

ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 8, 2024 – 11:00am Worship



No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome here.

GATHERING MUSIC AND BELLS

Finlandia (Song of Peace)

Jean Sibelius

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome all in person and online.

First Choir rehearsal on 9/12 5:30pm

New Members Class in person and online.

Blessing of the Animals 10/6. Bring your pet to church or send a photo to Pastor Scott.

Set up tables for Community Resource Fair.

PRELUDE

Now Let Us Sing With Joy

J S Bach

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: May the flame of the Spirit

All: touch our souls,

One: the light of Christ's truth

All: fill our minds,

One: and the love of the Maker

All: fill our hearts

One: as we worship together this day. Amen.

*HYMN

God, Whose Giving, Knows No Ending

NCH 565

PRAYER OF HOPE

One: Holy Spirit, we circle the world with the flame of your love,
and pray for peace and justice where there is inequality and war;
for dancing and joy in place of oppression
and the daily grind of poverty.
May all enjoy the feast of life.
Your will be done,

ALL: ON EARTH, AS IN HEAVEN.

One: Lady Wisdom, we circle this Zion Reformed United Church of Christ
with the flame of your love –
and thank you for friends and fun, for gifts and talents.
We pray for your peace in our hearts as we journey along together,
and for a knowledge of your gifts within us.
Your will be done,

ALL: ON EARTH, AS IN HEAVEN.

One: Healing Spirit, we circle with your blessing all those who will be born today.
Protect and cherish them, loving God ...
We circle with your healing love all those who are enduring illness or disease.
Be with them in their suffering, O God ...
And we circle with your glorious light,
all those who will die today.
Take them into your arms
and embrace them, O God ...
Your will be done,

ALL: ON EARTH, AS IN HEAVEN.

**Hear our prayers,
and bless us living God.
Hold the secret longings of our hearts
in the mystery of your love,
that the light of the Kin-dom
will continue to shine on earth. AMEN**

CHORAL RESPONSE

**Gloria, gloria in excelsis deo!
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!**

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 15 (Interpretation of Nan Merrill, Psalms for Praying)

Lector: Carol Mooers

O Beloved, whom will You invite into the abode of your Heart? Who will dwell with You in Love? One who walks with integrity, who is in harmony with your Word, and sings the heart's song;

Whose tongue speaks truth judging not others and seeking only the good; whose eyes behold not the outer garments of the body, but see within the inner robe of Love;

Whose own weaknesses are acknowledged and brought to light in prayer;
Who is just in all affairs of life and takes not advantage of another.

One who does all these things, will join the Dance of Life!

Will sing the Song of Joy!

One: Listen to what the Spirit is teaching us.

All: Thanks be to God.

WORD FOR CHILDREN

SPECIAL MUSIC

Alleluja

Byron L. Stay and C. M. Moblard

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:1-12 The Inclusive Bible

Lector: Carol Mooers

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on the mountainside, and after he sat down and the disciples had gathered around, Jesus began to teach them:

"Blessed are those who are poor in spirit: the kin-dom of heaven is theirs.

Blessed are those who are mourning: they will be consoled.

Blessed are those who are gentle: they will inherit the land.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice: they will have their fill.

Blessed are those who show mercy to others: they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are those whose hearts are clean: they will see God.

Blessed are those who work for peace: they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of their struggle for justice: the kin-dom of heaven is theirs. "You are fortunate when others insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of slander against you because of me. Be glad and rejoice, for your reward in heaven is great; they persecuted the prophets before you in the very same way."

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

*HYMN

God Moves in a Mysterious Way

NCH 412

MORNING PRAYER

One: Creator God,
may your outrageous justice,
which offers forgiveness and reconciliation to everyone,
be the choice of our governments and nations:

All: That all may dance in your kin-dom together.

One: Jesus our sibling,
you welcomed the poor and the despised:
help us to live by your values,
however foolish they seem to those around us.

All: That all may dance in your kin-dom together.

One: Holy Spirit,
you comfort and disturb us:
may we dance your wild dance across the boundaries
our culture erects between peoples.

All: That all may dance in your kin-dom together.

One: God the Holy Trinity, you call us into community:
in our churches may we be willing to put aside
any traditions and customs that stop us from listening to
and loving each other:

**ALL: HELP US TO LIVE BY YOUR WISDOM.
SET US FREE FROM ALL THAT PREVENTS US**

**FROM CHOOSING YOUR KIN-DOM
AND HELP US TO RECOGNISE
WHERE YOU ARE AT WORK IN OUR LIVES.
SO MAY YOUR WILL BE DONE,
AND YOUR KIN-DOM COME.**

One: In your world, living God:

ALL: WE WILL SING YOUR SONG OF JUSTICE.

One: In your world, living God:

ALL: WE WILL DANCE YOUR DANCE OF PEACE.

One: In your world, living God:

ALL: WE WILL LIVE YOUR WAY OF LOVE.

