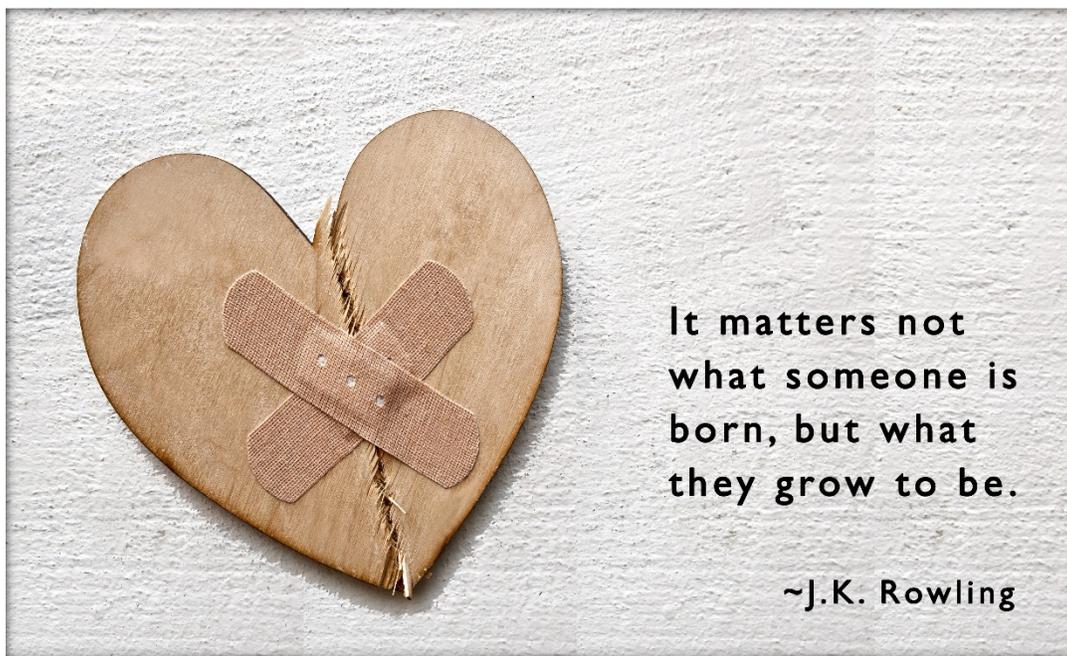


ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 13th, 2020 @ 11 A.M.



Rally Day

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.

Today is Rally Day and Rally Day this year brings much excitement with it as we return to in-house services in the Chapel for the second time in addition to welcoming Pastor Katie back, changing to our fall/winter schedule of 11am worship services, and starting Sunday School back up for the year at 9:45am in the Burhans Room. God is good!

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

WE GATHER

Gathering Music

"Impromptus"

Words of Welcome

Prelude to Worship

"Alleluia"

WE PREPARE

↑ Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 149

One: Praise to the Living God!

All: Sing to God a new song.

One: Praise God among the communion of saints.

All: Let the people of God rejoice in their creator.

One: Let them praise God with dance,

All: and celebrate with musical instruments.

One: Let all God's people jump for joy;

All: let them cry out with gladness where they rest.

One: Let high praises of God be in their throats:

All: word and song that overcome injustice: binding rulers in chains and the powerful in iron shackles; bringing justice to them, and honor to all God's faithful.

One: Praise to the Living God!

↑ Gathering Prayer

↓ Gathering Hymn

"Amazing Grace"

Sunday School Skit

WE MEDITATE

Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 14:19-31 (NRSV)

Lector: Wells Ridenour

¹⁵ The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰ It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. ²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. ²² The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³ The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴ At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. ²⁵ He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt." ²⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." ²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸ The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹ But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ³⁰ Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Reflection Hymn

"Praise to God, Immortal Praise" (red #435)

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²² Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³ "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Message

"True Forgiveness"

WE RESPOND

Offertory Hymn

"Come, We Who Love God's Name" (NCH #382)

Dedication of Gifts

Installation of Sunday School Teachers

One: Dear friends, let us recognize those who have responded to the call of God to become workers in the church school. To teach, to administer the work of teaching, and to support the work of teaching

are ministries of Christ among us. Those called to these ministries need our loyal support and our prayers. Let us pray:

Eternal God, you have entrusted us with the message of your power, grace, justice, and love. Provide for us your guidance, that we may be teachers and learners together. We believe that you are in our midst, And we turn to those you call to serve in our church school. May they nurture the spiritual growth of all who are entrusted in their care. Bless each one gathered before us, enabling them to be bearers of your grace. We pray through Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

(To the Church school staff)

One: We have heard God's call to teach and have responded to that call.

