

ZION REFORMED

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost ☞ September 12th, 2021 ☞ 11 A.M.



WORSHIP GUIDE

Words of Wisdom

Meditation of the Day

*Don't limit a child to your own learning,
for he [or she] was born in a different time.*

~ Rabindranath Tagore ~

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

↑An invitation to stand ↓An invitation to sit

Congregational Responses are in **Bold**.

✦ Indicates Music Selection

Please silence all mobile devices.

Gathering Music✦

"Prelude and Fugue in C-Minor"

Prelude to Worship✦

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Opening Skit

"Let's Go to Church!" (Kim Ridenour)

↑ Call to Community

Jesus asks the disciples,

Who do people say I am?

"Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah." But Jesus asks again,

Who do you say I am?

Peter calls out, "You are the Christ, God's Anointed One, God With Us!"

Now, across time and space, Jesus calls out to us,

Zion Church, Who do you say Christ is?

Where do we find the wisdom to answer?

↓ Meditative Interlude✦

"Lift High the Cross"

Children's Time

Blessing of our Church School Programs

Invitation

Will the children, students, the teachers and other church school leaders - please come forward.

Church is more than Sunday worship.... We work together, each in the way God has given to us, to build a stronger church - an ever more faithful people of God. Sunday school has an important place in our life together - it is the place where faith is nurtured.

Without our students we are poorer - without the teachers and leaders we are weaker - without you the parents and the rest of congregation we are less than God wants us to be. So today, we make a set of promises to one another before God - we enter into a covenant - to love and support each other, to grow and learn together, and to make God and faithfulness the center of our lives.

Students:

We thank God for our Church School, for the teachings of Jesus and the vision of Christ's Way. We will come to Church School as often as we can. We will do our best, so that we can learn about God and the ways God makes our world better.

Congregation: **We love our children. We love one another. We will encourage one another to live in the ways of Christ, as we join with them in studying God's Word. We will try our best to grow with them in faith. And we will support the work of our church school with our time, our talent, our treasure and our prayers.**

Teachers: We will walk with God and our students and the members of our congregation. We will work together with God's help. We will do our best to learn, to live and to teach the ways of Christ.

Prayer of Dedication

(Students raise hands up towards the teachers)

Loving God, as we have promised before each other and before you, so let it be. Pour out your power and your grace upon us. Help us be your family and to seek together to live your way; to learn together to do your will; to work together to help one another; and to share with each other the joys and concerns you place upon our hearts. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

Declaration

In the name of God – Creator, Christ and Spirit, I declare this covenant to have been made. May God bless us and keep us, both now and forevermore. Amen.

(Children are Dismissed for Children's Church)

A SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

Gathering Prayer

Call to Reconciliation

Jesus challenges us to seek forgiveness for ourselves and to forgive those who have sinned against us. Let us pray.

Prayer of Brokenness:

Holy God, when we seek security only in military and economic forces and not in knowledge of your presence; when we become concerned with our well-being only and so fail to see the consequences of our choices upon the lives of others:

Forgive our narrow worldview;

open our eyes to see others as persons with whom we are connected in the web of life. When we rejoice in the downfall and defeat of our enemies:

Forgive our misplaced loyalties;

open our hearts to see our enemies as our sisters and brothers in your family. When we fail to forgive others, and allow ourselves to be caught in the mire of grudges held:

Forgive our rancor; open us to reconciliation.

When we are faced with a sea of trouble, whether of our own making or cast upon us by the action of others: God of Life, part the waters of regret and revenge and lead us onto the dry ground of forgiveness.

(Time for personal reflection and confession.)

Words of Blessing

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD
The Holy Scriptures

Hebrew Lesson

Proverbs 1:20-33 (NRSV)
Lector: Rae Smith

Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice. At the busiest corner she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:

'How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge?

Give heed to my reproof; I will pour out my thoughts to you; I will make my words known to you. Because I have called and you refused, have stretched out my hand and no one heeded, and because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when panic strikes you, when panic strikes you like a storm, and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.

Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but will not find me. Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the LORD, would have none of my counsel, and despised all my reproof, therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way and be satiated with their own devices.

For waywardness kills the simple, and the complacency of fools destroys them; but those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease, without dread of disaster.'

