

ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

West Pavilion at City Park

August 20TH, 2023 @ 10 A.M.



“I would rather be what God chose to make me than the most glorious creature that I could think of; for to have been thought about, born in God's thought, and then made by God, is the dearest, grandest and most precious thing in all thinking.”

— George MacDonald

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.

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

** All who are able may stand*

Gathering Music

Barb Hendershot

Greeting, Words of Welcome, Announcements

Prelude

Barb Hendershot

***Call to Worship**

One: All waves that break on the seashore, gulls that screech on the wind,
all seals and dolphins, whales, and minnows; Bless the Maker.

All: Sing praise and thanks to God.

One: All streams and rivers, lakes reflecting the sky, all fishes, and wriggling things,
tadpoles and beetles; bless the Maker.

All: Sing praise and thanks to God.

One: All mountains and rolling hills, larks singing on the wing,
all badgers and foxes, hedgehogs and rabbits; bless the Maker.

All: Sing praise and thanks to God.

One: All trees and green growing things, flowers scenting the air, all creeping
and crawling things, bee, butterfly and moth; bless the Maker.

All: Sing praise and thanks to God.

One: People of God, short, tall or growing still, skin black, brown or beige,
full of creative talent, free to make choices; bless the Maker.

All: Sing praise and thanks to God.

One: For all that is made, free to be as they were made to be; praise the Maker.

All: PRAISE THE MAKER'S SON.

PRAISE THE HOLY SPIRIT.

GOD, THE THREE-IN-ONE.

By Chris Polhill, Wild Goose Worship Group

Refrain:

All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the dear God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
Gode made their glowing colors,
And made their tiny wings. [Refrain]

The purple-headed mountain,
the river running by,
the sunset and the morning
that brightens up the sky. [Refrain]

The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden:
God made them everyone. [Refrain]

Prayer for the Dance

One: Let us pray: Holy Spirit, we circle the world with the flame of your love and pray for peace and justice where there is inequality and war; for dancing and joy in place of oppression and the daily grind of poverty. May all enjoy the feast of life. Your will be done,

All: on earth, as in heaven.

One: Lady Wisdom, we circle this place with the flame of your love – and thank you for friends and fun, for gifts and talents. We pray for your peace in our hearts as we journey along together, and for a knowledge of your gifts within us. Your will be done,

All: on earth, as in heaven.

One: Healing Spirit, we circle with your blessing all those who will be born today. Protect and cherish them, loving God. We circle with your healing love all those who are enduring illness or disease. Be with them in their suffering, O God. And we circle with your glorious light, all those who will die today. Take them into your arms and embrace them,
O God ... Your will be done,

All: on earth, as in heaven.

One: Hear our prayers and bless us living God. Hold the secret longings of our hearts in the mystery of your love, that the light of your Commonwealth will continue to shine on earth.

All: Amen.

Children's Time

Scripture

Genesis 1:1-31

Lector: Carol Mooers

First off, nothing ... but God. No light, no time, no substance, no matter. Second off, God says the word and WHAP! Stuff everywhere! The cosmos in chaos: no shape, no form, no function - just darkness ... total. And floating above it all, God's Holy Spirit, ready to play.

Day one: Then God's voice booms out, "Lights!" and, from nowhere, light floods the skies and "night" is swept off the scene. God gives it the big thumbs up, calls it "day".

Day two: God says, "I want a dome - call it 'sky' - right there between the waters above and below." And it happens.

Day three: God says, "Too much water! We need something to walk on, a huge lump of it - call it 'land'. Let the 'sea' lick its edges." God smiles, says, "Now we've got us some definition. But it's too plain! It needs, color! Vegetation! Loads of it. A million shades. Now!" And the earth goes wild with trees, bushes, plants, flowers and fungi. "Now give it a growth permit." Seeds appear in everyone. "Yes!" says God.

Day four: "We need a schedule: let's have a 'sun' for the day, a 'moon' for the night; I want 'seasons', 'years'; and give us 'stars', masses of stars - think of a number, add a trillion, then times it by the number of trees and we're getting there: we're talking huge!"

