

ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 22ND, 2020 @ 11 A.M.
SUNDAY BULLETIN



Harvest Home Sunday

WELCOME to *your* faith community! We are happy to worship with you today and pray that your spirit will be blessed by our time together in the presence of our Creator. If this is your first time at Zion, welcome! Zion Reformed United Church of Christ has roots over 250 years in the making with visions of thriving long into the future. We invite you to consider making Zion Reformed UCC your church home if you haven't already and let us tell the story of Jesus and His love together!

Today is a jam-packed Sunday with Reign of Christ Sunday, Thanksgiving Sunday, and Zion's Harvest Home Sunday all celebrated this day. They each complement one another as Reign of Christ Sunday reminds us of the One we have chosen to follow providing us an opportunity to give thanks for the author of salvation and the One who has given us the gift of the church and the fellowship of the body that we celebrate each time we gather in person or online.

Thanksgiving Sunday is a time to celebrate the abundance of God through thanksgiving just as is Harvest Home Sunday. So, we give thanks to God for Christ our Savior and the abundance bestowed upon us. We are overwhelmed with gratitude for all that God provides.

Let us worship our God, giving thanks to the God who blesses us always, together in spirit, mind, and deed, and listen together for the still speaking God we serve!

WE GATHER

Gathering Music

"Praeludium und Fugue in C-Moll"

Words of Welcome & Announcements

Prelude to Worship

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

WE PREPARE

↑Call to Worship

One: In deep gratitude we come to worship God.

All: We recognize God as the source of all goodness.

One: Pumpkins and flowers, beans and squash.

All: All good gifts.

One: All good gifts come from the Spirit of God.

All: Love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, gentleness are all of God.

One: Christ to redeem us, Spirit within us:

All: All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above.

Opening Prayer

Contemplative Interlude

"Now Thank We All Our God"

A Litany of Thanksgiving

From Howard Thurman in *Meditations of the Heart*

One: Today, I make my Sacrament of Thanksgiving. I begin with the simple things of my days: fresh air to breathe, cool water to drink, the taste of food, the protection of houses and clothes, the comforts of home. For these, I make an act of Thanksgiving this day!

(Moment of Silence)

All: I bring to mind all the warmth of humankind that I have known: my mother's arms, the strength of my father, the playmates of my childhood, the wonderful stories brought to me from the lives of many who talked of days gone by when fairies and giants and all kinds of magic held sway; the tears I have shed, the tears I have seen; the excitement of laughter and the twinkle in the eye with its

reminder that life is good. For all these I make an act of Thanksgiving this day.

(Moment of Silence)

One: I finger one by one the messages of hope that awaited me at the crossroads: the smile of approval from those who held in their hands the reins of security; the tightening of the grip in a single handshake when I feared the step before me in the darkness; the whisper in my heart when the temptation was the fiercest and the claims of appetite were not to be denied; the crucial word said, the simple sentence for an open page when my decision hung in balance. For all these I make an act of Thanksgiving this day.

(Moment of Silence)

All: I pass before me the mainsprings of my heritage: the fruits of the labors of countless generations who lived before me, without whom my own life would have no meaning; the seers who saw visions and dreamed dreams; the prophets who sensed a truth greater than the mind could grasp and whose words could only find fulfillment in the years which they would never see; the workers whose sweat has watered the trees, the leaves of which are for the healing of the nations; the pilgrims who set their sails for lands beyond all horizons, whose courage made paths into new worlds and far-off-places; the saviors whose blood was shed with a recklessness that only a dream could inspire and God could command. For all this I make an act of Thanksgiving this day

(Moment of Silence)

One: I linger over the meaning of my own life and the commitment to which I give the loyalty of my heart and mind: the little purposes in which I have shared with my loves, my desires, my gifts; the restlessness which bottoms all I do with its stark insistence that I have never done my best, I have never dared to reach for the highest; the big hope that never quite deserts me, that I and my kind will study war no more, that love and tenderness and all the inner graces of Almighty affection will cover the life of the children of God as the waters cover the sea.

(Moment of Silence)

All these and more than mind can think and heart can feel,

All: I make as my sacrament of Thanksgiving with humbleness of mind and simplicity of heart.

WE MEDITATE

Meditative Interlude

"Jesus Shall Reign"

Old Testament Lesson

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 (NRSV)

Lector: Wells Ridenour

¹¹ For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹² As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. ¹⁶ I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. ²⁰ Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹ Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²² I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³ I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴ And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Gospel Lesson ✠

Matthew 25:14-30 (NRSV)

³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³ and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited

me.' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' ⁴¹ Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

The Message

"Thankful"

Special Music

"Give Thanks"

WE RESPOND

Blessing Our Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

All: O God, we have come with thankful hearts! We have come before your table with gifts – gifts of ourselves, gifts of our food, gifts of risk, gifts of newness, gifts of trust. We thank you for the chance to give, and pray that we and all whom our gifts bless will never be the same. Through our greatest gift, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Our 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

Sending Forth (benediction)

Adapted from Jan Richardson

One: O hear us as this day we say,

All: "grace;"

One: this day we say

All: "grateful;"

One: this day we say

All: "blessing;"

One: this day we release you in God's keeping and hold you in gladness and love.