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 FOR THE OFFERING

As we offer our treasure and hearts to you, O God, may they be used to pass on the promise of hope, of peace, of life, of community to all in need of your gifts and presence in their lives. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Blessed Assurance

Mark Hayes

***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

One: We long for the time
when the meek shall inherit the earth
and all who hunger and thirst after justice
shall be satisfied,
and we believe that, despite the persistence of evil,
now is always the time
when more good can be done
and we can make a difference.

**All: May it be so, through the offering of these gifts
and the offering of our lives. Amen.**

BLESSING

The song of creation restore you,
the song of justice infuse you,
the song of heaven enlighten you,
and the blessing of the living God,
Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit,
be with us now and always. AMEN

POSTLUDE

Processional

David Willicock

Liturgy from Chris Polhill's book, "That All May Dance" – Iona Community.

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, **Family of Perry Barnhart**, Koda Bell, Lon Bender, Brenda Bowers, Naomi Brackett, Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, Kim & Bill Cook, Louise Danzer, Ron DeYoung, Donna France, Avery Goodrich, Sally Glover, Brandon Graff, Michael Graff Jr. (son of Sue and Mike), Beth Gross, Donna Hatfield, Jim Hatfield, **Beth Hauver**, Elwood Hauver, Warren Hendershot (Barb's father-in-law), Lyn Hoffmaster, Dee Krause, Barry Landis, Jerri Livingston, Peggy Lowman, Heather Morgan, Mary O'Malley, Family of Susan Annette Poffenberger (friend of Rick Waters), Christine Pusateri (neighbor in need), Stephanie Resetar, David Ridenour, John Ridenour, Wells Ridenour, **Betsy Roulette**, Randall Schaff (friend of Missie LaBombard), Emma Schnebly, Carol Schultz, Ralph & Scherry Sellers, Staci Shafer, Tina Shafer, Jessica Stark, 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 Carol Mooers.

Ushers for this week are Frank Ebersole, Carol Mooers, Rich Owens, TBD.

Acolyte for this week is Gia Delosier

Children's Church this week is Jean Simmons.

Next Week's Worship & Calendar

The lector next week is Jean Simmons.

Next week's ushers are Domenick Gerlando, Barb Hendershot, Matt McDonald, Willian Wantz.

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.

9/9 CE Team meeting 5:30pm

Consistory Meeting 7:00pm

9/10 Staff Meeting 11:00am

Community Resource Fair 2:00pm – 5:00pm in the Chapel

Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30pm

9/11 Staff Lundh – off site. Office will close at 11:30am.

Wednesday Night Devotional and Potluck 6:00pm

9/12 Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm

9/14 Easy-cise Class 9:00am

Birthdays

Frances Sweigert 9/10

Robert Barnhart 9/10

Anniversaries

Brandie & Eric Burchard 9/8

Outreach and Service Opportunities

Micah's Backpack will be collecting cans of **Vienna Sausages** during the month of September.

Tuesday Night Ministry is collecting cans of **Vegetables** for the month of September.

If you or anyone you know would like to volunteer on Tuesday Nights, please contact Kim Ridenour or the church office.

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.

Resource Fair Set Up

We would appreciate it if a few of you can stay a few minutes after today's service to help set up the tables in the chapel for our Annual Resource Fair to be held this coming Tuesday.

Thank you.



Learn more about membership at Zion!

Visitors, Inquirers, Friends: Join us after Worship on Sunday, 9/22, to learn more about the Zion Reformed United Church of Christ. We will meet in the Burhan's room to share faith journeys and Zion's story, to answer your questions about church life, and to explain next steps for prospective members. A light lunch will be provided, and zoom attendance is welcome (though we may not be able to send you a virtual lunch!). Please **RSVP to Pastor Scott at pastorwinnette@gmail.com.**



Service Credits
CCLI Number: 6212519
September 8

Gathering music: Finlandia (Song of Peace). Composed by Jean Sibelius. Arr. by Robert J. Hughes. © 1991 by Lorenz Publishing Co. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Prelude: Now Let Us Sing with Joy. Composed by J. S. Bach. © 1940 by G. Schirmer. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Hymns: God, Whose Giving, Knows No Ending. NCH 565.

God Moves in a Mysterious Way. NCH 412.

Great is Your Faithfulness. NCH 423.

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

Special music: Alleluja. Composed by W. A. Mozart. Arr. by Charles O'Neill. © 1948 by Waterloo Music Co. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Offertory: Blessed Assurance. Tune: Assurance. Arr. by Mark Hayes. © 2011 by Lorenz Publishing Co.

Postlude: Processional. Composed by David Willcocks. © 1989 by Roger Dean 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

201 N. Potomac Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740

Phone: 301.739.7244 | Email: zionrucc@myactv.net

Web: www.zionreformed.church | Facebook: @ZionRUCC

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

