

ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 30th, 2020 ☺ 10 A.M.



Standing on Holy Ground

WELCOME to *your* faith community! We are glad to worship virtually with you today and pray that your spirit will be blessed by our time together. Zion Reformed United Church of Christ has roots over 250 years in the making, but we know God is still speaking even today. Just as our world is ever-changing so we too constantly strive to change daily to become more like Christ.

Pastor Katie's health continues to improve for which we are grateful but please continue to keep her in your prayers! Sunday Worship will remain virtual only through September 6th, and we will return to an in-person/virtual combination on Rally Day, September 13th, when worship time changes back to 11am and some Sunday School options return.

Let us worship our God together in spirit, mind, and deed!

WE GATHER

Words of Welcome

Prelude to Worship

"There Is A Balm in Gilead" (NCH #553)

WE PREPARE

↑ Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 150

One: Your church gathers, O God,

**All: in Maryland and Mozambique, in Costa Rica and Cambodia,
and to the ends of the earth.**

One: Your church gathers, O God,

All: in city and country, in suburbs and slums.

One: In sanctuaries and living rooms,

All: under trees and by streams of water.

One: Your people gather to praise you, O God:

All: In English and in German,

One: with organ and guitar and drum,

All: with voices of young and old,

One: with song and with silence,

All: with dance and with prayer.

One: Your people praise you, O God:

All: for hope in the midst of despair,

One: for strength in times of weakness,

All: for justice in the shadows of oppression,

One: for courage in the face of fear,

All: for life in the midst of death.

One: We are the people who call you God.

All: Let everything that breathes, praise you, God of our Life!

↑Gathering Prayer

↓Gathering Hymn

"Fairest Lord Jesus" (Red #182)

↑Call to Reconciliation

↑Prayer of Confession

All: We look for you in all the wrong places, God of the lost, and wonder why we cannot find you. We wander the corridors of power, while you are on the sidewalks, beside the homeless. We sit at the head tables of the world, while you are handing out soup to the hungry at the kitchen's backdoor. We applaud those who win the gold, while you are cheering on those in last place.

In forgiving us, God of new life, you would transform our cold hearts into those melted in service to others. In granting us mercy, you challenge us to think of all those we have ignored. In gifting us with grace, you enable us to proclaim Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, as the hope, the joy, the peace the world seeks.

~ silence is kept ~

↑Assurance of Pardon

One: It is not the money, but our generosity with it; it is not power, but our willingness to humble ourselves; it is not our efforts, but Christ's gift, which transforms us into God's children.

All: It is more than just how we think. In mercy and grace, our hearts, our lives, our spirits are transfigured and made new. Thanks be to God. Amen.

↑Lord's Prayer

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.

WE MEDITATE

↓Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 3:1-15 (NRSV)
Lector: Amber Nilson

¹Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." ⁴When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. ⁷Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, ⁸and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." ¹¹But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" ¹²He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." ¹³But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" ¹⁴God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" ¹⁵God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.

Reflection

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand" (NCH #472)

²¹ From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? ²⁷ "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

The Message

"Transforming Faith"

Reflection

"Be Not Dismayed" (NCH #460)

WE ARE SENT TO SERVE

Prelude to Service

"Impromptus"

Sending Forth!

GO FORTH IN PEACE & SERVE!

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS
Week of August 31st to September 6th



Welcome to the Zion Team!

Help us welcome Darlene Covington to the Zion Team as our new Church Administrator!
Darlene begins training this Monday. Welcome to the team Darlene!

Rally Day

Rally Day is Sunday, September 13th at which time our service time changes back to 11am and modified Sunday School options become available.

Consistory Meeting Rescheduled

September's Consistory Meeting has been rescheduled to September 14th due to Labor Day weekend conflicting with the previously scheduled date.

HARC Hike

The Hagerstown Area Religious Council (HARC) holds its 8th annual hike fundraiser virtually this year between September 12th-19th. Some of the funds raised are used to support the Micah's Backpack ministry that we participate in. Consider sponsoring or joining Barb Hendershot who is representing Zion and raising funds for this great ministry. Contributions can be made at <https://www.pledgereg.com/266081> or mailed to HARC with annotation that it is for "HARC Hike – Barb Hendershot". More info at <https://harccoalition.org/hike>.

Improvement Projects Updates

Sidewalks for the new parking lot will begin being poured on August 31st.
The bell tower masonry repairs will also begin on August 31st.

UCC Peace Face Masks Available by Donation

See Becky Owens or contact the office to get your UCC face mask today!

Please Remember

Soup Kitchen, and Choir Rehearsals are postponed until further notice.

Trumpet and Organ Recital planned for November 15th
in the sanctuary assuming CDC guidelines allow at that time.



IMPORTANT DATES THIS WEEK:

Tech Team Planning Meeting

September 1st, 3:30pm in the Burhans Room

Service Worker's Meeting

September 2nd, 10am, followed by luncheon

Sunday Worship

Communion Sunday, September 6th at 10am, Virtual Service
Guest Celebrant Rev Kyle Powderly from Costa Rica



OTHER HAPPENINGS AT ZION:

4H Club Meeting

September 3rd, 4pm via Zoom

Celebrate Recovery

September 4th, 7pm in the chapel

 HELPING HANDS 		
<p>Helping Hands ministry outreach has been temporarily suspended except for that of lector due to service format changes during the pandemic while we meet virtually, and in the chapel. Watch for notification for these outreach opportunities to return.</p> <p>If unable to serve during your designated week, please contact the church office by Wednesday of the week prior to service so a replacement can be found</p>		
	This Week (8/30)	Next Week (9/6)
Lector	Amber Nilson	Carroll Sager

PRAYER REQUESTS:



Submit your prayer requests to the church office by phone at 301.739.7244 or email at zionrucc@myactv.net so we can pray for one another. The prayer request list of names can be emailed or mailed to you upon request due to privacy concerns.

