

ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
OCTOBER 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 ☺ 11 A.M.



*World Communion Sunday*

**WELCOME** to *your* faith community! We are glad to worship 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, continuing to tell the story of Jesus and His love.

Today is World Communion Sunday, a day set aside to specifically remember our interconnectedness globally with our siblings in Christ around the world. Every day is *really* world communion Sunday, but this is the day that we acknowledge our unity and connectedness above and beyond that of our normal routines.

Let us worship our God, the Great Spirit, together in spirit, mind, and deed with one another and around the world!

## *WE GATHER*

Gathering Music

Nocturne Medley

Introduction Video

"Whole World Worship Intro"

Words of Welcome

Prelude to Worship

"It Took A Miracle/I Believe in Miracles"

## *WE PREPARE*

↑ Call to Worship

One: Here in this place, God offers us food,

**All: so we take and eat.**

One: Here in this place, our neighbors are hungry,

**All: so we share the bread and the cup.**

One: Here in this place, the table extends

**All: beyond our friends,**

One: beyond those who agree with us,

**All: beyond these walls,**

One: beyond the borders,

**All: around the world.**

One: Let us taste and see that our God is good.

**All: Let us worship God with joy.**

Gathering Prayer

↓Gathering Hymn

"Day by Day"

## *WE MEDITATE*

Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 (NRSV)  
Lector: Rae Smith

<sup>1</sup> Then God spoke all these words: <sup>2</sup> I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup> you shall have no other gods before me. <sup>4</sup> You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>7</sup> You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. <sup>8</sup> Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup> Six days you shall labor and do all your work. <sup>12</sup> Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. <sup>13</sup> You shall not murder. <sup>14</sup> You shall not commit adultery. <sup>15</sup> You shall not steal. <sup>16</sup> You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. <sup>17</sup> You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor. <sup>18</sup> When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, <sup>19</sup> and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." <sup>20</sup> Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

Worship Hymn

"And Can It Be, That I Should Gain"

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 21:33-46 (NRSV)

<sup>33</sup> "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. <sup>34</sup> When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. <sup>35</sup> But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup> Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. <sup>37</sup> Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' <sup>38</sup> But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' <sup>39</sup> So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup> Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" <sup>41</sup> They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who

will give him the produce at the harvest time.”<sup>42</sup> Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’?”<sup>43</sup> Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom.<sup>44</sup> The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”<sup>45</sup> When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them.<sup>46</sup> They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Message

“We Don’t Hurt Others”

Special Music Video

“Amazing Grace in 50 Languages”

### *WE RESPOND*

#### *Sacrament of Communion*

##### Invitation

One: On this “Worldwide Communion Sunday”, we gather at God’s table, joining with disciples of Christ in many lands and places... Come and be fed. Come and be refreshed. Come and be filled with new life!

##### Blessing Our Offerings (Prayer of Dedication)

**All: Loving God, as Jesus made a few loaves and fish into a meal for thousands, multiply our offerings. Take these gifts of many breads from around our neighborhood and our world as a token of our desire for oneness with all who share your bread of life today.**

##### The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: God is with you!

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to God.**

One: Let us give God our thanks and our praise.

**All: With joy and celebration, we say, "Thank You, God!"**

One: We do thank you, Creator-of-All. For all things in our lives. For all people in our lives. For life itself! We give you thanks for the many ways we are transformed, by the touch of another of your children – both the ones we meet and the ones we will never know.

**All: Thank you, Loving God!**

One: We give you thanks for all who have come before us. Grandmothers and Grandfathers – by blood and by faith, who have loved us and taught us, by their stories and by their lives. They have shared your love in their love. We celebrate that they are a part of your great community of saints – of which we, too, are a part.

**All: Holy, holy, holy God! God of love and life – heaven and earth are full of your glory, hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in God's name! Hosanna in the highest!**

One: We realize that we don't always live out of your love. Sometimes, in fear, we turn away. Sometimes, in anger, we turn away. Sometimes, in apathy, we turn away. Sometimes, not even realizing it... we turn away. But you don't let us stay away, God! Time and time again, you called our Grandmothers and Grandfathers back. Time and time again, you call us back. Time and time again. Always. You are faithful! Hallelujah!

**All: Hallelujah!**

One: When the time was right, you shared yourself with us in a new way – in the life and teachings, in the death and resurrection, of Jesus – the One we call Christ. One of us, dancing, crying, laughing, loving... he offered us new life in You. Hallelujah!