Gospel Lesson✦

Mark 8:27-38 (NRSV)
Rev. Katie Penick

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that I am?' And they answered him, 'John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.' He asked them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered him, 'You are the Messiah.' And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

*(Please Reflect in Silence as We Remember
Where We Were Twenty Years Ago on Sep 11th)*

Contemplative Interlude✦

"Renew Your Church"

*WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD
Sacrament of Communion*

Invitation to the Table

Invitation to Give

Blessing Our Gifts

God of Wisdom, teach us to use these gifts to build bridges and create insight for people within and outside of these walls. May it be so! Amen.

Thanksgiving and Communion

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to you, O God.

Let us give thanks to our God.

It is right to praise you, O God.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing. We give thanks to you, O God, always and forever. From the rising of the sun to its setting, all people praise Your name.

Today, we join our voices with your people on earth and all the company of heaven who forever praise God's Holy Name! You are holy, Almighty One! Blessed are you, Jesus Christ!

In the power of the Spirit you created all things, blessed them, and called them good. You called to yourself a people to make your mercy and truth known in all the world. We betrayed your calling;

You were faithful.

We wandered from the Way;

You called us to return, and led us home.

And still we turned from your ways, abused your creatures, and made ourselves slaves to sin and death.

At the right time you came and dwelt among us, as one of us, bringing good news to the poor, healing the sick, raising the dead, sharing table with the unrighteous, and teaching the way that leads to life. By your incarnation, life, suffering, execution and resurrection You gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery and made a new covenant with us by water and the Spirit. On the night of your betrayal, Lord Jesus, you took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to your disciples and said,

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

You did the same with the cup after the supper, saying,

"This cup that is poured out is the new covenant in my blood."

Blessed Trinity, in remembrance of all you have done to save us, we offer ourselves to you in praise and thanksgiving.

Pour out your Spirit on us.

Pour out your Spirit on us.

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts.

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts.

Make these gifts the body and blood of Christ.

Make us, through them, Christ's body alive in the world.

Abba, Father!

Let your kingdom come!

Glory to you!

Glory to you!

Come, Lord Jesus!

Be our daily bread.

Glory to you!

Glory to you!

Holy Spirit!

Send us to the world.

Glory to you!

Glory to you!

Holy, Blessed Trinity!

One God forever!

Glory to you!

Glory to you!

The Family Meal ✦

"Were You There"

↑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.

↓**WE REMEMBER THROUGH LIGHT**

The First Candle

Almighty God, you delivered your ancient people from slavery and, in the fullness of time, sent Jesus the Christ to show us the path through forgiveness to newness of life. As we remember the events of September 11, 2001 and the 20 years of war since, we find ourselves caught between memories that haunt us and the hope that comes from you. Mere mention of the date launches a myriad of thoughts, images and emotions. For some the events are still very fresh, while for others there is a greater distance. Hear us as we pray deliverance for people whose lives were affected on that day or since.

(Time for Silent Prayer & Reflection)

Hear our prayer, O God.

Let our cry come to you.

The Second Candle

We remember the innocent victims who died that day or since and our hearts are moved to grief. We are mindful of broken families, orphans, co-workers and friends who grieve still. We lift our prayers for all who grieve.

(Time for Silent Prayer & Reflection)

Hear our prayer, O God.

Let our cry come to you.

(The First & Second Candles are Lit)

The Third Candle

We remember the selfless women and men who bravely served as first responders, some of whom died or were injured in the process of serving. We thank you for them and for all who contributed toward recovery at Ground Zero in New York City, the Pentagon in Washington D.C., in a field near Shanksville, PA or anywhere around the globe where people gathered to comfort or to pray for others. We lift our prayers for their healing, safety and well-being, for their families, and for their civic and faith communities.

(Time for Silent Prayer & Reflection)

Hear our prayer, O God.

Let our cry come to you.

The Fourth Candle

We remember the selfless men and women who bravely serve through the Armed Forces in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere around the globe; we remember the sacrifices of those who have died or were wounded in the process of serving, including those who died and were wounded while evacuating Afghanistan last month. We thank you for them and their service. We lift our prayers for their healing, safety and well-being, for their families and for their civic and faith communities.

(Time for Silent Prayer & Reflection)

Hear our prayer, O God.

Let our cry come to you.

