



September 21, 2025

Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

*To share the gospel of Christ  
in such a way that we find God,  
grow our faith, discover our purpose  
and make a difference.*

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## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Most church boats don't like to be rocked; they prefer to lie at anchor rather than go places in stormy seas. But that's because we Christians view the Church as the object of our love instead of the subject and instrument of God's. Faith cannot be passive; it has to go forth—to assault the conscience, excite the imagination. Faith fans the flames of creativity altogether as much as it banks the fires of sin.

William Sloane Coffin, Credo

## GATHERING MUSIC AND BELLS

*Hymns from the British Isles*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRELUDE

*God of Grace*

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

God calls us to worship and service imbuing us with different gifts,

**But it is the same Spirit who gives them for our use.**

There are different ways of serving God,

**But is the same God who is served.**

God works through different people in different ways,

**But is the same God we worship, who draws us together to achieve a holy purpose through them all.**

Each one is given gifts by the Spirit, to use it for the common good.

**Together we are the body of Christ; and individually members of him.**

Let us celebrate God with thanks for the richness of our life together.

**Hallelujah! Amen!**

## \*HYMN Black 423

*Great Is Your Faithfulness*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Adonai, you made the world and everything in it: You created the human race of one stock and gave us the earth for our care.

**Break down the walls that separate us and unite us in a single body.**

Adonai, we have been divisive in our thinking, in our speech, in our actions; we have classified and imprisoned one another; we have fenced each other out by hatred and prejudice.

**Break down the walls that separate us and unite us in a single body.**

Adonai, you mean us to be a single people, ruled by peace, feasting in freedom, freed from injustice, truly human, responsible and responsive in the life we lead, the love we share, the relationships we create.

**Break down the walls that separate us and unite us in a single body.**

Adonai, we shall need ever-new insights into the truth, awareness of your will for all humanity, courage to do what is right even when it is not allowed, persistence in undermining unjust structures until they crumble into dust, and grace to exercise a ministry of reconciliation.

**Adonai, direct us in ways we do not yet discern and equip us for the service of reconciliation and liberation in your world.** (Iona Community)

## **\*CHORAL REFRAIN**

### **ON EAGLE'S WINGS**

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

## **SCRIPTURE Psalm 79: 1-9, NRSV**

Lector: Calvin Livingston

O God, the nations have come into your inheritance; they have defiled your holy temple; they have laid Jerusalem in ruins. They have given the bodies of your servants to the birds of the air for food, the flesh of your faithful to the wild animals of the earth. They have poured out their blood like water all around Jerusalem, and there was no one to bury them. We have become a taunt to our neighbors, mocked and derided by those around us. How long, Adonai? Will you be angry forever? Will your jealous wrath burn like fire? Pour out your anger on the nations that do not know you, and on the kingdoms that do not call on your name. For they have devoured Jacob and laid waste his habitation. Do not remember against us the iniquities of our ancestors; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low. Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and forgive our sins, for your name's sake.

Listen to what the Spirit is teaching us.

**We are open. Thanks be to God.**

## **ANTHEM**

*Dona Nobis Pacem*

## **WORD FOR CHILDREN**

## **SCRIPTURE Luke 16: 1-13**

Lector: Calvin Livingston

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and

make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

This is the word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** Streetwise as Serpents

Rev. Dr. E. Scott Winnette

**\*HYMN** Purple 834

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

## **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.  
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 TITHES AND GIFTS**

The love of God is wide as the wind, and we are called to share this love as we move and shape the world through our gifts.

### **OFFERTORY**

*Processional on "Lift High the Cross"*

### **\*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)

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 your very selves as a fragrant offering to you. Receive us, transform us, and use us for your glory and to heal the world. We pray in Jesus' name.

**\*HYMN** Black 522

*I Love to Tell the Story*

**\*BENEDICTION**

Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth.  
Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust.  
Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe.  
Let us dream together, pray together, work together to build one world of peace  
and justice for all. Amen.

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

*I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

I'm gonna live so God can use me

Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna live so God can use me

Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

*Dance, sing, pray.*

**POSTLUDE**

*Postlude on "Austrian Hymn"*

**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, Eddie Barr, Holly Bell, Naomi Brackett, Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, Kim & Bill Cook, Michael Graff Jr. (son of Sue and Mike), Sue Graff, Beth Gross, Beth Hauver, Jim Hatfield, Lyn Hoffmaster (Claire-Marie's sister), Dee Krause, Mary Lorfing, Teresa Moats (friend of Christine Coleman), Craig Nilson (Curtis Nilson's father), Linda Pittman (friend of Barry Landis), David Ridenour, Wells Ridenour, Angie Schaff, Staci Shafer, Tina Shafer, Cheryl (sister of Colleen Rafferty), **Traci Van Vogelpoel**, Margaret Wagner, Randy Waters (Rick Waters' brother), Eric Wolbring, Angela Yamashita, and Barry Yinling.