This year's HARC Hike *for Hunger & Hope* is VIRTUAL!

Saturday, Sept. 12 through Saturday, Sept. 19

The Hagerstown Area Religious Council (HARC) will hold its **8th Annual HARC Hike *for Hunger & Hope*** virtually this year, from Saturday, September 12 through Saturday, September 19.

Participants can hike anytime between Sept. 12 and Sept. 19, any time of day that's convenient, anywhere that safe social distancing can be maintained.

The **Hike *for Hunger & Hope*** is HARC's biggest fundraiser of the year. Proceeds will benefit HARC programs, including Micah's Backpack, which provides nutritious food to food-insecure children in Washington County, Md.

Micah's Backpack is a collaborative effort between 50 churches and organizations in Washington County, serving more than 1,000 children.

Please join us — virtually! — for the **8th Annual HARC Hike *for Hunger & Hope***.



www.harccoalition.org

If you're not interested in hiking, but would like to contribute to our fundraising efforts, you can mail your check to:

HARC

P.O. Box 1158

Hagerstown, Md. 21741

Please make checks payable to "HARC Hike"

*Any amount will help.
Thank you!*

To register, visit www.harccoalition.org/hike OR <https://www.runreg.com/Harc-hike>

If you'd just like to donate, visit <https://www.pledgereg.com/266081>



PARKING LOT EPANSION UPDATE:

The parking lot is coming along nicely, sidewalks will be laid beginning this Monday.



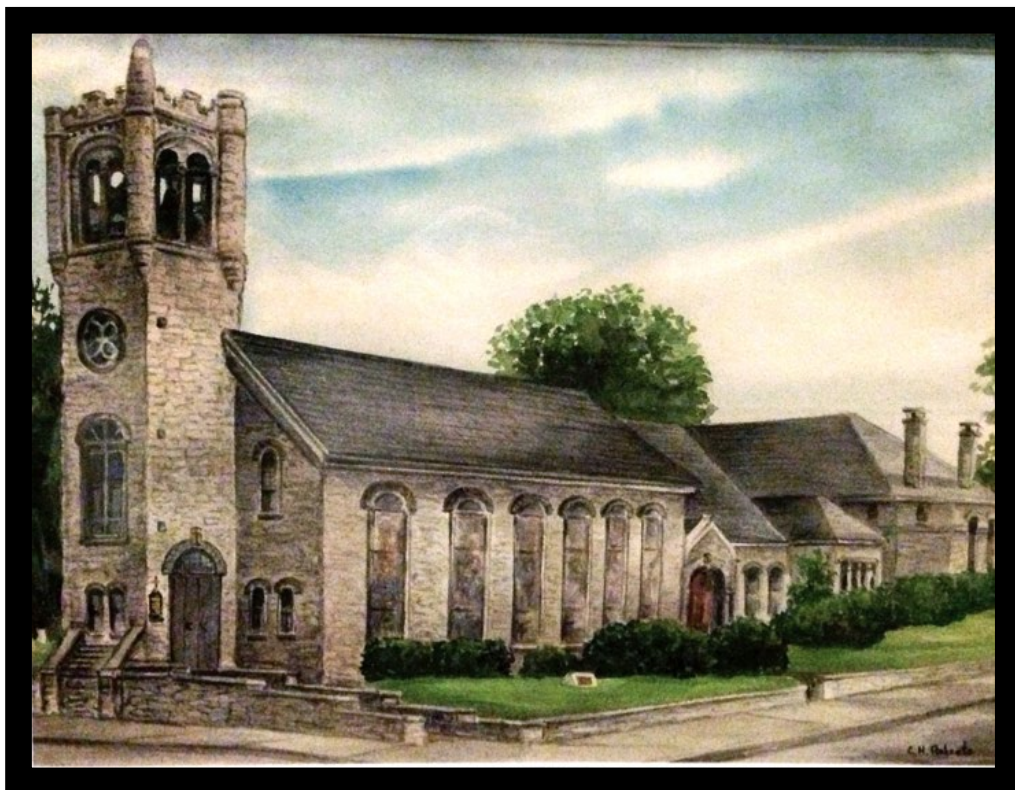


September 13th, 2020

Worship Time Changes from 10am to 11am

In-Person Services Start Back Up with Livestreamed Services

Adult Sunday School begins (watch for more info)



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Prelude to Service: "Impromptus" Arrangement – Arrangement by Claire Marie Moblard. Composed by Franz Schubert (1827). Performed by Claire Marie Moblard (Organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. All rights reserved.

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Credits Music: "Kiss the Sky" Performed by Aakash Gandhi. Retrieved from YouTube Audio Library. All rights reserved, used with permission.

Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

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Office Hours: 9-12, Monday through Friday

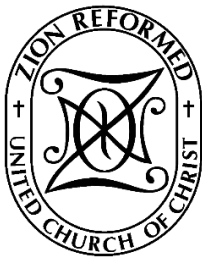
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