

ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sixteenth SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
September 17, 2023 @ 11 A.M.



“Place your heart in the hands of God and God will give it to the person who God believes deserves it.”

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.**

A Special Welcome to Our Visitors

Welcome to the Zion Reformed United Church of Christ! We are glad you have joined us for worship this morning. I believe you will find Zion Church an open and safe place to ask the difficult questions of life and a community that honors each spiritual journey. We encourage you to ask our members about our community, explore our bulletin and website and to gift us with your contact information (phone, address, email) in our Guest Book as you exit worship. We are ready to answer any question or to help connect you to any program that we can. I hope I have the opportunity to greet you in person after the service or that you'll contact me. Many blessings, Scott Winnette, Pastor (pastorwinnette@gmail.com)

Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

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Rev. Dr. E. Scott Winnette, Pastor

Phone: 240-675-3227 | Email: pastorwinnette@gmail.com

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

** All who are able may stand*

Gathering Music “Passacaglia in d (Bux WV 161) And Praeludium in C. (Bux WV 137)”
Dietrich Buxtehude

Bells

Greeting, Announcements

Prelude “Rise, O Children of Salvation” Joachim Neander

***Call to Worship**

One: You shall love the Lord with all your heart.

All: Hold our hearts, O God.

One: You shall love the Lord with all your soul.

All: Shape our souls, O God.

One: You shall love the Lord with all your mind.

All: Mold our minds, O God.

One: You shall love the Lord with all your strength.

All: Bless our bodies, O God.

We follow you into goodness. Amen.

***Hymn** “Sing, Praise to God, Our Highest Good” Black #6

Prayer of Hope (in unison)

Merciful God, lead us beside the still waters of your presence. In baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from siblings in Christ. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another; we allow the past to hold us hostage. In your loving kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin. Remind us of the promises you make in baptism so that we may rise to new life and live together in grace. Amen.

Choral Refrain “Put Peace Into Each Other’s Hands” (Verse 1 only) See Insert

*Put peace into each other’s hands
and like a treasure hold it,
protect it like a candle flame,
with tenderness enfold it.*

Scripture

Psalm 114 Interpretation from Nan Merrill

Lector: Rich Owens

Come, all you who have wandered
far from the path,
who have separated yourselves from Love;
A banquet is prepared for you in the
heart's Secret Room.

There you will find the way Home;
a welcome ever awaits you!

Even as you acknowledge the time
you have erred,
the forgiveness of the Beloved
will envelop you.

Call upon the Beloved when fear
arises,
when you feel overwhelmed;

The Eternal Listener will heed
your cry;
you will find strength to face
the shadows.

Befriend all that is within you,
discover the Sacred Altar within
your heart.

Then will abundant blessings enter
your home; and, you
will welcome the Divine Guest
who is ever with you.
You are never alone!

One: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Children's Time Blessing of Micah's Backpacks

Anthem

"Lead Me Lord"

Zion Choir

Peter came up and asked Jesus, "When a sister or brother wrongs me, how many times must I forgive? Seven times?" "No," Jesus replied, "not seven times; I tell you seventy times seven. And here's why. "The kingdom of heaven is like a ruler who decided to settle accounts with the royal officials. When the audit was begun, one was brought in who owed tens of millions of dollars. As the debtor had no way of paying, the ruler ordered this official to be sold, along with family and property, in payment of the debt. "At this, the official bowed down in homage and said, 'I beg you, your highness, be patient with me and I will pay you back in full!' Moved with pity, the ruler let the official go and wrote off the debt. "Then that same official went out and met a colleague who owed the official twenty dollars. The official seized and throttled this debtor with the demand, 'Pay back what you owe me!' "The debtor dropped to the ground and began to plead, 'Just give me time and I will pay you back in full!' But the official would hear none of it, and instead had the colleague put in debtor's prison until the money was paid. "When the other officials saw what had happened, they were deeply grieved and went to the ruler, reporting the entire incident. The ruler sent for the official and said, 'You worthless wretch! I cancelled your entire debt when you pleaded with me. Should you not have dealt mercifully with your colleague, as I dealt with you?' Then in anger, the ruler handed the official over to be tortured until the debt had been paid in full. "My Abba in heaven will treat you exactly the same way unless you truly forgive your sisters and brothers from your hearts."

