

ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

June 23, 2024 10:00am



Let us commemorate the past to build a better future

GATHERING MUSIC and BELLS

Ciacona in f minor

Johann Pachelbel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Paean (Hymn of Praise)

Robert Lau

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

A LITANY ADAPTATION OF "LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING"

One: Celebration rises, up from the deep places,
finding voice in the light and air no longer denied.

**All: Lift every voice and sing, sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.**

One: Celebration rises, not blind to the suffering, not blind to the sorrow.
Celebration comes at a cost.

**All: Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
yet with a steady beat have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our parents sighed.**

One: Celebration rises, remembering the way we have come,
the paths taken that have brought us here now to this place and time of celebration.
Celebration rises, up and up, full of remembering.
Remembering the ones led to freedom by Harriet;
Remembering lives and freedom stolen...

**All: We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past till now we stand at last where the white gleam
of our bright star is cast.**

One: Celebration rises, recognizing what has been done and left undone,
knowing there is still and yet much to do, so much further to go.
Celebration rises, naming the victories, recognizing the challenges yet ahead.
Celebration rises on voices offering unfinished praise.

**All: Lest our feet stray from the places,
our God where we met thee;
lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world we forget thee;**

One: Celebration rises, resisting illusions,
to be embraced by the real and abiding presence of God who breaks our chains,
and sets us free for freedom, in power and love and joy.

**All: God of our weary years, God of our silent tears
thou who hast brought us thus far on our way;
thou who has by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.**

One: Celebration rises, with the power of healing wings and promise to endure.
Celebration rises, celebrating that by God's grace,
I am because You are, You are because I am;
Celebrating that the fullness of my humanity does not diminish yours
and the fullness of your humanity does not diminish mine.

**All: Shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand, true to our God,
true to our native land.
True to who we are, True to who we have been and who we are becoming,
thanks be to God.**

***HYMN**

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

NCH 7

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**Holy and righteous God, you created us in your image. Grant us grace to contend fearlessly against evil and to make no peace with oppression. Help us, like those of generations before us who resisted the evil of slavery and human bondage in any form and any manner of oppression. Help us to use our freedoms to bring justice among people and nations everywhere, to the glory of your Holy name through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

WORDS OF HOPE

One: "Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world. Now I've been free, I know what a dreadful condition slavery is. I have seen hundreds of escaped slaves, but I never saw one who was willing to go back and be a slave." ~~ Harriet Tubman

Siblings, God is at work in us and with us!

God has promised:

"I will not keep silent and I will not rest
until the vindication of my beloved people
shines out like the dawn and their salvation like a burning torch.

My people shall no more be termed 'forsaken'
and their land shall no more be termed 'desolate.'"

We remember that you have given your Beloved people a new name:

"My delight is in them."

All: Thank you, God for delighting in us even now, for forgiving us our slow action, our silence and our weariness, for empowering our work and inviting us once again to create with you the Beloved Community you long for.

CHORAL RESPONSE

O LORD HEAR MY PRAYER

From Psalm 101 (102)

Ostinato Chorale

O Lord hear my pray'r, O Lord hear my pray'r:
when I call an - swer me. O Lord hear my pray'r, O
Lord hear my pray'r: come and lis - ten to me. O

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 133

Lector: Barbara Hendershot

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the LORD ordained his blessing, life forevermore.

One: Listen to what the Spirit is teaching.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCUBA, SCUBA, SCUBA

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 24:12-18 NRSV

Lector: Barbara Hendershot

The Lord said to Moses, 'Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.' So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, 'Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.'

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

We Sing Praises to You

Sung and written by Rae Smith

SERMON

*HYMN

Wit and Wisdom (insert with words)

Sung to NCH 307

MORNING PRAYER

One:

All: Holy One, in your mercy, receive our prayer

One: Out of the darkness we cry to you, O God. Enable us to find in Christ the faith to trust your care even in the midst of pain. Assure us that we do not walk alone through the valley of the shadow, but that your light is leading us into life.

All: Holy One, in your mercy, receive our prayer

One: O God, where hearts are fearful and constricted, grant courage and hope. Where anxiety is infectious and widening, grant peace and reassurance. Where impossibilities close every door and window, grant imagination and resistance. Where distrust twists our thinking, grant healing and illumination. Where spirits are daunted and weakened, grant soaring wings and strengthened dreams.

All: Holy One, in your mercy, receive our prayer

One: O God, call us into a deeper relationship to be your church for the sake of the world. Help us to see with new eyes the injustices within church and society. Call us to have a loving heart that respects and uplifts the humanity and dignity of every person; open our ears to listen to and learn from the experiences of people of color. Open our mouths to speak up and about injustices. Join us with others to work for racial equity and inclusion for all people.

All: Holy One, in your mercy, receive our prayer

THE PRAYER THAT JESUS TEACHES US

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.

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Gates of Brass

William H. Monk

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Alleluia, Alleluia,

Praise God above ye heavenly host

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

*LITANY OF DEDICATION

One: We have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all are created equal."

All: We dedicate ourselves to the fulfillment of this dream.

One: We have a dream that one day all children will live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.

All: We dedicate ourselves to the fulfillment of this dream. With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day. Amen.

