

ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

August 4, 2024 – Worship



“Gratitude is the fairest blossom which springs from the soul “ Henry Ward Beecher

GATHERING MUSIC AND BELLS

Preludium und Fuge in a minor, b minor, and g minor

Georg Bohm

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to all worshippers in person and online. Prepare for communion friends.

PRELUDE

At the Lamb's High Feast (op. 16)

Paul Manz

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God of the open road,
God of the twisting path,
God of the narrow and upward way,
your people are gathered for worship!

**All: In this hour, give us provision for the journey,
courage and faith and compassion,
and endurance to face any hardship.**

One: Open us to see you walking beside us,
protecting us, encouraging us, loving us.
We pray this in the name of Jesus,
who moves us. Amen.

*HYMN

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

NCH 459

One: Just when we imagine that we have you figured out you show up working the other side of the street in your frightening freedom. You meet us behind and before as promise and as threat, and we are overmatched whenever we sit to deal with you.

All: So, we bid you to pay less vigorous attention to us and we bid you to give us the freedom and courage that we may withstand you in ways that are proper to you and to us.

One: We pray in the name of the utterly humble One whom you therefore exalted. Give us wisdom and freedom that we may sense the ways in which we may best live in this world where the last become first and the first become last. Amen.

RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Many and Great

**Many and great, O God, are your works, maker of earth and sky.
Your hands have set the heavens with stars;
your fingers spread the mountains and plains.
Lo, at your word the waters were formed; deep seas obey your voice.**

WORD FOR CHILDREN

Sue Graff

SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 8:1-11 The Inclusive Bible

Lector: Rich Owens

Doesn't Wisdom call? Doesn't Understanding raise her voice? On the hills along the road, at the crossroads, she takes her stand; beside the city gates of the town, in the gates themselves, she cries out, "Women and men, people everywhere, I'm calling out to you! I cry out to all of humankind! You who are simple, learn how to make sound judgments! To the foolish among you, use your common sense! Listen closely, for what I say is worth hearing, and I will tell you what is right; for my mouth will speak the truth, and my lips hate to lie. Everything I say is right; none of it is twisted or crooked. All of it is plain-spoken to those who understand, clear to those seeking knowledge. Accept my lessons in place of silver, and knowledge in place of gold; for wisdom outsparkles jewelry; anything you desire cannot compare to her.

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people:

All: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Joel Ross, piano

SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 8:12-36 The Inclusive Bible

Lector: Rich Owens

I, Wisdom, am the habitat of sound judgment, the source of clear thinking. To revere YHWH is to abhor evil. I despise pride and arrogance, corrupt behavior and deceptive words. I have good counsel and sound judgment; I have understanding and power as well. Rulers reign because of me, and administrators issue just judgments. Because of me governors govern well, and the noble apply justice. I love those who love me; and those who seek me out zealously find me. Riches and honor are with me enduring wealth and prosperity. The gifts I distribute are better than gold, even fine gold; and my profits are better than fire-tried silver. I walk the upright way, the path of justice, bestowing wealth on those who love me, and filling their treasuries. "YHWH gave birth to me at the beginning, before the first acts of creation. I have been from everlasting, in the beginning, before the world began. Before the deep seas, I was brought forth, before there were fountains or springs of water; before the mountains erupted up into place, before the hills, I was

born— before God created the earth or its fields, or even the first clods of dirt. I was there when the Almighty created the heavens, and set the horizon just above the ocean, set the clouds in the sky, and established the springs of the deep, gave the seas their boundaries and set their limits at the shoreline. When the foundation of the earth was laid out, I was the skilled artisan standing next to the Almighty.

I was God's delight day after day, rejoicing at being in God's presence continually, rejoicing in the whole world and delighting in humankind. "And so, my children, hear me well: happy are you when you keep my ways! Take my instruction seriously and grow wise; don't neglect my lessons. Happy are you who listen to me, and keep watch at my door for me, waiting at my gates. For you who find me find life, and earn the favor of YHWH; but you who lose me lose your own souls, for all who hate me love death."

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

All: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

One: For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us,

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Sophia Calls

Rev. Scott Winnette

***HYMN**

Holy Wisdom

See Insert

CELEBRATING COMMUNION

In The Garden
Amazing Grace

Austin Miles
Mark Hayes

THE INVITATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF BLESSING

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT (in unison)

As one body, we lament with those who lament. We hope with those who hope. We live with suffering. We live with beauty. Let us go from this table as a renewed community, doing the radical work of Jesus that calls us to live justice-making lives of faith. We give thanks! Amen!

***HYMN**

Hope of the World

NCH 46

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

O Rest in the Lord

Felix Mendelssohn

***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 (in unison)

Adonai, we have praised you with our hymns and poured out our hearts to you in prayer. Now we present unto you our gifts that you may know we mean what we sing and pray. Amen.

***HYMN**

Amazing Grace

NCH 547

***BENEDICTION**

(based on Romans 8:35-39)

One: As we leave this place, remember this:

**All: Nothing that we encounter in this world
can ever separate us from the love of God:**

One: not hardship or disaster, poverty or danger,
neither death nor life, angels or demons,
our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow.

All: Nothing in all creation can ever separate us from God's love.

One: So, go from here with joy to love and serve our God. Amen

POSTLUDE

Postlude on "Joyful, Joyful"

Ludwig van Beethoven

Please remain seated until the altar candles are doused.



CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

The bulletin cover art is GARDEN OF GRATITUDE by Rachel Amber



LAST CHANCE!