One: This is the word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Cycles of Mercy

*Hymn

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

Red #1

Morning Prayer

Refrain: One: Holy One in your Mercy.

All: Receive our prayers.

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

One: Let us gather our gifts together and bring them to God as an offering of gratitude and praise!

Offertory

"Meditation on "Amazing Grace"

Frederick Swann

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Oh praise Him, Oh praise Him.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Amen

Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

Blessed and Blessing God, we give you thanks. We offer to you the bounty of our lives, our gifts of heart, of wealth, of strength. Expand all that we are and have, and bring your will into the world. Amen.

*Hymn

"I, the Lord of Sea and Sky"

(Back of hymnal)

Benediction

One: Go forth into the world in peace.

All: We will be of good courage.

One: Hold fast to that which is good.

All: We will render to no person evil for evil.

One: Strengthen the faint-hearted;

Support the weak;

Heal the afflicted;

Honor all persons;

Love and serve God.

All: We will! All while rejoicing in the power of God's presence in our lives. Amen.

Postlude:

"God of Grace"

Mrs. Dilys Webb



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, Bob Barnhart, Holly Bell, Naomi Brackett, Brenda Bowers, Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, Kim & Bill Cook, Ronald Curry Sr., Luke Edwards, Michael Graff Jr. (son of Sue and Mike), Teddy Grogan, Beth Gross, Sherry Hockman, Brian Johnson, **Bradley, Hanna & Ellie Jump, Maddison & Rexton Jump**, Dee Krause, Bobby Lowman, Peggy Lowman, Jerri Livingston, Mary Lorfing, Kim Greene Martin, Sofia Martinez, Dee McGlauckin, Teresa Moats, Heather Morgan, Susan Moscato, Mary Murphy, **Pat Murray**, Nathan (grandchild of a neighbor), Barry & Amy Newlin, Annie Penick, James Penick, Mary & George Pietsch, Mark Plotner, Michelle Porter, David Ridenour, Wells Ridenour, Rich Robinette, Betsy Roulette, Verna Rosenfield, Brianna Russell, Ralph & Scherry Sellers, Staci Shafer, Jeff Shade, Danny & Julia Springer, Melanie & Wesley (granddaughter and great grandson of Danny & Julia Springer), Mary Stann, Jovan Summers, Thelma Summers, Martha Tallant, Tracy Roach Walls, Haywood Watts, Eleanor Wible, Eric Wolbring, Robert Yeoman.

*****New additions to the Prayer List will be printed in bold for the first week.***

The lector this week is Rich Owens. The lector next week is Wells Ridenour.

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



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

Birthdays



Richard Lowman	9/17
Barbara Hendershot	9/18
Brynn Nilson	9/19
Amy Newlin	9/21
Janet Roberts	9/21
Teresa Zukowski	9/21
Jonathan Patterson	9/21
Gerald Saum	9/23
Rev. Kaie Penick	9/23

Upcoming Events:

- 9/19 Staff Meeting 12:00pm
Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30pm (Downstairs in Fellowship Hall)
- 9/21 4-H Club Meeting 4:30pm
Choir Practice 5:30pm
- 9/22 Zion Book Club 7:00pm at the home of Daisy Shlotterbeck
- 9/23 HARC Interfaith Progressive Dinner 5:00pm
Tickets are \$25 per person. Participants include Unity of Hagerstown, the Baha'is of Washington County, Impact Ministries, and the Islamic Society of Western Maryland.



Save The Dates:

9/24 Youth Protection Training 12:30pm after worship.