**All: Hallelujah!**

One: So we remember. We remember the night before he was to be put to death. He gathered with his friends and shared a meal of celebration. In love, he tried to help his disciples understand what was to come. He took a loaf of bread and blessed it. So we, too, ask your blessing upon this bread.

**All: Great God, who brings forth grain from the earth. May the power of your love feed us, and the world, as this bread feeds our bodies.**

One: Jesus broke the bread saying, "Take this, all of you, and eat it. This is my body, given for you."

**All: Amen!**

One: In the same way, he took a cup of wine and blessed it. So we, too, ask your blessing upon this cup,

**All: Great God, who brings forth fruit on the vine. May the power of your grace, fill us, and the world, as this fruit fills our bodies.**

One: And Jesus offered them the cup, saying, "Take this, all of you, and drink from it. In this is my covenant – my promise – offered to you, that sin might be forgiven."

**All: Amen!**

One: Holy God, fill us and these gifts with your Presence – that they and we might be the Body of Christ – feeding your world.

**All: Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, forever and ever. Amen.**

One: And so, as Jesus' taught us, we are bold to say...

**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.**

One: These are the gifts of God for all God's people.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

One: Come, for the table is prepared for you, and our cup overflows!

Sharing the Meal

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Prayer After Communion

**All: For what you have given us, God, thank you. For what you**

**call us to, God, thank you. For filling us again, thank you!  
Help us to be, all that you know we can be. In Christ's name,  
in your love, we ask it in Jesus name. Amen.**

*WE ARE SENT TO SERVE*

Sending Forth!

Prelude to Service

"Präludium in G-Dur"

*GO FORTH IN PEACE & SERVE!*



**CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
Week of October 4<sup>th</sup> to October 11<sup>th</sup>



**Soup Kitchen Reopens**

Zion's Soup Kitchen reopens October 6<sup>th</sup> serving dine-in meals to the community. Volunteers are welcome! In addition to serving meals, volunteers are needed to provide hospitality to our guests, and to help share this opportunity with the local community. We will serve meals in two groups of up to 20 guests. First group will be 5-5:30 and the second group will be 5:45-6:15 with time to clean in between groups.

**HELPING HANDS:**



Lector This Week (10/4): Carroll Sager

Lector Next Week (10/11): Barb Hendershot

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!

**Postponed**

Choir Rehearsals are postponed until further notice.

**Records from Last Week:**

**Offering:** \$3,874.25 (General Fund: \$3,695.00; Christian Ed: \$20.00; Young Adult Class: \$13.25; Face Masks: \$41.00; Micah's Backpack: \$20.00; Altar Flowers: \$50.00; Communion: \$10.00; NIN: \$25.00). THANK YOU to all who have remembered the church by giving, dropping off and/or mailing in their offerings even in this time of uncertainty and pandemic!

**Attendance:** Adult Sunday School: 7; Young Adult Sunday School: 3; Sunday Worship: 20 in-house + 6 Live Viewers, and 11 additional views throughout the week.



## ***IMPORTANT DATES THIS WEEK:***

### **Consistory Meeting**

October 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm

### **Soup Kitchen**

October 6<sup>th</sup>, 5pm-6:15pm

### **Service Workers Meeting**

October 7<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am

### **Sunday Worship**

October 11<sup>th</sup> at 11am, in-person and online.

Sunday School at 9:45am (Adult classes in-person, Children's class via Zoom)

## ***OTHER HAPPENINGS AT ZION:***

### **4H Club Meeting**

October 8<sup>th</sup>, 4:30pm via Zoom

### **Celebrate Recovery**

October 9<sup>th</sup>, 7pm in the chapel

## **PRAYER REQUESTS:**



Submit your prayer requests to the church office by phone at 301.739.7244 or email at [zionrucc@myactv.net](mailto: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.



## **Trumpet & Organ Recital**



November 15<sup>th</sup>, 3pm

More info to come.

## Neighbors In Need:



### **UNLEASHING POTENTIAL (formerly Neighborhood Houses) OF ST. LOUIS, MO**

***“Unleash[ing] the magnificent potential in children, families and neighborhoods that leads to a just community for all.”***

**D**enise Carter, early childhood education director, was well aware of a rather large need within the population served by Neighborhood Houses. Many of the families are low wage earners, 75% of them earn less than \$20,000 annually. Truthfully, some simply struggle to provide many of basic needs for their children.

To that end, she designed a program to meet the health and development needs of infants and toddlers. Thus, the “Baby Essentials” program was birthed. The main goal was to provide diapers and formula for all of the children enrolled at the early childhood education center for families who could not afford a consistent supply.

credit: UP – early childhood webpage



Denise met with interim director of development, Christine Krueger, and shared her desire and need for funding. Christine went in search of those sources. She applied wherever she felt the need of the program matched the granters requirements. Fortunately, she filled out an application for a NIN direct service grant and was awarded \$3,000 in 2019.

In 2020, it was reported back to us that 100% of babies ages six weeks to 12 months received milk they needed while attending the Center. 50% of those babies also received one canister of formula per month for home consumption. Lastly, 100% of babies/toddlers ages six weeks to three years had diapers needed for Center and home use.

According to Christine, “thanks to the Neighbors in Need grant, our babies are dry and their tummies are full, and parents, who are already stressed financially, socially, and emotionally, have two less potential health issues with which to contend!”

Because of your generosity, direct service programs like that of Neighborhood Houses are grant funded, communities are strengthened, and neighbors experience love without judgment.

***all children have the right to simply be children...***

**Please join us in supporting the 2020 Neighbors In Need Special Mission Offering. Thank you!**



## Mission Moment:



### ISSUE ONE-PAGER: IMMIGRATION

#### The UCC on Immigration:

The United Church of Christ has a long history of solidarity in the struggle for dignity and human rights for immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees regardless of their immigration status. We do this through a network of grassroots leaders in the UCC National Collaborative on Immigration working to share a prophetic stance and lift up the voices of impacted leaders. General Synod Resolutions over the last decades show the continued support from our denominations.

- A Resolution on Becoming an Immigrant Welcoming Church (General Synod 31, 2017)
- Resolution Supporting Compassionate Comprehensive Immigration Reform and the Protection of the Human Rights of Immigrants (General Synod 29, 2013)
- A Call for a More Humane U.S. Immigration Policy: End Migrant Deaths; Support Immigrant Communities (General Synod 26, 2007)
- Emergency Resolution to End the Death of Migrants on the United States-Mexico Border by Offering Water in Christ's Name (General Synod 23, 2001)

#### How We Have Taken Action:

Support the NO BAN and the GRACE Act

Reject Funding for Immoral Detention, Deportation, and Border Militarization

Churches Becoming Immigrant Welcoming Congregations and joining the Sanctuary Movement.



#### Questions for your candidates

- Do you support the Dream and Promise Act passed by the House of Representatives that would provide a pathway to citizenship for Deferred Action Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients and beneficiaries of the Temporary Protected Status?
- Collaboration for police and Immigration & Customs Enforcement has been disastrous for our immigrant siblings. Do you support measures to stop deportations, keep families together and increase public safety by halting this collaboration?
- This administration has continued to try and stop asylum. The historic importance of the asylum program is embedded in U.S. and international law. Will you pledge to protect and restore the asylum program?

Justice and Witness Ministries, United Church of Christ | [ourfaithourvote.org](http://ourfaithourvote.org)  
Contact: Katie Adams, Domestic Policy Advocate [adamsk@ucc.org](mailto:adamsk@ucc.org)

## SERVICE CREDITS

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**Gathering Music:** Nocturne Medley: "Nocturne in E-Flat Major" (Op. 9, No. 2) and "Nocturne in F-Major" (Op. 15, No. 1). Composed by Frédéric Chopin between 1830 and 1833, ©Public Domain. Claire Marie Moblard (Organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. All rights reserved. \*Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nocturnes,\\_Op.\\_15\\_\(Chopin\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nocturnes,_Op._15_(Chopin)) and <https://en.chopin.nifc.pl/chopin/composition/detail/id/173>.

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**Video Reflection:** "Whole World Worship Intro" by Journey Box Media, licensed by Skit Guys ([skitguys.com](http://skitguys.com)). All rights reserved, used with permission.

**Special Music:** "50 Countries Affected by COVID-19 Sing Amazing Grace," by The Normal Christian Life. Lyrics by John Newton (1779), ©Public Domain. Tune, "New Britain" by Anonymous (1829), ©Public Domain. \*Source: <https://youtu.be/BA7pdABvpnc>. All rights reserved.

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Office Hours: 8:30-12:30, Monday through Friday

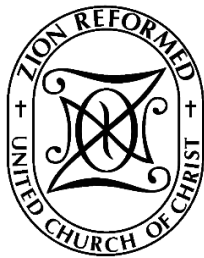
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