

# ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

July 7, 2024 – Worship



## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

We offer our thanks to thee...

In a world divided by color bars,  
how sweet a thing it is to know  
that in thee we all belong to one family.

There are times when we...  
weep tears that are not loud but deep,  
when we think of the suffering we experience.

We come to thee, our only hope and refuge.  
Help us, O God, to refuse to be embittered  
against those who handle us with harshness.

We are grateful to thee  
for the gift of laughter at all times.

Save us from hatred of those who oppress us.

May we follow the spirit of thy Son Jesus Christ

(Bantu)

## GATHERING MUSIC AND BELLS

*Praeludium and Fuge in e minor*

Nicolaus Bruhn

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRELUDE

*Onward Christian Soldiers*

Sir Arthur S. Sullivan

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: All around the world, Christians gather at table: some ornate, some simple, some in vast stadiums, others in small gatherings.

**All: We gather to remember Jesus, who prayed that we would be one.**

One: In every place, the table is set: some with simple bread, some with abundant piles, some with juice, others with the best of wine.

**All: We gather to remember Jesus, who prayed that we would be one.**

One: As we stand at this table today, we remember that all around the world, we are one with a host of faithful ones and we rejoice. Halle, Halle, Halle! Amen!

## \*HYMN

*To God Be the Glory*

See Insert

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, we come before you in faith and hope. So much in our world is frightening and disheartening. We don't want to hide from evil or deny it, we want to put love and your grace in its place. Forgive us our negative behaviors that do not contribute to the happiness of ourselves or of others. Keep us close to your heart, loving God that we may replace indifference with care and choose more successfully to live with you and our neighbors. Have mercy on us. In the Spirit of God we pray.

Amen.

## CHORAL REFRAIN

### IN LOVE YOU SUMMON

Words and Music  
by John L. Bell

Gently  $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 66$

In love you sum-mon, in love I fol-low, liv-ing to-day for

your to-mor-row. Christ to re-lease me, Christ to en-

fold me, Christ to re-strain me, Christ to up-hold me.

## SCRIPTURE

Matthew 25:31-40 (The Inclusive Bible)

Lector: Carol Mooers

"At the appointed time the Promised One will come in glory, escorted by all the angels of heaven, and will sit upon the royal throne, with all the nations assembled below. Then the Promised One will separate them from one another, as a shepherd divides the sheep from the goats. The sheep will be placed on the right hand, the goats on the left. "The ruler will say to those on the right, 'Come, you blessed of my Abba God! Inherit the kin-dom prepared for you from the creation of the world! For I was hungry and you fed me; I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me; naked and you clothed me. I was ill and you comforted me; in prison and you came to visit me.' Then these just will ask, 'When did we see you hungry and feed you, or see you thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you as a stranger and invite you in, or clothe you in your nakedness? When did we see you ill or in prison and come to visit you?' The ruler will answer them, 'The truth is, every time you did this for the least of my sisters or brothers, you did it for me.'

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## WORD FOR CHILDREN

### SPECIAL MUSIC

*La Cathedrale engloutie* (The Sunken Cathedral)

### SERMON

Youth Mission Trip Report

### \*HYMN

*My Life Flows on in Endless Song (How Can I Keep From Singing)*

NCH 476

## SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

One: This is the joyful feast of the people of God. People will come from north, south, east, and west to sit at the table in the realm of God.

**All: Here in this place, the communion table is open to people of all races, creeds, sexual orientations, gender identities, economic circumstances, and ages: adults, teens, and children.**

One: This is Christ's table, all are invited to share the feast which he has prepared.

## GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: God be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to God.**

One: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

One: Let us continue in prayer...

One: Before life stirred your Spirit brooded over darkness exploding light in all directions.

**All: Rainbow promise celebrated your creation.**

One: Your Spirit led a people to long for you;

**All: guiding them gently: a pillar of cloud by day; fire by night.**

One: Prophets spoke of your justice dancing Spirit songs of liberation;

**All: with tambourine and whispered hope.**

One: Your still small voice in lonely places;

**All: as dry bones lived and friendships blossomed.**

One: With tender Spirit passion you embodied Love nestling in the womb of Mary;

**All: calling fishermen, accompanying women, blessing children.**

One: They found themselves on Calvary's road accompanying Love to the cross and the tomb; meeting Love in the garden and on the shore;

**All: taking the risk of letting go so the Spirit of comfort might come to them.**

One: Accompanying Christ today in one another with life-giving encounters of grace, we flesh out the Spirit's fruit through Spirit gifts in communities of hope;

**All: celebrating the gifts of others sustaining us on our journeys; our hearts burn within us as we feel the stirrings of your presence.**

One: Touch us by your Spirit as we touch this bread and wine, fruits of the earth to nourish us with the very presence of Christ; as we recall the night of betrayal after he had washed the feet of his companions, when Jesus blessed bread, breaking it and sharing it, saying, 'This is my body which is given for you; do this to re-member me.'

**All: We recall the moment after supper when Jesus blessed the cup he gave to them, saying, 'Drink this all of you; this is my blood of the new promise shed for you and for many to convey your grace; do this as often as you drink it to re-member me.'**

One: Blazing Spirit, light these gifts with holy fire, so we who receive them may be blaze with your love. As we remember fractured stories of your marred image, broken bodies of inhospitality and blood spilt in war and waste, do not leave us in a place of loneliness; do not abandon us. Come as comforter and counsellor; come as fiery dragon's breath; come lightly as dove's wings;

**All: come make your home in us.**

One: In this humble meal we receive you; in our embodied hospitality you take your refuge; when your wings are broken and your fire quenched. Come Spirit, yearn for us as we yearn for you. Together we shall burst the bars of fear, flying freely, bringing warmth to the earth and winds of justice to those who cry 'Peace'.

