418.8028 | Email: zionruccpastor@myactv.net

Rae Smith, Church Administrative Assistant

Phone: 301.739.7244 | Email: zionrucc@myactv.net

Service Credits July 9

Adapted from <https://www.ucc.org/what-we-do/justice-local-church-ministries/local-church/worship-resources/worship-ways-2/>

Gathering music: Concerto in G major. Composed by Antonio Vivaldi. Arr. by J. S. Bach. © 1940 G. Schirmer. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Prelude: La Rejouissance. Composed by George Frideric Handel. Arr. by Sue Mitchell Wallace. © 1988 by Hoe Publishing Co. Performed by Byron L. Stay (D trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Hymns: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise. NCH 1. Tune: St. Denio. Traditional Welsh ballad. Words by Walter C. Smith (1867). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Gather Us In. Chalice: 284. Words and Music by Marty Haugen (1981). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

To You, O God, All Creatures Sing. NCH 17. Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen. Composed by St. Francis of Assisi (1225). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Source(s): Hymnary (hymnary.org).

Special music: Four Spirituals. Flute choir. Arr. by Phyllis Audan Louke.

Offertory: Postlude on the "Austrian Hymn." Composed by Josef Haydn. Arr. by John S. Dixon. © 2019 by The Lorenz Corp. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Communion: When in the Hour of Utmost Need. Composed by J. S. Bach. © 1940 G. Schirmer. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Postlude: The Revival March. Composed by John Philip Sousa. © 2012 by Wayne Leupold Editions. Performed by Byron L. Stay (piccolo trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.