9/26 Community Resource Fair. 12:00pm-4:00pm If you would like to help setup for the Resource Fair please contact Sue Graff or Carroll Sager.



Micah's Backpack is collecting Vienna Sausages during the month of September.

Thank you for your help in this outreach ministry.

An advertisement for Mummer's Parade seating. The background is a photograph of a street lined with wooden chairs. Two price tags are overlaid: "\$5 WALL SEATING" and "\$6 STREET SEATING". The text "MUMMER'S PARADE SEATS AVAILABLE" is prominently displayed in large, bold letters. At the bottom, there is a black bar with white text providing details about the parade and how to reserve seats.

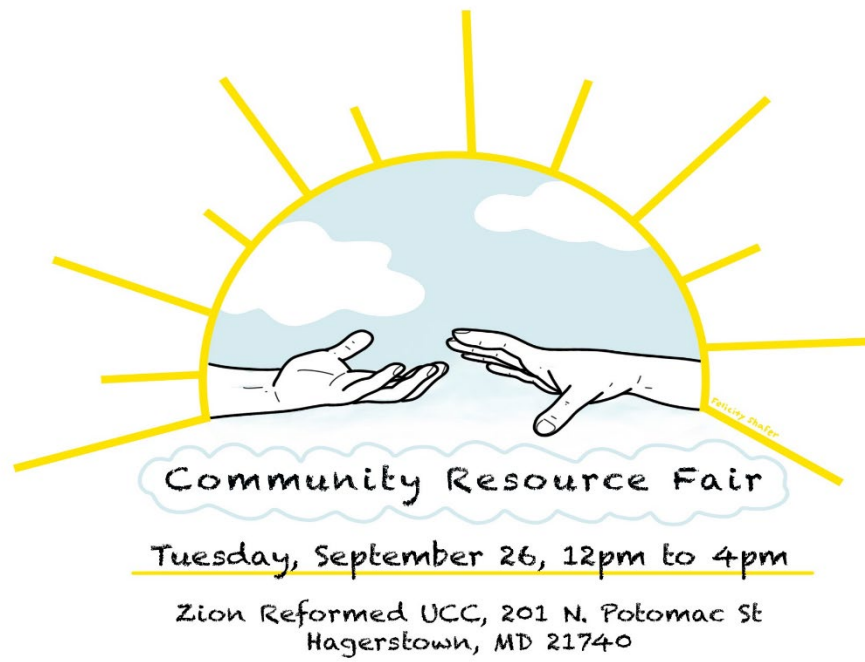
\$5 WALL SEATING

\$6 STREET SEATING

MUMMER'S PARADE SEATS AVAILABLE

PARADE: SATURDAY, OCT. 28 @ 6 PM
AVAILABLE NOW TO ZION ATTENDEES
AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC SEPT. 25TH

RESERVE A SPOT:
zionrucc@myactv.net
301.739.7244



Join us as we provide information and resources for you and your family from local community partners

Informational material, light snacks and bottled water will be available

Attending agencies include REACH, Maryland Physicians Care, United Bank, Sheppard Pratt Mobile Crisis, ADAC, Donation Angels, Forever Lasting Rainbow Inc, Washington County Health Department, Potomac Community Services, Washington County Public Schools, and Washington County Commission on Aging

Free tote bags for all attendees

Special Offering - Neighbors In Need

Artist: Alexis

Age: 15

Congregation: Trinity United Church of Christ, St. Louis MO



BehOLD!

*"God saw everything God made
and behold, it was very good." Genesis 1:31*

Young environmental advocates lead the way.

At First Congregational Church in Montclair, New Jersey, young climate leaders like Jey Cook and Simona Graceffo have played a leading role in advancing the care of God's creation both within and beyond their church. With a sense of passion and purpose, they created an uplifting video to kick-start the all-church process of becoming a UCC Creation Justice Church. Each of them was also a climate justice fellow at their church over the course of the summer as they engaged with efforts in the broader community to promote local sustainability and food security. Witness the leadership of Cook and Graceffo in their video: <https://bit.ly/CreationJusticeVideo>



**ZION Reformed United Church of Christ
New ONLINE Opportunities.**

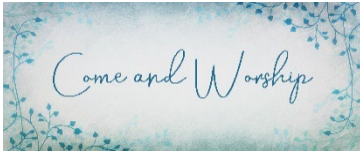


Adult Sunday School (*a merger of Journey and Arthur Grove's Class*) begins at 9:45 and will be lead by David Ridenour and Rae Smith. You can come in person to the Burhans Room or you can join on Zoom. The link will be found in the Friday Email and on the Website or you can type it into your search engine.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87602917867?pwd=NmRrQWxTVjg5cWNrL2RaNTN3ZU02UT09> - Password: Peace

The Adults will be Studying "God Provides"

Our Bible lessons follow the theme "God Provides" and remind us of the ways God meets our needs and of God's call to us to help those who lack life's essentials of food, water, and shelter. The writer of the student book Greg Weeks.



This same link used for Adult Sunday School will be used for those who want to worship with us via zoom. Start joining at 10:50 to fellowship on Zoom before worship. During Worship we will feed our live service into zoom. Consider turning your cameras on so you can see each other and feel free to chat during worship. Pastor Scott will be reading. **Please email Scott at**

Pastorwinnette@gmail.com if you want to rehearse using Zoom before Sunday.



FORGIVE
as you've been
FORGIVEN

Matthew 18:21-35

Service Credits

Gathering music: Passacaglia in d (Bux WV 161). And Praeludium in C. (Bux WV 137). Composed by Dietrich Buxtehude. © 1994 by Barenreiter-Verlag Karl Votterle GmbH & Co. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Prelude: Rise, O Children of Salvation. Composed by Joachim Neander. Arr. by David Cherwien. © 1981 by Summa Productions. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Hymns: Sing, Praise to God, Our Highest Good. NCH 6. Composed by Johann J. Schutz. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

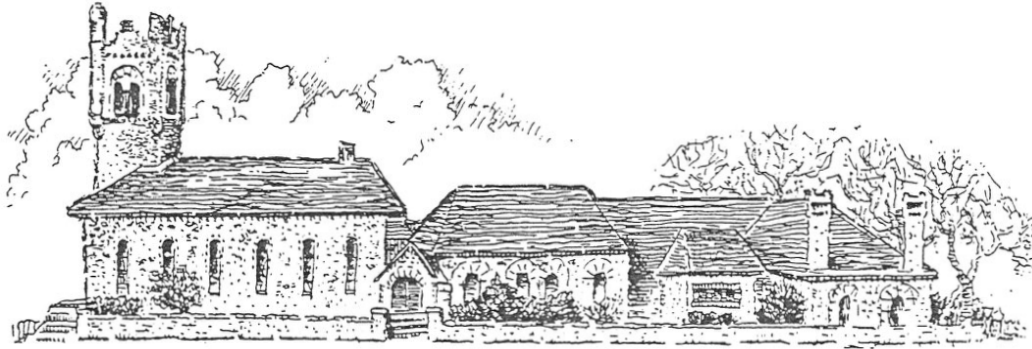
Holy, Holy, Holy Red 1. Tune: Nicea. Composed by John B. Dykes (1861). Words by Reginald Heber (1826). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky. (Back of hymnal). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) and trumpeter Byron L. Stay
Source(s): Hymnary (hymnary.org).

Choral anthem: Lead Me Lord. Composed by Samuel Sebastian Wesley.

Offertory: Meditation on "Amazing Grace." American Melody. Arr. by Frederick Swann. © 1998 by Tarzana Music. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Postlude: God of Grace. Composed by Mrs. Dilys Webb. Arr. by Paul Manz. © 1974 by Corcordia Publishing House. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.



Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

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