Day five: "OK, animals: amoeba, crustaceans, insects, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals ... I want the whole caboodle teeming with a million varieties of each - and let's have some fun with the shapes, sizes, colors, textures!" God tells them all, "You've got a growth permit - use it!" He sits back and smiles, says, "Result!"

Day six: Then God says, "Let's make people - like us, but human, with flesh and blood, skin and bone. Give them the job of caretakers of the vegetation, game wardens of all the animals." So God makes people, like God, but human. God makes male and female (for the "how", see later). God smiles at them and gives them their job description: "Make babies! Be parents, grandparents, great-grandparents - fill the earth with your families and run the planet well. You've got all the plants to eat from, so have all the animals - plenty for all. Enjoy." God looks at everything made, and says, "Fantastic. I love it!"

The Genesis texts are from the creative interpretation of Rob Lacy, The Word on the Street.

The Message

Fantastic, I Love It

"God of the Sparrow"

God of the sparrow
God of the whale
God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe
How does the creature say Praise

God of the earthquake
God of the storm
God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature cry Woe
How does the creature cry Save

God of the rainbow
God of the cross
God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace
How does the creature say Thanks

God of the hungry
God of the sick
God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care
How does the creature say Life

God of the neighbor
God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace

God of the ages
God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home

WE RESPOND

Morning Prayer

The Prayer Jesus Teaches Us

**Our Father (Creator), 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.**

Invitation to Give

The God who has blessed our lives calls us to store our riches with God. In thanksgiving and in faithfulness, let us share our gifts and offerings.

Offertory

Offertory Response

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Father Son and Holy Ghost**

Prayer of Dedication

One: Your generosity overflows in abundance, O God. We return a portion of what we have to you in grateful thanksgiving. Bless our gifts that they will nurture the seeds of hope and healing in this community and beyond.

All: Amen.

***Hymn**

"Down by the Riverside"

Going to lay down my sword and shield,
Down by the riverside,
Down by the riverside,
Down by the riverside;
Going to lay down my sword and shield,
Down by the riverside,
Going to study war no more.

Chorus:

I ain't goingt' study war no more,
Ain't goingt' study war no more,
Ain't goingt' study war no more.
Ain't goingt' study war no more,
Ain't goingt' study war no more,
Ain't goingt' study war no more.

Going to lay down my burden,
Down by the riverside,
Down by the riverside,
Down by the riverside;
Going to lay down my burden,
Down by the riverside,
Going to study war no more. [Chorus]

Going to try on my starry crown,
Down by the riverside,
Down by the riverside,
Down by the riverside;
Going to try on my starry crown,
Down by the riverside,
Going to study war no more. [Chorus]

Going to meet my loving Jesus,
Down by the riverside,
Down by the riverside,
Down by the riverside;
Going to meet my loving Jesus,
Down by the riverside,
Going to study war no more. [Chorus]

Sending Forth

One: Go forth into the gift-laden world.

All: Beauty is before us.

One: Beauty is behind us.

All: Beauty is above us.

One: Beauty is below us.

**All: Praise to the Creator, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit.
Praise! Praise! Praise! Amen.**

Postlude:

“There Is No Night”