(The Third & Fourth Candles are Lit)

The Fifth Candle

War is never an easy choice. We as a nation are still conflicted about decisions made. Some of us believe that war is never justified, others feel deceived, some others believe a military response is exactly right and some of us just don't know. Help us bring an end to war as we work for peace with justice in ways that are peaceful. Hear our prayer for the people of Iraq and Afghanistan.

(Time for Silent Prayer & Reflection)

Hear our prayer, O God.

Let our cry come to you.



The Sixth Candle

In these twenty years, much has been done in the name of religious zeal or patriotic fervor that makes a mockery of your name. Our actions have not always been the most honorable. We have killed non-combatant civilians and sent others fleeing from their homeland as refugees. Deliver us from our own desire for revenge. Deliver us from faith that fails to see your image in others, from willing bondage to our own thoughts and desires and from our reluctance to enter your beloved community.

(Time for Silent Prayer & Reflection)

Hear our prayer, O God.

Lead us into the land of promise.

(The Fifth & Sixth Candles are Lit)

The Seventh Candle

We are conflicted internally. We pledge allegiance to our nation, while at other times we surrender all to you. Deliver us from fragmentary living, from divided aims and rival loyalties, and from failure to seek and achieve wholeness in thought, word, and deed.

(Time for Silent Prayer & Reflection)

Teach us to remember the words of Jesus.

"Seek first the Beloved Community of God and all else will be added to you."

The Eighth Candle

Deliver us from hypocritical humility, from the modesty that calls attention to itself, from the arrogance which creates the world in our own image, and will not bow to the authority of truth as it is revealed to us.

Deliver us from religious selfishness, from the piety that is centered upon safety rather than service, from seeking peace of mind instead of reconciliation with you and all people.

We lift our prayers for better understanding among all people, especially Christian-Muslim relations.

(Time for Silent Prayer & Reflection)

Hear our prayer, O God.

Save us from ourselves.

(The Seventh & Eighth Candles are Lit)



The Ninth Candle

While we cannot imagine what would cause persons to commit such violent acts of terrorism, we know you call us to forgive. Move in our hearts to lead us to that place of radical generosity and love.

(Time for Silent Prayer & Reflection)

Teach us to remember the words of Jesus.

"Forgive them for they know not what they do."

The Tenth Candle

Beloved God, move us from despair to hope, from isolation to community, from war to peace, from death to life, grounded in our relationship with you and your people in every tribe and nation, every kindred and tongue so that together we might build your beloved community on earth as it is in heaven.

(Time for Silent Prayer & Reflection)

Teach us to remember the words of Jesus.

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength and you shall love your neighbor as yourself ."
To you, O God, be all glory, honor and praise, now and forever. Amen.

(The Ninth & Tenth Candles are Lit)

Sharing the Light ✨

(We share the light by each lighting a candle of our own while "Taps" plays, and leaving in silence.)



***GO FORTH IN PEACE,
AND SHARE THE LIGHT!***



CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week of September 12th



Mask Policy

Not everyone is vaccinated, let us show our love for ALL of our neighbors by wearing our face masks at all times inside the Church, and by practicing social distancing when interacting with one another. #RootedInLove



Fall/Winter Schedule Begins Today



As we switch over to our fall/winter schedule, please remember that Sunday School is now back in session from 9:45-10:45am every Sunday, and worship service time changes to 11am. Three adult Sunday School Classes are available (Rev. Arthur Grove Class, Journeys Class, and Young Adult Class) and a Children's Class (ages 6-18). The Journeys Adult Class and Children's Class will be available in hybrid format (in-person and virtual). Join in, here at church or virtually at:

Children's Sunday School: Go to <https://zoom.us/join> or call 301.715.8592, and when prompted, enter Meeting ID: 865 7471 1577 and Passcode: YouthSS.

Journeys Adult Class: Go to <https://zoom.us/join> or call 301.715.8592, and when prompted, enter Meeting ID: 894 3614 5937 and Passcode: 536055.

Dinner Theater Rehearsals After Church

Dinner Theater rehearsals will be held after church at 12:30 pm weekly, except October 31st. Please bring a lunch or be back to the church by 12:30 if going out for lunch so we can begin rehearsing promptly at 12:30 pm.



Blessing of the Prayer Blankets **Next Week**



Join us as we bless our prayer blankets created by Zion members to bring comfort and healing prayers to those in need, filling each blanket lovingly with prayers of blessing for those who will receive them.