All: Amen!

Prelude to Service

"Nun Danket alle Gott"

GO FORTH IN PEACE & SERVE!



Activity Page Answer Key:

Match the code:

"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Write the name:

Candle; Goat; Yarn, Whistle; Marbles; Frog; Vase

"When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, He will sit on His throne in heavenly glory."

Use the code to find the words:

(2) Sheep; (4) Right; (1) Goats; (23) Left; (10) King; (6) Those; (4) Right;
(17) Come; (8) Blessed; (3) Father; (20) Take; (13) Inheritance; (16) Kingdom;
(9) Prepared; (14) Since; (17a) Creation; (24) World; (5) Hungry; (12) Gave;
(7) Something; (18) Eat; (15) Thirsty; (12) Gave; (7) Something; (26) Drink; (21) Needed;
(22) Clothes; (11) Sick; (25) Looked; (19) After

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week of November 23rd to November 29th



Zion Book Club

The Zion Book Club has been postponed until January. We hope to see you then!

Search & Call Committee

We desire to form a Pastoral Search Committee for a settled minister. If you are willing to serve on the committee, please notify Darlene in the front office.

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 (11/22): Wells Ridenour

Lector Next Week (11/29): Rae Smith

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.

Records from Last Week

Sunday Worship Attendance: 23 online views.

Soup Kitchen Attendance: The Soup Kitchen served 27 meals this past Tuesday.

Please Remember

PEACE face masks available by donation, see Becky Owens or Pastor Katie.

Choir Rehearsals are postponed until further notice.



IMPORTANT DATES THIS WEEK

Christian Ed Ministry Team Meeting

November 23rd, 7:30pm

Soup Kitchen Thanksgiving Meal

November 24th, 5pm-6:15pm

Volunteers Welcome!

Thanksgiving Day

Happy Thanksgiving! Be safe and enjoy the many blessings of God!
Remember the office is closed for the holiday both Thursday and Friday.

Sunday Worship

November 29th at 11am, online only.

(Online at www.zionreformed.church/sermons)

OTHER HAPPENINGS AT ZION

4H Club Meeting

November 26th, 4:30pm via Zoom

Celebrate Recovery

Suspended until Further Notice



We give thanks by giving to others!



The righteous asked the Lord when they had seen Him like this. How did the King reply?

Match the code with the words to fill in the blanks.

1	2	3
brothers	whatever	least
did	Mine	one
you	tell	of
Me	sisters	and
did		these
		1

“ 3 ✱ 2 ✱ 1 ✱

1 ✱ 3 ✱ 2 ✱

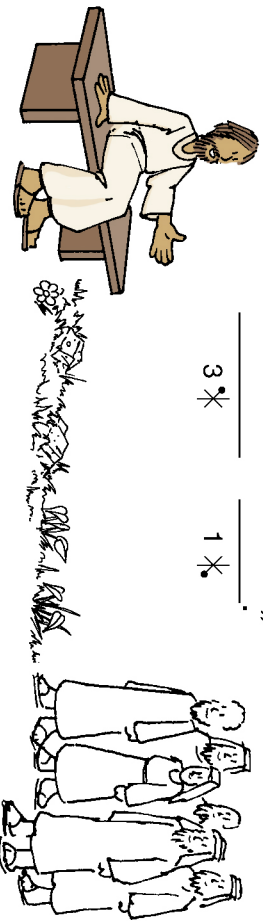
1 ✱ 1 ✱ 3 ✱ 2 ✱ 2 ✱

1 ✱ 3 ✱ 2 ✱ 3 ✱

1 ✱ 3 ✱ 2 ✱

2 ✱ 2 ✱ 1 ✱ 1 ✱

3 ✱ 1 ✱



Ages 7+

November 22, 2020 • Matthew 25:31-46

Serving Jesus by Doing Good

Jesus talked about the Son of Man coming. What did He say?

Write the name of each picture. Then fill in the blanks.

	13 24 7 19 31 5	
	14 25 36 23	
	6 12 35 20 28 11 22	
	17 4 1 33	
		32 27 3 18 21 8 30
		34 29 9 16

“

6 12 5 7 23 12 16 20 25 10 25 17 32 36 10

13 25 32 22 9 35 7 12 35 30 33 11 25 4 26

24 7 19 2 31 21 28 12 16 29 7 14 8 11 20

6 35 28 12 12 35 32 12 5 6 35 21 31

9 35 23 25 10 12 35 9 23 12 4 25 10 22

35 7 12 8 24 34 16 7 21 26 33 11 25 3 26



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Enter your **SECRET CODE** to unlock games @
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SECRET CODE
TJRRKK4

All the nations will be gathered before the Son of Man, and He will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. Then what would happen?

