

WORSHIP GUIDE

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 1, 2021 @ 10 A.M.



I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

JOHN 6:24-35

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 ✦

“Passacaglia”

Words of Welcome

Prelude to Worship ✦

Musings on “We are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder”

*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

God of One Body, One Life— too often we turn away from your life-affirming love. We have divided, we have taken sides, we have built walls and dug trenches. We have failed to see the other as part of Your body. We have forgotten that we are all One in you. We have failed to consider the other as our kindred in You. We have neglected Your commandment to love our neighbor as ourselves. Forgive us. Help us to build bridges, tear down walls, and join together. Help us to be once again, Your people, Your body here on earth. In the name of Christ, who makes us one, 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.

Meditative Interlude ✦

“The Church’s One Foundation”

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD
The Holy Scriptures

Hebrew Lesson

Exodus 16:12-4, 9-15 (NRSV)
Lector: Carol Mooers

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger. Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.' And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'" In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?"^[a] For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat. Amen.

Gospel Lesson✠

John 6:24-35 (NRSV)
Rev. Katie Penick

So, when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.' Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' So, they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." ' Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.'

Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

The Message

Bread Of Life

Contemplative Interlude✠

"Let us Break Bread Together"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to Give

Blessing Our Gifts

O God, we share these gifts in the spirit of those who shared their loaves and fishes: we ask that you take these gifts and use them to feed all of creation—to produce seed and grain, filling humans and animals alike, and to restore wholeness in the places where malnourishment exists. Amen.

Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

This is the table of the Heavenly Feast, the joyful celebration of the people of God.

Christ invites everyone to eat the bread of life, to drink the cup of the new covenant.

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. She who comes to me shall never hunger; he who believes in me shall never thirst."

In the beginning, God provided every plant yielding seed and every tree with seed in its fruit for food.

When the Israelites were in the wilderness, God fed them with miraculous food.

When the crowds were hungry, Jesus fed over five thousand with two fish and five loaves of bread.

When two were walking towards Emmaeus, they recognized the Anointed One as they broke bread together. In the breaking of the bread... they recognized the Christ amongst them.

The Communion Prayer

Let us gather around the table with the offering of bread and drink upon it and the promise of the Living Christ among us. This is the welcome table of God where all who seek to be at peace with their neighbor and all who seek the mercy of God in Christ are embraced. Come, for we are invited into this holy mystery. Come.

We are ready!

Jesus said: "I am the bread of life. All who come to me shall not hunger, and all who believe in me shall never be thirsty,

We are hungry and thirsty. O Lamb of God, we come!

The Story

We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took his authority as the Christ and offered the bread in thanksgiving and said . . .

"Take, eat. This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, and by the same authority, Jesus offered the cup in thanksgiving and said...

"Take, drink. This is my blood of the new covenant which is poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it in remembrance of me."

Blessing the Bread and Cup

Come, Holy Spirit. Come. Open our eyes to the mystery of Christ's presence in these ordinary things in these our ordinary lives. May they be for us the very essence of the living Christ in our midst. Through the broken bread ...

We participate in the Body of Christ.

Through the cup of blessing ...

We participate in the new life Christ gives.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready!

The Family Meal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious and loving God, you have made us one in the body of Christ, and nourished us at your table with holy food and drink. Thank you for feeding our hunger and relieving our thirst. Now send us into the world to do the work you have given us to do: to find the lost and lonely, to heal broken souls, to free prisoners, and make the powerful care. Grant us strength to persevere in resisting evil, and to proclaim in all we say and do your good news in Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.

*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 ✨



“St. Gertrude”

GO FORTH IN PEACE & SERVE!



CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Week of August 1st

Mask Policy

Masks are required everywhere in the building, except while seated in your pew. (**No Exceptions !!!**)

Social Distancing Is Still Required and Enforced.

Ongoing Food Collection



We are still collecting non-perishable food items for the new Zion Food Bank to supplement our Soup Kitchen outreach. This will help to provide needed nutrition throughout the week for those who need it. Please continue to bring your offerings of food 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.

Block Party

We will be collecting school supplies to give out as prizes at our next Block Party, August 7th at 3pm (Rain date August 14). We will also need donations (Prizes, chips, juice, water, hot dogs, etc.) and volunteers (to help set-up, assist with games/prizes, etc.).



Zion BYO Picnic Outdoor Service

Zion's annual BYO picnic is August 22, this event will be held in City Park (West Pavilion). This event is BYOP (Bring Your Own Picnic), Zion will be providing chicken and drinks.

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. In early September, we will be donating school supplies to Bester Elementary and the local Head Start program. We will also be blessing our Micah's backpacks and all donated school supplies (#2 Pencils, Sharpeners, Erasers, Coloring books, Dry erase markers, Wet Wipes, Colored Pencils, Washable Markers, Glue, Crayons, Notebooks, and Socks). Please join us on this special day.



Soup Kitchen / Food Pantry – Aug 3rd from 5pm-6:15pm in the basement Fellowship Hall.

All are welcome! Social distancing and masks required!

Service Workers – Aug 4th at 10 am

Downtown Hagerstown 4H Club – Aug 5th at 4:30pm via Zoom.

<https://zoom.us/join/join> -- Meeting ID 815 1055 0627 Passcode 899733.

Back to School Block Party– Aug 7th at 3:00 pm

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 **Judy Thompson** (Aug 5th) and **Angie Shafer** (Aug 5th), May this year of your lives be filled with happiness as we celebrate the gift of each of *YOU*. We hope and pray that this year of your lives are 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](#), [John Byl](#), [Linda Cantilena](#), [Kim & Bill Cook](#), [Sonny Crebbs](#), [Ruth Dwyer](#), [Rusty Guessford](#), [Jim Hatfield](#), [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](#).



ZION REFORMED UCC invites you to our annual church picnic. This outdoor worship service will be held **August 22nd, 2021, 10:00 am** held at City Park's West Pavilion (near the tennis courts) and is a **BYOP** (Bring Your Own Picnic) event.

**GET
INVOLVED!**

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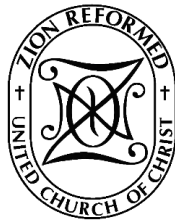
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