



September 28, 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.*

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.

Mother Teresa

GATHERING MUSIC AND BELLS

Phantasie (NR number 4, K475)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Birthday Claire-Marie

Parade float needs 2 female riders, walkers and construction help.

Congregational Meeting on October 12 to vote on Strategic Plan.

PRELUDE

How Great Thou Art

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessing God, you bless us richly.

Loving God, you love us wholly.

Forgiving God, you forgive us entirely.

Calling God, you call us tenderly.

Nurturing God, you nurture us patiently.

Challenging God, you challenge us fiercely.

Moving God, you move us profoundly.

God of our lives, we invite you among us and listen for your word. AMEN!

*HYMN Purple 265

Jesus Shall Reign

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

We need to confess, God of Abraham and Lazarus, how often we are not content with the simple gifts and lives you offer. Tempted by everything, we can become insensitive to those who have nothing. Encouraged by the world to accumulate more, we may miss the chance to gather your goodness and godliness. Chasing after all which has no value, we may not have the energy to pursue the faith, the love, the gentleness you have for us.

Forgive us, God of Reversals. You have sent the One who speaks the words we need to listen to in order to have life. Help us to remember how you have redeemed us, and in remembering, may we make that good confession that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior, now and forever.

Silence

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is the good news that comes from God:
I will hear your prayers,
I will answer with hope and peace,
I will deliver you from your sins.
**God has covered us with grace;
Under God's hope we will find shelter.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

CHORAL RESPONSE Purple 79, Verse 1.

Light Dawns on a Weary World

**Light dawn on a weary world
When eyes begin to see all people's dignity.
Light dawn on a weary world:
The promised day to justice comes.**

SCRIPTURE Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16, Interpretation of Nan C. Merrill

Lector: Carol Mooers

Praise be to You! Praise the Beloved, O my soul!
I will praise You with all my being;
I will sing joyfully and with thanksgiving to You, Heart of my heart!
Put not your trust in riches, in illusionary things that fade away.
For when our day comes to depart this world, at that very time,
we carry only the love imprinted upon our soul.
Blessed are those whose strength is in the Beloved, whose trust is in You, O Divine Lover,
Who gave birth to the universe—the heavens, earth, and sea— and all that is within them.
You are ever-faithful, bringing balance and harmony to earth, nourishment to body and soul.
You free us from the bonds of fear; You give insight to those who would see.
You lift up the faint-hearted, giving succor to those who weep.
You watch over those on journey, sending guides and angels to lead the way;
O, that we might become beacons of light to those in darkness.
May You, who live forever in our hearts, loose the fetters of fear that bind us,
That we might praise You always with free and joyful song!
May it be so!

Listen to what the Spirit is teaching us.
Thanks be to God.

THE WORD WITH CHILDREN

ANTHEM

The Lord Is My Shepherd

SCRIPTURE Luke 16:19-31, NRSV

Lector: Carol Mooers

“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner

evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then, Father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, Father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON Stepping Over Lazarus

***HYMN** Purple 79

Light Dawns on a Weary World

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.

CALL TO THE OFFERTORY

The wonderful works of God surround us. How will we show our gratitude? The generosity of God exceeds all our limits. How will our manner of life reflect the abundance of God's mercy? Surely our offerings are one measure of our response. Let us present them with joy and thanksgiving.

OFFERTORY

In dir ist Freude (In Thee is Joy)

***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)

God of many great and wonderful gifts, you have taught us to give by giving us so much. From the first day of creation, you have given us a world to share and your ever-present spirit to delight in. Receive this offering with our love and hope. Empower those who will use it to serve a multitude of others, and then to you be the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*HYMN Red 432

We Plow the Fields and Scatter

*BENEDICTION

Go now and take hold of the life that really is life.
Shun the eagerness for money
but be rich in good works.
Pursue righteousness, godliness,
faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

And may God be your refuge and fortress;
May Christ Jesus free you from all that ensnares you;
And may the Holy Spirit provide you with everything
for godliness and contentment.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
In the name of Christ. Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Gently ♩ = ca. 66

Take, O take me as I am;— sum - mon out what I shall be;—

set your seal up - on my heart and live in— me.—

POSTLUDE

March from Midsummer's Night Dream

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, 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), George & Mary Pietsch (Rae's daughter and son-in-law), 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 Yingling.

WORSHIP LEADERS

The lector this week is Carol Mooers.

Ushers for this week are Frank Ebersole, Carol Mooers, Rich Owens, and Rick Waters.

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

NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP & CALENDAR

The lector for next week is Amber Nilson.

Next week's ushers are Christine Coleman, Tina Shafer, Judy Thompson, and Barb Ware.

- 9//28 Adult Sunday School 9:45am
- Young Adult Class/Bible Study 9:45am
- Children's Choir Practice 10:30am
- Children' Church 11:00am
- Sunday Worship 11:00am
- 9/29 Staff Meeting 11:00am
- Tuesday Evening Ministry 5:00-6:30pm
- 10/1 Potluck and Study 6:00pm
- Youth Fellowship 6:00pm
- 10/2 Properties Team Meeting 1:00pm
- Executive Team Meeting 2:00pm
- 4-H Club Meeting 4:30pm
- Choir Practice 5:30pm

BIRTHDAYS

- 9/28 Claire-Marie Moblard
- 9/28 Andrew Patterson
- 9/30 Calvin Shroyer
- 10/2 Toby Wantz
- 10/4 Carroll Sager

ANNIVERSARIES

- 10/2 Michael & Carol Mooers
- 10/4 Felicity & Chase Gohlmann

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 are now on Sale. The Mummer's Parade is on October 25th at 6pm. The cost for the seats on the street are \$7 each and the wall seats are \$6 each. 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

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

We will hold a Congregational Meeting on October 12th immediately following worship to vote on our Strategic Plan.

END OF LIFE PLANNING PROGRAM

Make plans to join us on Sunday, October 12th 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 26th 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 Students Sunday School – First and Third Sundays of the month- in the Youth Room
- Young Adult Class/Bible Study – Second and Fourth Sundays of the month- Location TBD
- 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
- 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 28

Gathering music: *Phantasie* (NR number 4, K475). Composed by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart). © Kalmus Press. Performed by C. M. Moblard (pianist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Prelude: *How Great Thou Art*. Swedish folk melody. Arr. by Dan Miller. © 2005 by Birnamwood Publications. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Hymns: *Jesus Shall Reign*. Purple 265. Tune: Duke Street. Attrib. to John Hatton (1793). Words by Isaac Watts (1719). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Light Dawns on a Weary World. Purple 79. Tune: Temple of Peace. Words by Mary Louise Bringle. © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

We Plow the Fields and Scatter. Red 432. Tune: Wir Pflugen. Composed by Johann A. P. Schulz (1800). Words by Matthias Claudius (1782). Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

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

Choir Anthem: *The Lord Is My Shepherd*. Composed by Thomas Koschat. Words by James Montgomery.

Offertory: *In dir ist Freude (In Thee is Joy)*. Composed by J. S. Bach. © 1940 by G. Schirmer. Performed by C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.

Postlude: *March from Midsummer's Night Dream*. Composed by Felix Mendelssohn. Arr. by Sue Mitchell Wallace and John H. Head. © 1988 by Hope Publishing Co. Performed by Byron L. Stay (trumpeter) and C. M. Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC.