

ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 25, 2024 – Worship



Let your soul stand cool and composed before a million universes.

Walt Whitman

GATHERING MUSIC AND BELLS *Prelude and fugue in C Major, d minor, F Major, & G Major* JS Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome those at home, Children's Pool Party today, Skill Interest Survey

PRELUDE

Processional Voluntry in E Flat Major

David Lasky

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Come together, joining hands and hearts.

Women: Let our hands be links of chain which hold our lives together.

**Men: Not a chain of bondage but a silver cord of strength, a ribbon of love
and faith and community.**

Women: Giving us slack to sail the wind, yet holding us in a mystical embrace.

Men: That we may be alone but never lonely.

That we may be one without forfeiting uniqueness.

One: Come together, joining hands and hearts.

**All: Let the spirit of God flow in and among us all,
that we may worship with the power of God's love,
and be renewed in body, mind and spirit. Amen and Alleluia.**

***HYMN**

Open Now the Gates of Beauty

Red 23

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**Forgive us, O God for taking for granted the gifts of our lives.
Forgive us, O God for failing to give gifts to others.
Forgive us, O God for closing our hearts to strangers.
Forgive us, O God for looking back instead of moving forward.
Come now and change us, so that we might change the world.
We pray in the power of Jesus' name. Amen.**

Silence for personal reflection

DECLARATION OF PARDON

One: Friends, Jesus comes
to break down walls of hostility
to bind up the brokenhearted
to heal the hearts of our humanity.

All: Can this really be true?

One: Absolutely! Hear and believe the Good News!

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Guide My Feet

NCH 497

SCRIPTURE

Inspired by Psalm 85

Lector: Barb Hendershot

One Beloved, how gracious You are to your people;
You restore their souls time and time again.
You forgive their distractions
when they wander far from You;
You give them new life.
Yes, You bless them and raise up new hope;
You awaken their hearts to love.

**All: Restore us again, O Spirit of Truth;
burn us with the refining Fire of Love!
We cannot live separated from You;
cast out the demons of fear, doubt, and illusion.
Revive us again, we pray; may your people rejoice in You!
Have compassion on your people, O Holy One,
and grant us your forgiveness.**

One: Listen, O People, in the silent Chapel of your heart;
and the Beloved will speak of peace to you,
to the hidden saints, to all who turn their hearts to Love.
Surely new life is at hand for those who reverence Love;
O, that harmony might dwell among the nations.

All: **Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will embrace one another.
Wisdom will spring up from the ground
and truth will look down from the sky.**

One: Yes, the Eternal Giver will grant what is good,
and the lands will yield abundantly.

All: **Mercy and compassion are Love's way;
You will guide our footsteps upon the path of peace
as we recognize with open hearts that You are our peace.**

~ Nan C. Merrill, in Psalms for Praying

One: Listen to what the Spirit is teaching.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

WORD FOR CHILDREN

Blessing of the Backpacks

Rae Smith

SPECIAL MUSIC

Early American Hymn Tune Medley

Amber Nilson, flute
Barb Hendershot, piano

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 6:10-20

Lector: Barb Hendershot

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.

Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

***HYMN**

God Reigns O'er All the Earth

NCH 21

MORNING 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.**

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

The God of Abraham Praise

Meyer Lyon

*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 DECIDATION (in unison)

**Dependable God
in whom we live and move and have our being,
once again You have filled us with hope
and blessed us with grace.
And we are grateful.
We now offer our very selves as a fragrant offering to You.
Receive us, transform us, and use us for Your glory.
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

*HYMN

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

NCH 25

BENEDICTION

One: May God bless us;
May God keep us in the Spirit's care
And lead our lives with love.
All: **May God's warm welcome shine from our hearts
And Christ's own peace prevail
Through this and every day. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Finale from Symphony No. 3

Camille Saint-Saens



Please remain seated until the altar candles are doused.

CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

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, Meagan Bohn and the family of James Bohn, Brenda Bowers, Naomi Brackett, Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, Kim & Bill Cook, Louise Danzer, Ron DeYoung, Donna France, **Rachael Furr on the loss of her Nephew** (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, **Donna Hatfield**, Jim Hatfield, Beth Hauver, Elwood Hauver, **David Heitzer and family** (neighbors of Kim Ridenour), **Warren Hendershot** (Barb's father-in-law), Lyn Hoffmaster, Dee Krause, Barry Landis, Jerri Livingston, Peggy Lowman, Heather Morgan, **Mary O'Malley, Christine Pusateri** (neighbor in need), Stephanie Resetar, David Ridenour, John Ridenour, Wells Ridenour, **Betsy Roulette, Randall Schaff** (friend of Missie LaBombard), Emma Schnebly, John Schnebly, **Carol Schultz**, Ralph & Scherry Sellers, Staci Shafer, Tina Shafer, Mary Helen Staley (friend of the Wares), Jessica Stark, **Byron Stay, Thelma Summers**, Tracy Roach Walls, Erick Wellnitz, Alyn Wilson, Eric Wolbring.

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

Worship Leaders

The lector this week is Barb Hendershot.

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

Acolyte for this week is Gia Delosier

Next Week's Worship & Calendar

The lector next week is Calvin Livingston.

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

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

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

8/25 ONA Breakfast 9:00am

Zion Children's Pool Party 2:00pm at the home of Sue Graff

8/27 Staff Meeting 11:00am

Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30pm

8/28 Wednesday Night Devotional and Potluck 6:00pm

8/29 4-H Club Meeting 4:30pm

9/8 Worship returns to 11:00am for the fall and winter months

Birthdays

Felicity Shafer 8/25

Missie LaBombard 8/28

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.

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.

Rally Day

Sunday September 8th we will hold our annual Rally Day breakfast. Join us from 9:30 to 10:00am for pancakes in the Chapel followed by a short Sunday School session and then Worship at 11:00am.



Service Credits
CCLI Number: 6212519
August 25

Gathering music: Prelude and Fugue in C Major, d minor, F Major, and G Major. Composed by J. S. Bach. © 1940 by G. Schirmer. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Prelude: Processional Voluntry in E Flat Major. Composed by David Lasky. © 1995 by the H. W. Gray Company. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Hymns: Open Now the Gates of Beauty. Red. 23.

God Reigns O'er All the Earth. NCH 21. Tune: Terra Beata.

O God, Our Help in Ages Past. NCH 25. Tune: St. Anne. Composed by Isaac Watts.

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

Special Music: Early American Hymn Medley. Barb Hendershot on piano and Amber Nilson on flute.

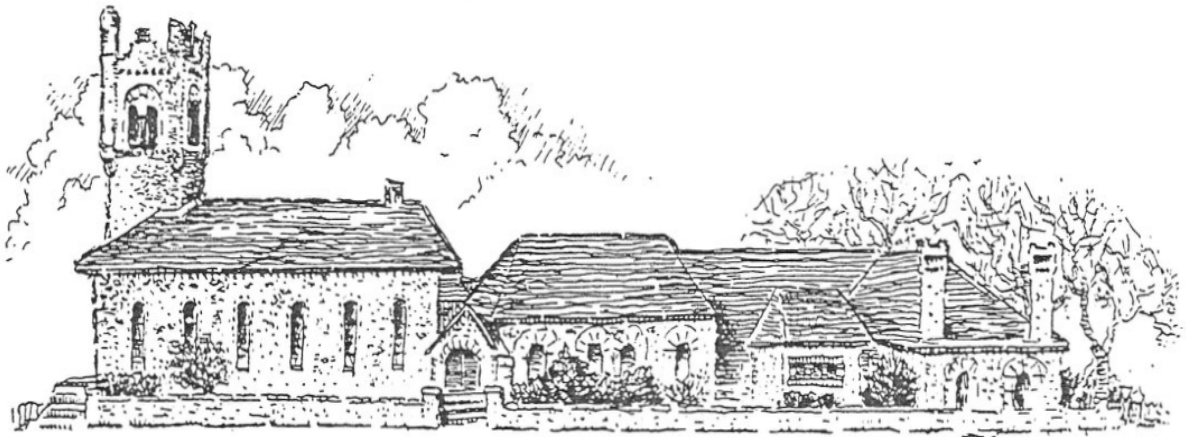
Offertory: The God of Abraham Praise. Tune: Leoni. Arr. by Meyer Lyon. © 2021 by the Lorenz Publishing Co. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. CCLI number: 7210434

Postlude: Finale from Symphony No. 3 ("Organ"). Composed by Camille Saint-Saens. Arr. by Albert Zabel. © 2014 by the Lorenz Publishing Co. Performed by 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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Join us [via Zoom](#): Meeting ID: 876 0291 7867 Password: Peace

Rev. Dr. E. Scott Winnette, Pastor

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

To Give Electronically

