THERE OUR HEARTS WILL BE

October 25, 2026

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.

Stewardship Sunday

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Mummers Parade, October 31st
We give thanks for Jill White preaching our Stewardship sermon today.
Welcome Rae Smith as Pastor's Assistance – Usher/Lector Recruitment.

Prelude *It is Well*

*Call to Worship

One: Come, you who are filled with wonder.
All: Come, you who have unsettled questions in your heart.
One: Come, you who are weary and worn out.
All: Come, you who have hard-learned wisdom or fresh curiosity to share.
One: Come, however it is that you are. You are welcome here.
All: Let us worship the Still-Speaking God.

*Hymn Purple #683, Tune: SLANE *Lord of All Hopefulness*

Call to Confession

This is a time and place to be curious- about ourselves, about our world, and about our God. What do we still need to learn? Where is the world limiting God's love? How can we better survive and thrive? Let us pray together.

Prayer of Confession

One: Rabbi, Teacher Jesus, You who taught thousands and yet were willing to learn from the least of these, we confess that we pretend to know when in truth we still wonder.
All: Forgive our pretense, that we may open ourselves to unexpected teachers, to fresh ideas, to one another, to you.
One: Vulnerable Christ, You who lived in generous love, we confess that we have closed ourselves off, that we have seen so much suffering that we stop looking rather than seeing and responding to those in need.
All: Forgive our neglect that we may care for one another and follow in the example you set for us. In your name we pray. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Disciples, followers, students of the living Christ, know that you are forgiven always and freed to begin anew through God's everlasting mercy and love. Amen.

Choral Response Purple #288 *Spirit of the Living God*

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Scripture Psalm 23, NRSUV Barb Ware

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.

One: Listen for what the Spirit is teaching.
All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem By G. Wonacot *Arise! Shine!*

Word for Children

Scripture **Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21** Barb Ware

"Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. "So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting

may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

One: We have listened today in curiosity and in hope.
All: May our minds be renewed.
One: We have listened today in wonder and in imagination.
All: May our hearts be expanded.
One: We have listened today in bravery and in flexibility.
All: May the world be transformed. Amen.

Sermon Trust in God's Promise Jill White

*Hymn Purple #410 *God Is Calling through the Whisper*

Morning Prayer

Prayer that Jesus Teaches Us (in unison)

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 sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
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

Jesus said, 'Take my yoke upon you and learn from me." May our gifts today reflect our gratitude for the Spirit's abiding, encouraging, and transforming presence in our lives.

Offertory *Missionary Medley*

*Doxology **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**
Praise Him, all creatures here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

Loving God, as we seek to yoke our lives to the work and mission of Jesus, and as we seek to learn from the One who is gentle and humble in heart, we offer these gifts. Accept what we offer today: our monetary gifts, our brokenness, our hopes, our longings, and our lives. Bless and use what we offer to bring about the world you intend. Amen.

*Hymn Purple #182 *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

*Benediction

Go now in peace and in joy, remembering that there is still more to learn! Let us Be Curious, so God can be our teacher. Amen.

*Choral Response Purple #43 *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.

Postlude *Improvisation on Lift High the Cross*

The sermon and liturgical series are from the materials, *Be Curious* provided by *This is the Day*. *This is the Day* is a community of professional women in ministry, who write and produce resources for the full life of the church.

We give thanks for Jill White and her preaching today. Jill brings over 25 years of experience in

stewardship, fundraising, and strategic planning to her position of Lead Mission Interpreter at CB&LF and Project Manager for Transform Church - Transform Community 2.0. In her role as Lead Mission Interpreter she works with churches across the United States leading Capital Campaigns, Visioning and Strategic Planning, Repurposing and Stewardship. Jill is a member of the Western Maryland chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and holds an Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising from the Lake Institute on Faith & Giving.