The ZION Consistory is pleased to announce the continuation of the Cash College Scholarship Fund. George Cash, a long time ZION member who passed away in 1997, graciously donated money for the creation of a scholarship fund to benefit deserving college students.

We invite any member who plans to be enrolled full time in an undergraduate college program during 2024-25 to complete the application form available by contacting Zion's church office. All applications must be submitted no later than August 7, 2024. The Scholarship Committee will announce the awards by August 23, 2024.

Additionally, the Consistory invites members to make contributions to the Fund so that this opportunity can continue into the foreseeable future. Contributions can be sent to ZION Reformed UCC, 201 N. Potomac St., Hagerstown, MD 21740 Attn. Scholarship Fund.

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, Brenda Bowers, Naomi Brackett, Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, The Cantilena Family on the death of Richards father, Kim & Bill Cook, Louise Danzer, Ron DeYoung, Donna France, Ralph France, Rachael Furr (friend of Missie LaBombard), Betty German (friend of the Wares), Avery Goodrich, Sally Glover, Brandon Graff, Michael Graff Jr., (son of Sue and Mike), Beth Gross, Jim Hatfield, Beth Hauver, Elwood Hauver, Brett Hendershot, fighting forest fires in Utah, Lyn Hoffmaster, Dee Krause, Barry Landis, Jerri Livingston, Peggy Lowman, Michael McCarthy (friend of Rae Smith), Michael Mooers, Heather Morgan, Parker Ragland, Stephanie Resetar, David 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), Jessica Stark, Gloria Stottlemeyer (friend of Missie LaBombard), Thelma Summers, Tracy Roach Walls, Erick Wellnitz, **Alyn Wilson**, Eric Wolbring, Johnathan Wood.

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

Next Week's Worship & Calendar

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

Ushers for this week are Burnie Clutz, TBD.

Next week's ushers are Mark Bagby, Frank Ebersole, Carol Mooers, Rich Owens.

Acolyte this week is Gia Delosier.

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.

8/5 Consistory Training Meeting 5:00pm – Burhans Room

8/6 Staff Meeting 12:00pm

Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30pm

8/7 Wednesday Night Devotional and Potluck 6:00pm

8/8 4-H Club Meeting 4:30pm

Birthdays

Judy Thompson 8/5
Barry Newlin 8/9

Anniversaries

Amy & Barry Newlin 8/6

Outreach and Service Opportunities

Our Tuesday Night Ministry is collecting cans of fruit for the month of August. We are in need of bottled water for hydration.

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.

Would you, or anyone you know, like to volunteer on Tuesday Nights? We can always use some help in both the kitchen and the pantry areas. 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, and discussions.

We are currently watching and discussing the series "Living The Question". This series is very interesting and thought provoking. Please come and join us.

Service Credits
CCLI Number: 6212519
August 4

Gathering music: Preludium und Fuge in a minor, b minor, and g minor. Composed by Georg Bohm. © by Fr. Kistner & C. F. W. Siegel & Co. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Prelude: At the Lamb's High Feast (op. 16). Composed by Paul Manz. © 1975 by Concordia Publishing House. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. CCLI number: 3246832

Hymns: Come, O Fount of Every Blessing. NCH 459.
Holy Wisdom (insert) from Chalice Hymnal)
Amazing Grace. NCH 547.

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

Special music: Joel Ross, piano.

Communion: In the Garden. Composed by Austin Miles. Arr. by Mark Hayes. CCLI number: 7039643

Amazing Grace. Arr. by Mark Hayes. Both © 2022 by Lorenz Publishing Co. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

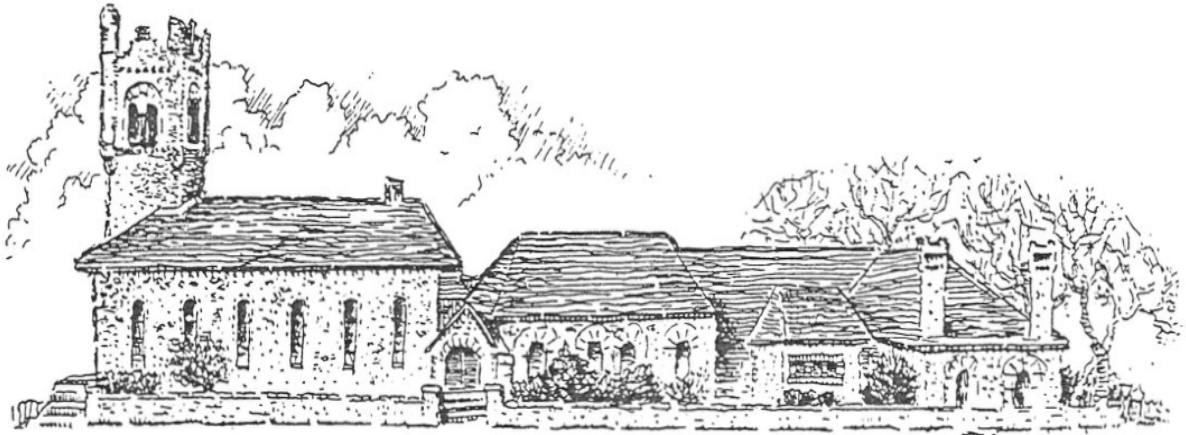
Offertory: O Rest in the Lord. Composed by Felix Mendelssohn. © 1937 by G. Schirmer, Inc. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Postlude: Postlude on "Joyful, Joyful." Composed by Ludwig van Beethoven. Arr. by Brenda Portman. © 2018 by The Sacred Music Press. 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



To Give Electronically

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