*HYMN

Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good

NCH 6

BENEDICTION

Go out into the world in peace;
have courage;
hold onto what is good;
return no one evil for evil;
strengthen the faint hearted;
support the weak,
and help the suffering;
honor all people;
love and serve the Holy,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

The Revival March

John Phillip Sousa



Please remain seated until the altar candles are doused.

Juneteenth is a holiday that commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. It recalls how the states of Louisiana and Texas heard the news that President Abraham Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. Slavery continued in those two states for more than two years after the proclamation was signed because the word had yet to travel there. Texas and Louisiana finally got the good news on June 19, 1865. Former slaves broke out in spontaneous celebration. These were dangerous times. Even in the face of resistance and threat, the formerly enslaved Africans found ways to give voice to the wide range of thoughts and emotions at the announcement of the end of legalized slavery in the United States of America.

Many elements of worship are from a Juneteenth service published by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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. 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, John Bartley, Koda Bell, Robin Bittinger, Brenda Bowers, Naomi Brackett, Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, Kim & Bill Cook, Ron DeYoung, Blaine Dockery, Donna France, **Ralph France**, The family of Rev. Gerry Hanberry, **Avery Goodrich**, Sally Glover, Brandon Graff, Michael Graff, Sr., Michael Graff Jr., (son of Sue and Mike), Ken Grim, Meg Grim, Beth Gross, David Lee Hatfield, Jim Hatfield, Beth Hauver, Elwood Hauver, Lyn Hoffmaster, Dee Krause, Barry Landis, Jerri Livingston, Peggy Lowman, Katie Martin, Heather Morgan, Katie Penick, Parker Ragland, Stephanie Resetar, David Ridenour, John Ridenour, Wells Ridenour, Betsy Roulette, **Rebeca Strombotne**, (Tuesday volunteer), Emma Schnebly, **John Schnebly**, Ralph & Scherry Sellers, Staci Shafer, Tina Shafer, Mary Stann, Jessica Stark, Thelma Summers, Tracy Roach Walls, Erick Wellnitz, Eric Wolbring, Johnathan Wood.

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

Outreach and Service Opportunities

Our Tuesday Night Ministry is collecting canned meats. Tuna, Chicken, Vienna Sausage, SPAM, etc. for the month of June.

We are also in need of Plastic Storage Bags in the following sizes – snack, sandwich, quart and gallon. We receive a lot of our food items from the MD Food Bank in bulk packaging and need these bags to repack that food into portion sizes for our neighbors.

We are in need of volunteers on **Tuesday Nights** to help in both the kitchen and the pantry. Contact Kim Ridenour or the office if you are interested.

Thank you for your help in these outreach ministries.

Other Announcements

Wednesday Night Devotional and Potluck

Join us each Wednesday evening at 6:00pm for a potluck dinner, fellowship, interesting and thought-provoking videos and discussions.

THANK YOU!!! Thank You!! It was a huge success at VBS!! Thanks for attending, volunteering, praying and making it a success. We touched 35 different children's lives. They can't wait until next year's VBS!!

Next Week's Worship & Calendar

The lector this week is Barbara Hendershot. The lector next week is Calvin Livingston.

The acolyte for this week is Gia Delosier.

Ushers for this week are Domenick Gerlando, Barb Hendershot, Matt McDonald, Willam Wantz.

Next week's ushers are William Brewer, Calvin Livingston, Gerald Saum, Jean Simmons.

Greeters for this week are: Front Door – TBD. Middle Door – TBD.

Please sign up to be a greeter on Sunday mornings. The sign-up sheet is on the table at the middle door.

6/25 Staff Meeting 12:00pm
Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30pm

6/26 Properties Team Meeting 4:00pm
Wednesday Night Devotional and Potluck 6:00pm

6/27 4-H Club Meeting 4:30pm

6/28 Zion Book Club

Birthdays

6/23 Jason Weicht

6/24 James Coates

6/26 Susan Lohman

6/29 Connor Nilson

Anniversaries

6/25 Elizabeth & Pat Dattillio

6/29 Angel & Calvin Livingston

6/29 Danielle & Toby Wantz

Service Credits June 23

CCLI Number: 6212519

Gathering music: Ciacona in f minor. Composed by Johann Pachelbel. © Belwin-Mills Publishers. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Prelude: Paeon (Hymn of Praise). Composed by Robert Lau. © 2016 by Paraclete Press. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Hymns: All People That on Earth Do Dwell. NCH 7. Tune: Old Hundredth. Attrib. to Louis Bourgeois. Words by William Keith (1561). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Wit and Wisdom (insert with words). Sung to NCH 307. Composed by Franz Joseph Haydn. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good. NCH 6. Tune: Mit Freuden Zart. Words by Johann J. Schutz (1675). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

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

Special music: We Sing Praises to You. Sung and written by Rae Smith.

Offertory: Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Gates of Brass. Composed by William H. Monk. © 2013 by Lorenz Publishing Co. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

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

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.*



Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

Welcome to the Zion Reformed United Church of Christ, an **Open and Affirming Church** striving to welcome and value all people and creation. I am glad you have joined us 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. I encourage you to ask me or our members about our community, explore our bulletin and website and gift us with your contact information (phone, address, email) in our Guest Book or Pew Card. I/we are ready to answer any question or to help connect you to any program that we can. I hope to greet you in person after the service or that you'll contact me.

Many blessings, Pastor Scott



Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

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To Give Electronically