The Spirit calls us to break down the walls of division; to break through the barriers of fear; to break out of our tombs of apathy. So we break this bread as a symbol of solidarity with all communities who work and pray to this end.

**All: This is our unity with all that breathes the Spirit of God, and our commitment to embody the fruit and gifts of Pentecost.\**

### ***THE BREAKING AND SHARING OF THE BREAD***

#### **PRAYER OF COMMITMENT**

One: Spiraling Spirit, through this meal ground us in community with compassionate welcome to all who touch the threshold of this place.

**All: Dare us to proclaim your disturbing power and majestic glory in the harshness of the world's distress.**

#### **OFFERTORY**

*Be Thou My Vision*

John S. Dixon

#### **CALL TO THE OFFERING**

God is the giver of all good things, the one who fashioned each of us with unique gifts that together make the Body of Christ whole.

In gratitude for all we have received, we offer our lives back to God — we share our time, our skills, our money and in so doing, we say "yes" to God's invitation to join in Holy Wisdom's kin-dom building work here on earth.

## \*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**

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

One: Take my life, and let it be consecrated, God, to Thee.

Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise,

**All: Take my hands, and let them move, at the impulse of Thy love.**

**Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee,**

One: Take my voice, and let me sing, always, only, for my God.

Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from Thee,

**All: Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;**

**Take my intellect, and use every power as Thou shalt choose,**

One: Take my will, and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart, it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal throne,

**All: Take my love; my God, I pour at Thy feet its treasure store.**

**Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for Thee.**

Words of hymn 391 - *Take My Life*

## \*HYMN

*God of the Ages*

NCH 592

## BENEDICTION

May the Spirit of the Living God go...

Before you to show you the way

Above you to watch over you

Behind you to push you into places you may not necessarily go yourself

Beside you to be your companion, and dwell

Inside you to remind you that you are not alone, and that you are loved beyond your wildest imagination.

## POSTLUDE

**Please remain seated until the altar candles are doused.**



## 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, Perry Barnhart, Koda Bell, Lon Bender, Robin Bittinger, Brenda Bowers, Naomi Brackett, Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, Kim & Bill Cook, Ron DeYoung, Donna France, Ralph France, **Betty German** (friend of the Wares), Avery Goodrich, Sally Glover, Brandon Graff, Michael Graff, Sr., Michael Graff Jr., (son of Sue and Mike), Beth Gross, David Lee Hatfield, Jim Hatfield, Beth Hauver, Elwood Hauver, Lyn Hoffmaster, Dee Krause, Barry Landis, Jerri Livingston, Peggy Lowman, **Michael McCarthy** (friend of Rae Smith), Heather Morgan, Parker Ragland, Stephanie Resetar, David Ridenour, **Kim Ridenour**, John Ridenour, Wells Ridenour, Betsy Roulette, Emma Schnebly, John Schnebly, Ralph & Scherry Sellers, Staci Shafer, Tina Shafer, **Mary Helen Staley** (friend of the Wares), Mary Stann, Jessica Stark, **Gloria Stottlemeyer** (friend of Missie LaBombard), 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 snacks – PB Crackers, Cheese Crackers, etc. for the month of July.

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. We will be watching and discussing the series "Living The Question".

# Next Week's Worship & Calendar

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

The acolyte for this week is Gia Delosier.

Ushers for this week are Burnie Clutz, Susan Clutz.

Next week's ushers are Mark Bagby, Frank Ebersole, Caroll Mooers.

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.

- 7/9 Community Resource Meeting 12:00pm  
Staff Meeting 12:00pm  
Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30pm
- 7/10 Wednesday Night Devotional and Potluck 6:00pm
- 7/11 Office Closed 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday  
No 4-H Club Meeting
- 7/13 Pride Day – Doub Woods Park  
Easy-cise Class 9:00am

## Birthdays

7/9 Ralph France

## Anniversaries

7/11 Carol & Ralph France

## Service Credits

July 7

**CCLI Number: 6212519**

**Gathering music:** Praeludium and Fuge in e minor. Composed by Nicolaus Bruhns. © 1939 by Henry Litolff's Verlag. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Prelude:** Onward Christian Soldiers. Composed by Sir Arthur S. Sullivan. Arr. by Harry Simeone. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Hymns:** To God Be the Glory. (Insert).  
My Life Flows On in Endless Song. NCH 476.  
God of the Ages. NCH 592.

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

**Special music:** La Cathedrale engloutie (The Sunken Cathedral). Composed by Claude Debussy. © 1986 by Alfred Publishing Co.

**Offertory:** Be Thou My Vision. Irish melody. Arr. by John S. Dixon. © 2022 by Lorenz Publishing Co. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Communion:** Battle Hymn of the Republic. American folk song. Arr. by Mark Hayes. © 2010 by Lorenz Publishing Co. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC. CCLI number 7180671

Since Jesus Came Into My Heart. Composed by Charles H. Gabriel. Arr. by Mark Hayes. © 2014 by Lorenz Publishing Co. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

**Postlude:** Washington Post March. Composed by John Phillip Sousa. © 2012 by Wayne Leupold Editions, Inc. 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



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### **To Give Electronically**