## WORSHIP LEADERS

The lector this week is Calvin Livingston.

Ushers for this week are Burnie Clutz, Susan Clutz, Becky Hohman, and John Schnebly.

## NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP & CALENDAR

The lector for next week is Carol Mooers.

Next week's ushers are Frank Ebersole, Carol Mooers, Rich Owens, and Rick Waters.

Next week's Children's Church leader is Tina Shafer.

- 9//21 Adult Sunday School 9:45am
- Middle/High School Sunday School 9:45am
- Children's Choir Practice 10:30am
- Sunday Worship 11:00am
- 9/23 Staff Meeting 11:00am
- Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30pm
- 9/24 Jonathan Hager 250 Celebration meeting 11:00am
- Potluck and Study 6:00pm
- Youth Fellowship 6:00pm
- 9/25 Choir Practice 5:30pm

## BIRTHDAYS

- |      |                 |      |                  |
|------|-----------------|------|------------------|
| 9/21 | Teresa Zukowski | 9/24 | Jamie Joy        |
| 9/23 | Gerald Saum     | 9/27 | William McDonald |
| 9/23 | Katie Penick    |      |                  |

## SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

**Tuesday Night Ministry** is collecting Pancake Mix for the month of September. We are also in need of empty Egg Cartons and Zip Lock Storage Bags in all sizes.

**Micah's Backpack** is collecting Vienna Sausages for the month of September.

**Mummer's Parade** Seats Going on Sale. The Mummer's Parade is on October 25th at 6pm. Zion members can purchase seats from September 8-22<sup>nd</sup>. The cost for the seats on the street are \$7 and the wall seats are \$6. Please contact the church office to purchase tickets. And please tell all your friends and family. We hope to sell all of our seats!!

Thank you for your help in these outreach ministries.

## OPPORTUNITIES

### END OF LIFE PLANNING PROGRAM

Make plans to join us on Sunday, October 12<sup>th</sup> from 12:45- 2pm to learn more about end-of-life planning. A light lunch will be provided. You don't have to be old to attend (that's the meaning of PLANNING!) There is a sign-up sheet in the Chapel.

### HALLOWEEN ORGAN CONCERT

October 26<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. Claire-Marie Moblard and Byron Stay will dazzle us with music featuring many pieces from the archives of spooky organ tracks. Admission is free.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL AND LEARNING OPTIONS

### Sunday Morning Schedule

- 9:45    Adult Sunday School – In-person and Zoom
- Children's Sunday School Class
- Middle/High School Sunday School – First and Third Sundays - in the Youth Room (9/7 & 9/21)
- Young Adult Class/Bible Study – Second and Fourth Sundays - Location TBD (9/14 & 9/28)
- 10:15   Children's Choir in the Music Room.
- 10:35   Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 11:00   Worship in the Sanctuary and virtually at [www.zionreformed.church/worshiplive](http://www.zionreformed.church/worshiplive)
- Children's Church – every other week
- 12:00   Fellowship

### Young Adult Bible Study

We are beginning a Young Adult Bible Study at 9:45am on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. This alternates with our Youth Bible Study which is on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. If you have young children, there is Children's Sunday School at the same time. No prior Bible knowledge needed; we will be following a video-based curriculum called Animate.

Service Credits  
CCLI Number: 6212519  
September 21

Gathering music: *Hymns from the British Isles*. Arr. by Stephen Burtonwood. © 2019 by Lorenz Publishing Co. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Prelude: *God of Grace God of Grace God of Grace*. Arr. by Paul Manz. © 1974 by Concordia Publishing House. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. CCLI number 251212

Hymns: *Great Is Your Faithfulness*. NCH 423. Tune: Faithfulness. Composed by William M. Runyan (1923). Words by Thomas O. Chisholm (1923). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*. Purple 834. Tune Precious Lord. Composed by George N. Allen (1844). Words by Thomas A. Dorsey (1938). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

*I Love to Tell the Story*. NCH 522. Tune: Hankey. Composed by William G. Fischer (1866). Words by Katherine Hankey (1866). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Source(s): Hymnary ([hymnary.org](http://hymnary.org)).

Choir Anthem: *Dona Nobis Pacem*.

Offertory: *Processional on "Lift High the Cross."* Composed by S. H. Nicholson. Arr. by Alice Jordon. © 1985 by Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Postlude: *Postlude on "Austrian Hymn."* Composed by Josef Haydn. Arr. by John S. Dixon. © 2019 by Lorenz Publishing Co. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.