Transcribed by Ben Chan

***WELCOME TO ZION REFORMED
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST***



PASTOR E. SCOTT WINNETTE

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, Family of Joanne Albright, Holly Bell, Naomi Brackett, Jane Bowen, Brenda Bowers, Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, Kim & Bill Cook, Tony Cooper, Ronald Curry Sr., Luke Edwards, The Garber Family, Michael Graff Jr. (son of Sue and Mike), Teddy Grogan, Beth Gross, Family of David Harshman, Sherry Hockman, Lyn Hoffmaster, Jane Hollabaugh, Paul Hose, Brian Johnson, Ann Kalinoski, Rhonda Kane, Alyssa Kline, Dee Krause, Peggy Ledin, Family of Mike Lorfin, Bobby Lowman, Peggy Lowman, Jerri Livingston, Anthony Martin, Kim Greene Martin, Sofia Martinez, Dee McGlauckin, Family of LeVan Quoc Milburn, Teresa Moats, Heather Morgan, Mary Murphy, Barry & Amy Newlin, Annie Penick, James Penick, Mary & George Pietsch, Mark Plotner, Michelle Porter, David Ridenour, Wells Ridenour, Rich Robinette, Betsy Roulette, Elliot & Verna Rosenfield, Brianna Russell, Ralph & Scherry Sellers, Staci Shafer, Jeff Shade, Danny & Julia Springer, Mary Stann, Jovan Summers, Thelma Summers, Martha Tallant, Family of Tony Valentine, Sr., Tracy Roach Walls, Haywood Watts, Eleanor Wible, Eric Wolbring, Robert Yeoman.

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

BACK- TO-SCHOOL BLOCK PARTY - AUG 26TH



For the past couple of years Zion has been holding a Back-To-School Block Party in our parking lot. This outreach program has been very successful and sincerely appreciated by our neighbors. There are different ways that you can help with our efforts to supply the children in our neighborhood with much needed school supplies. You can volunteer to help on August 26th, or you can donate any of the following items to be handed out to the school children that attend. Your donation can be dropped off at the church any day between now and the 23rd of August.

Spiral Notebooks
Glue Sticks
Loose Leaf Paper

If you are unable to get out to the store, we will also appreciate a cash donation to purchase these items.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP

The lector this week is Carol Mooers. The lector next week is Jean Simmons.

Ushers for this week are William Brewer, Calvin Livingston, Gerald Saum, and Jean Simmons.

Next week's ushers are Burnie Clutz, Susan Clutz, Becky Hohman, John Schnebly.



Birthdays	Rae Dina Smith	8/22
	Daniel Livingston	8/23
	Felicity Shafer	8/25

Upcoming Events:

- 8/22 Staff Meeting 12:00pm
Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30pm (Downstairs in Fellowship Hall)
- 8/23 ONA Team Meeting 4:30pm
- 8/24 4-H Club Meeting 4:30pm
- 8/25 Zion Book Club 7:00pm at the home of Daisy Schlotterbeck
- 8/26 Back to School Block Party 3:00pm – 5:00pm in our parking lot.
Vendors, snow cones, hot dogs, and tons of fun. Call Kim or Rae if you would like to help. (set up begins at 1:30pm)
- 8/28 House of Worship Meeting at St. Marks 2:00pm
- 8/29 Staff Meeting 12:00pm
Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30pm (Downstairs in Fellowship Hall)



Service Credits

Music for August 20, 2023 City Park Service

Gathering Music: Fairest Lord Jesus. Music from Schlesische Volkslieder ©1986 by Hal Leonard Corporation

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing. Music from John Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music* ©2004 by Hal Leonard Corporation

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus. Folk Melody from India, Arr. By Auila Read ©1999 by Hal Leonard Corporation

Awake, Awake to Love and Work. Music by Wyeth ©MichaelKravchuk.com. Performed by Barbara Hendershot.

Prelude: Let All Things Now Living. Ashgrove (Traditional Irish Hymn) Arr. By Michael Card and Craig Duncan, ©1998 Mole End Music (adm. By Word Music, Group, Inc.) Craig Duncan Music Performed by Barbara Hendershot.

Hymns: All Things Bright and Beautiful NCH #31. Tune: Royal Oak. Adapt by Martin Shaw Written by Cecil F. Alexander.

God of the Sparrow NCH #32. Tune: Roeder. Written by Jaroslav Vajda. Composed by Carl F. Schalk.

Down By the Riverside. Traditional Spiritual ©MichaelKravchuk.com

Offertory: My Jesus, I Love Thee. Music by Adoniram J. Gordon. © 1996 Hal Leonard Corporation. Performed by Barbara Hendershot.

Postlude: There Is No Night. Transcribed by Ben Chan. www.ChamberHymns.com



Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

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