

WORSHIP GUIDE

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 25, 2021 ☞ 10 A.M.



Meditation of the Day: "Who trusts in God lacks nothing" ~Swahili proverb ~

I Love to Tell the Story

Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

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WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

** All who are able may stand.*

Gathering Music ✧

"Fantasia and Fuge in c-moll"

Words of Welcome

Prelude to Worship ✧

"O Worship our God"

*Call to Community

The world says there is not enough, the world says there is too much need.

Christ calls us into the ways of faith.

The world has too many problems, there is too much to be done.

Christ calls us into the ways of hope.

The world is too divided, there are too many wars and too much violence.

Christ calls us into the ways of peace.

There is just too much to think about, it would be easier to think about ourselves.

Christ calls us into the ways of love.

Christ calls us to love others as we love ourselves, and in Christ's love, we know that faith surpasses all understanding.

We are not alone. Let us worship Christ together on this journey of faith.

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer of Brokenness

You know how we are, O God. We say that we will take time to refresh our spirit and our souls, and then we quickly crowd our lives with activities to the point of exhaustion. We turn to you for feeding and nurture, asking you to give us something to sustain us through our times. We even are willing to tell you what we have, but when we look closely, we discover that we bring so little to you. Take what we have, our gifts and our needs. Heal and forgive us when we boldly disobey your word. Remind us that you have given to us all that we need to serve you in this world. The world abounds with your miracles of love and hope. Open our eyes to see them and our hearts to know that these are from you and not of our own making. Heal and restore us to your everlasting love. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

~SILENCE IS KEPT~

Words of Blessing

Do you remember? At one time, you were without Christ; you were the stranger, the outsider, the alien. But now, in Christ, you have been brought home, living in God's household of hope and peace.

God's covenant with us is everlasting; God's steadfast love is forever.

Children's Time

*(Children are Dismissed for Children's Church)***WE HEAR GOD'S WORD***The Holy Scriptures*

Epistle Lesson

Ephesians 3:14-21 (NRSV)

Lector: Barb Hendershot

For this reason, I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to Him who by the power at work within us can accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Lesson†

John 6:1-21 (NRSV)

Katie Penick

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world." When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

The Message

"Fed"

Contemplative Interlude✦

"What a Friend we Have in Jesus"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to Give

Blessing Our Gifts

Thank you, God, for the ministries of the people of your church. Thank you, God, for the blessings you have poured out upon us. We have taken a portion of our abundance and given it to you in grateful thanksgiving. Bless these gifts so they may help to support the ministries of this church. May they dismantle the walls that divide us so all people will be one in the new family gathered in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

The Story

Blessing the Bread and Cup

The Family Meal✦

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Prayer of Our Savior

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done in 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.**

Sending Forth

God is good,

All the time.

All the time.

God is good.

Go in Peace, beloved friends!

Amen.

Prelude to Service✦



"Navy Hymn"

GO FORTH IN PEACE & SERVE!



CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Week of July 25th

Mask Policy

Masks are required everywhere in the building, except while seated in your pew. (**No Exceptions !!!**)
Social Distancing Is Still Required and Enforced.

Worship & Picnic



Zion's annual worship and picnic service is August 22nd at the City Park West Pavilion (top of hill by the tennis courts) at 10am. This year's event will be a **BYOP (Bring Your Own Picnic)**. Each family unit is invited to pack their own picnic and bring to the service to ensure safety while navigating the pandemic and the new delta variant. There will be no shared food outside of family units.

Ongoing Food Collection

We are still collecting non-perishable food items for our Food Bank to supplement our Soup Kitchen outreach, providing needed nutrition throughout the week for those who need it. Please bring your offerings of nonperishable foods for our neighbors with a joyful heart before the Lord! As you all harvest your gardens, the food pantry will gladly accept extra fruits and veggies.



School Supplies Drive



We are collecting school supplies ((#2 Pencils, Sharpeners, Erasers, Coloring books, Dry erase markers, wet wipes, colored pencils, washable markers, glue, crayons, notebooks, and socks) to donate to Bester Elementary and Headstart of Washington County. Please bring any donation of supplies as you are able and place in the boxes in the foyer helping ensure another student is prepared to learn this school year.

Blessing of the Backpacks

Children, grandchildren, teachers, and school staff are all invited to bring their backpacks to church on August 29th for a special blessing of the backpacks, praying blessings over each of them for a blessed, safe, and great year of learning and fun. We will also be blessing our Micah's Backpacks and all donated school supplies this day. Please join us on this special day.



Christian Ed Mtg – July 26th at 4pm.

Soup Kitchen – July 27th from 5pm-6:15pm in the basement Fellowship Hall.
All are welcome! Social distancing and masks required!

Search & Call Committee – July 28th at 5:30pm (hybrid mtg format).

Downtown Hagerstown 4H Club – July 29nd at 4:30pm via Zoom.
<https://zoom.us/join/join> -- Meeting ID **815 1055 0627** Passcode **899733**

Joys & Concerns

As a community of believers, we are all called to ministry, some as ordained ministers, the rest of us as laity. It is in our very being that we minister to one another. We celebrate one another's joys with grateful hearts before our God and we comfort one another when any of the flock has a heavy heart. First Corinthians 12:12 tells us, "That just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." It is in that spirit; that we share any concerns that weigh heavy on our hearts along with any joys that may be lifting our spirits.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to **Betty Teel** (July 29th)! May this year of your life be filled with happiness as we celebrate the gift of *YOU*. We hope and pray that this year of your life is filled with an abundance of blessings, and for any times of trial that may arise, that you find the perseverance and strength in Christ to prevail.



Prayer Requests



Prayer is one of the most important spiritual disciplines of our faith, promoting communication with God, and love for God and neighbor. Submit your prayer requests to the church office to be included on the prayer list. Join with us in prayer as we pray with our Zion siblings and their loved ones: [Tess Anderson](#), [Kelly Bedard](#), [Holly Bell](#), [Naomi Brackett](#), [Linda Cantilena](#), [Kim & Bill Cook](#), [Ruth Dwyer](#), [Rusty Guessford](#), [Jim Hatfield](#), [Brett Hendershot](#), [Mike Heyser](#), [Sherry Hockman](#), [Jeanne France Hvidding](#), [Ann Kalinoski](#), [Mike Lorfing](#), [David Ridenour](#), [Betsy Roulette](#), [Norm Schmidt](#), [Diana Shafer](#), [Staci Shafer](#), [Thelma Summers](#), [Janet Taylor](#), and [Robert Yeoman](#).

Today's "Prelude to Service," the "Navy Hymn" is dedicated to the remembrance of Michael Watson Stoner (1942-2020). Michael was a former Naval Officer, and Zion member.



JOIN US FOR A
BLOCK PARTY

All are welcome!!

August 7, 2021
Starting at 3:00 p.m.

Hotdogs, Games, Crafts, Music and more

Donations gladly accepted for prizes, chips, juice, water, hot dogs, etc.

Volunteers needed to help set-up; assist with games/prizes; to make chicken salad sandwiches, etc.

Talk to Pastor Katie or Kim Ridenour today!

(Rain Date: August 14th)

**GET
INVOLVED!**

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