WELCOME to Zion Reformed United Church of Christ, an Open and Affirming Church striving to welcome and value all people and creation. Wherever you may be in the journey of faith, we welcome you. We are a community where honest questions are valued and where faith is considered a process, not an arrival. Affirming that every person has worth as a unique creation and a child of God, we welcome into full participation people of every age, sex, race, color, ethnicity, culture, economic condition, physical and mental ability, marital status, sexual orientation, and gender identity and expression. If you are passing through, we extend God's blessings to you as you continue on your way. If you are seeking a home, we invite you to join us in the adventure of serving Jesus Christ in a challenging world.
Pastor Scott

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 who have touched us and those who 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, Beth Baseler, Naomi Brackett, Robert Brewer (cousin of Carol France), Linda Cantilena, Richard Cantilena, Steve Cavey (Uncle of Tina Shafer), Kim Cook, Crystal Frazier's Dad, Family of Bobby Gross, Jim Hatfield, Lyn Hoffmaster (Claire-Marie's sister), Karen Howser (friend of Barb & Charly Ware), Diane Huff, Jeanne Hvidding (Sister of Ralph Frances), Robert and Judy Miller, Teresa Moats (friend of Christine Coleman), Craig Nilson (Curtis Nilson's father), Patricia Nix, Mary Ann Sanders, Scherry Sellers, Staci Shafer, Rae Smith, Mary Stann (friend of Kim Ridenour), Margaret Wagner, Christel Wolbring, and Barry Yingling.

Complete a Prayer Card and place it in the offering plate to have a prayer request added or reach out to Pastor Scott.

SUNDAY LUNCH BUNCH - After worship a bunch of us get together and go out for lunch, fellowship and lots of laughter. Anyone and everyone are welcome to join us. We meet up in the Chapel right after worship and that is when we usually decide where we are going. Come join us whenever you can.

MUMMERS PARADE SEAT TICKETS - call the church office (301) 739-7244 to order your tickets ($8 for street seats and $6 for wall seats). See Kim on Sunday

On **October 31st** we will set up chairs beginning at 6am, followed by breakfast. Parade starts at 6pm. This year we will have the following food trucks.

SIPS – drinks hot and cold -dirty drinks
Almost Heaven – curly potatoes, funnel cakes, corn dogs
Lovely's -flatbreads with non-traditional flavors-crab dip, Mediterranean, Chicken Alfredo, smoke pork, pumpkin spice cheese cake muffins, Spiced cider

TUESDAY NIGHT MINISTRY - Tuesday Night Ministry is collecting cans of soup. We are also in need of empty Egg Cartons and Zip Lock Storage Bags in all sizes.

MICAH'S BACKPACK – School has begun and we are packing bags! For the month of October, we are requesting donations of single serve cups of pasta meals. Spaghetti o's, mac & cheese and lasagna, etc.

THANKSGIVING MEAL -November 26 You are invited to the 2nd Annual Thanksgiving at Zion. Last year was a big success. It will be very relaxed, open-ended, watch football, fellowship, etc. It will be semi-catered from the Honey Baked Ham store. People can bring their favorite dishes, but it is not expected. $20 per person. Drop your money off at the church office. Please consider having your traditional extended family gathering at Zion. The more the merrier! Sign up on the sheet in the chapel.

WORSHIP LEADERS
The lector this week is: Barb Ware

Ushers for this week are: Christine Coleman, Blaine Dockery, Judy Thompson and Barb Ware.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH Miss Kim

NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP 11/1 & CALENDAR
The lector for next week is: Rick Waters

Next week's ushers are: Domenick Gerlando, Barb Hendershot, Matt McDonald, and William Wantz.

10/27 5-6:30pm Tuesday Ministry
10/28 6:30pm Wednesday Potluck and Bible Study
10/29 12:30pm Properties Team meeting
2:00pm Executive Committee
5:30pm Choir practice
10/30 9am-2pm Zion Gathering Place
10/31 6:00 am Mummer's Parade putting out chairs, breakfast
6:00 pm Mummer's Parade start

BIRTHDAYS
Angel Livingston 10/26
Beth McDonald 10/26
Ed Patterson 10/26
Nick Patterson 10/30
Toby Bell 10/31

ANNIVERSARIES
Pastor Scott & Anthony 10/31

OFFICE HOURS - The church office will be open Monday through Thursday from 9am-12am; 1pm-3pm.

MUSIC FOR October 25, 2026
CCLI NUMBER: 6212519

Prelude *It is Well* arranged by Jennifer Cook 2009 Jennifer Cook

Hymns
Glory to God #683, *Lord of All Hopefulness*
Glory to God #410, *God Is Calling through the Whisper*
Glory to God #182, *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

Choral Responses
Glory to God#288 *Spirit of the Living God*
Glory to God, #43 *On Eagles Wings*

Offertory *Missionary Medley* arranged by Debbie Frandsen 2016 Debbie Frandsen
Postlude Improvisation on Lift High the Cross

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