Use the code here to find the words.

eat	King	take	goats	since	Father	needed	kingdom	prepared
Come	left	after	right	those	hungry	blessed	thirsty	something
gave	sick	drink	sheep	world	looked	clothes	creation	inheritance

"He will put the _____ on His

_____ and the _____ on His

_____. Then the _____ will say to

_____ on His _____, _____,

you who are _____ by My _____,

_____ your _____, the

_____ for you

_____ the _____ of the

_____. For I was _____ and you

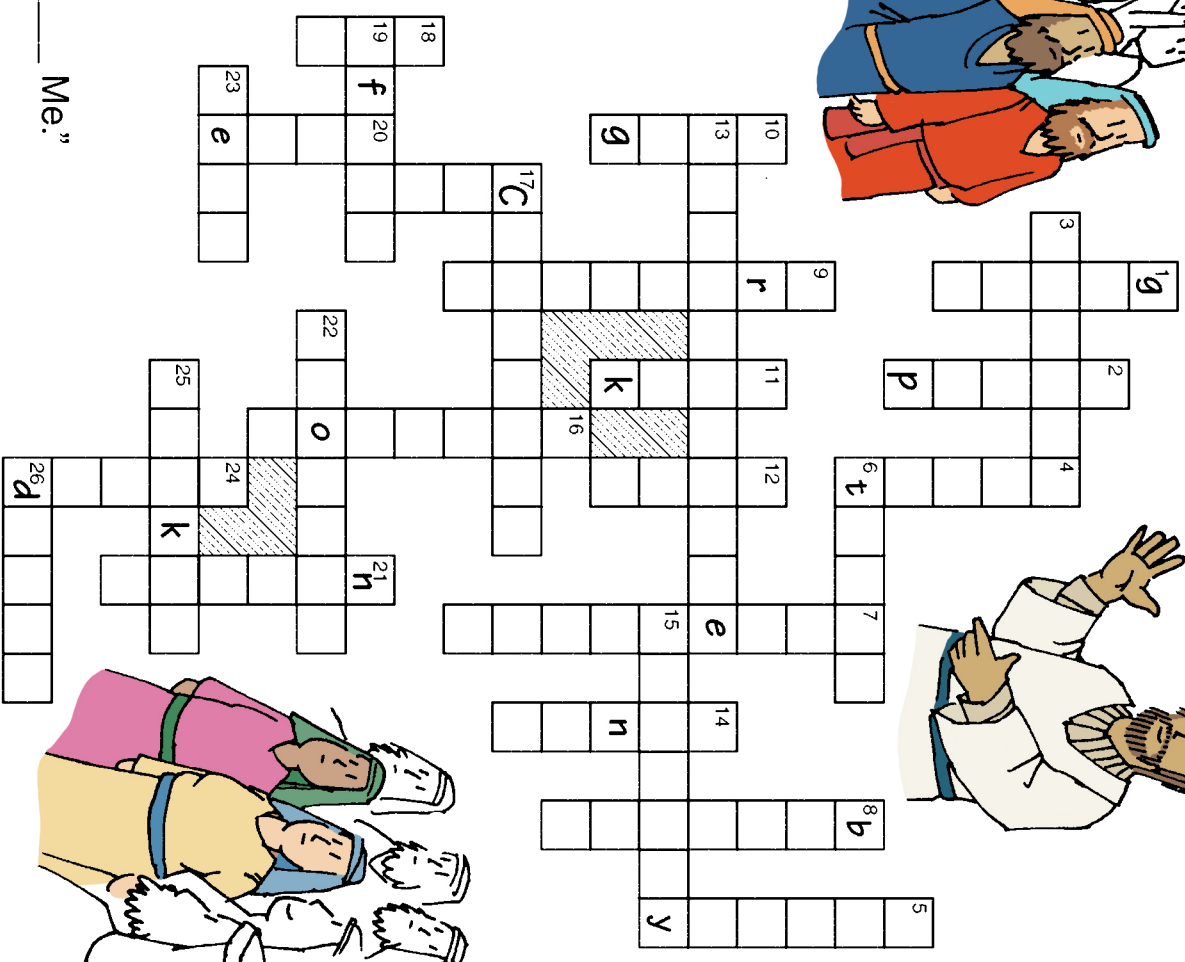
_____ Me _____ to _____,

I was _____ and you _____

Me _____ to _____, ...

I _____ and you clothed

Me, I was _____ and you _____ Me."



SERVICE CREDITS

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Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

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

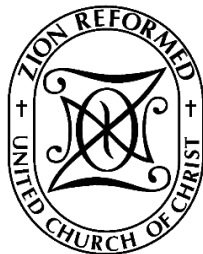
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