We teach, trusting in God's promises to support, sustain, and encourage us through gifts sufficient for the task.

We teach, relying on prayer and the presence of the Holy Spirit.

We teach, inviting others to recognize and respond to God's call in their lives.

We teach, depending on this congregation to uphold us in this task.

And so, I invite the congregation to join me as we pledge our support and prayers for the coming year:

All: We pledge ourselves to pray for you and for the educational ministry of this congregation.

We pledge ourselves to enable, encourage, and love you in this ministry.

We pledge ourselves to be learners with you, diligently studying with you the Scriptures and traditions of the faith.

Lord's Prayer:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your 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 Yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

WE ARE SENT TO SERVE

Prelude to Service

"When We All Get to Heaven"

Sending Forth!

GO FORTH IN PEACE & SERVE!



CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week of September 14th to 20th



56th Annual CAC Meeting (Virtual)

September 21st – 26th, \$25/person

Delegates to represent Zion are Needed!

More info at www.cacucc.org/annualmeeting

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 list of names can be emailed or mailed to you upon request due to privacy concerns.

HELPING HANDS:



Lector This Week (9/13): Wells Ridenour

Lector Next Week (9/20): Carol Mooers

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.

UCC Peace Face Masks Available by Donation

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

Don't Forget

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



IMPORTANT DATES THIS WEEK:

Consistory Meeting

September 14th, 7:15pm

Zion Book Club

September 18th, 7pm

Sunday Worship

Just Peace Sunday, September 20th at 11am, in-person and online.

Adult Sunday School at 9:45am in Burhans Room.

OTHER HAPPENINGS AT ZION:

4H Club Meeting

September 17th, 4pm via Zoom

Celebrate Recovery

September 18th, 7pm in the chapel



Recital Planned

Trumpet and Organ Recital planned for November 15th in the sanctuary.

More info to come.

Service Project Opportunity

It's not too late to send a token of love and appreciation to the oldest surviving World War II veteran for his birthday. Mr. Lawrence Brooks of Louisiana turned 111 years old on Saturday, September 12th. For the past 5 years Mr Brooks has been celebrating his birthday at the National World War II Museum in his home city of New Orleans. The museum has requested that people across the nation send birthday cards to Mr Brook as he celebrates this monumental birthday. Love and appreciation are always a welcome thing, especially in these post-pandemic times. Wish Mr Brooks a happy birthday with us!



Birthday cards can be sent to the Museum at:

The National WWII Museum
c/o Happy 111th Mr. Brooks!
945 Magazine Street
New Orleans, LA 70130

SERVICE CREDITS

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Prelude to Worship: “Alleluia” from “Exsultate Jubilate – A motet composed by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1773), ©Public Domain. Lyrics penned later by an unknown author, ©Public Domain. Performed by Claire Marie Moblard (Organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. All rights reserved. *Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Exsultate,_jubilate.

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Offertory Hymn: “Come, We Who Love God’s Name” – Lyrics by Isaac Watts (1707; 1867; alt), ©Public Domain. Lyric alterations by The New Century Hymnal, ©1995 by The Pilgrim Press. Tune: “Marching to Zion” by Robert Lowry (1867), ©Public Domain. Performed by Claire Marie Moblard (Organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. All rights reserved. *Source: *The New Century Hymnal*, song #382.

Prelude to Service: “When We All Get to Heaven” – Arranged by Choplin. Lyrics by E.E. Hewitt (1898), ©Public Domain. Tune: “Sing the Wonderous Love of Jesus” by Emily D. Wilson (1898), ©Public Domain. Performed by Claire Marie Moblard (Organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. All rights reserved. *Source: <https://hymnary.org>.

Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

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Office Hours: 9-12, Monday through Friday

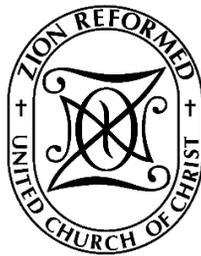
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