Blessing of the Pets

Join us with your furry companion for our Pet Blessing Service in the Church parking lot on Sunday, September 26th at 11am. Bring your pet to the service or bring a photo of your pet if your critter is shy or doesn't play well with others. Pets should be leashed, in a pet carrier, or some other means of keeping them from running astray. Pets will receive a certificate of blessing. Memorial Wall available to remember and bless those pets that have crossed Rainbow Bridge. Pet Treats & Water Available. Monetary donations accepted to support Zion's Food Pantry with pet supplies for those in need.



Taste of the Town

Every ticket sold = 1 bednight in the cold weather shelter for a person in need.



Consider supporting REACH Cold Weather Shelter at their 16th annual tasting event from 5-7pm on September 26th at Green Grove Gardens in Greencastle, PA! Get your ticket today, knowing you will have some delicious food from local restaurants coming your way. All proceeds go to REACH of Washington County programs! Get your tickets and the latest updates about the event at www.tasteofthetownwc.com or by contacting REACH at 301.733.2371 (X108). Venue information available at www.greengrovecgardens.com.

Joys & Concerns

As Christians, we are called to love one another. As a community of believers, we are all called to support one another through the good times and the not so good times. It is in this spirit that we share our joys and concerns with one another, celebrating and comforting one another in Christ's love.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to **Kara Hoover** (Sep 15th), **Richard Lohman** (Sep 17th), and **Barb Hendershot** (Sep 18th). 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 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: [Kelly Bedard](#), [Holly Bell](#), [Naomi Brackett](#), [John Byl](#), [Linda Cantilena](#), [Kim & Bill Cook](#), [Sonny Crebbs](#), [Beth Gross](#), [Rusty Guessford](#), [Jeanne France Hvidding](#), [Ann Kalinoski](#), [Dee Krause](#), [Mike Lorfing](#), [Diane Pugh](#), [David Ridenour](#), [Betsy Roulette](#), [Norm Schmidt](#), [Diana Shafer](#), [Staci Shafer](#), [Thelma Summers](#), [Janet Taylor](#), and [Robert Yeoman](#).

Lector Ministry

If unable to serve as lector for your designated week, please let Michael know so a replacement can be found.



Next week's scheduled lector is **Wells Ridenour**.

A Special Thank You



A special thank you to Paul and Laurie Frey for donating the eggs used for the delicious Egg McMuffins at our Rally Day Breakfast this morning!



Search & Call Committee Mtg – Sep 13th @ 5:30pm (hybrid/Burhans Room)

Consistory Meeting – Sep 13th @ 7pm (hybrid/Burhans Room)

Soup Kitchen / Food Pantry – Sep 14th from 5pm-6:30pm in the basement Fellowship Hall.

All are welcome! Social distancing and masks required when not seated!

www.facebook.com/events/742513769694683

Newsletter Deadline – Noon on Sep 15th

Downtown Hagerstown 4H Club – Sep 16th at 4:30pm via Zoom.

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

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Gospel Segue: "*Kol Nidrei*" (Op. 6) – Composed by Louis Lewandowski (1865 ca.), ©Public Domain. Performed by Claire Marie Moblard (organist), all rights reserved. Dedicated to Rae Smith for Yom Kippur. *Source(s): [IMSLP](http://imslp.org) (imslp.org).

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Communion Music: "*Were You There*" – Arranged by C. M. Moblard of Zion Reformed UCC, all rights reserved. Both the tune and lyrics are based on the African-American spiritual by the same name, ©Public Domain. Performed by Claire Marie Moblard (organist) and Byron L. Stay (Trumpeter), all rights reserved. *Source(s): [Hymnary](http://hymnary.org).

Sharing the Light: "*Taps*," also known as "*Butterfield's Lullaby*" is a variation of an earlier bugle call known as "*Scott Tattoo*." This variation that we know today as "*Taps*" was arranged by BG Daniel Butterfield while at Harrison's Landing with the Army of the Potomac. It was CPT John C. Tidball who started the custom of playing "*Taps*" at military funerals, and it became a standard component at military funerals in 1891. "*Taps*" is also sounded during each of the military wreath ceremonies conducted at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier every year, including the one on Memorial Day. It is also sounded nightly in military installations at non-deployed locations to indicate that it is "lights out" and often by Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Girl Guides to mark the end of an evening event such as a campfire. Today, it is played in tribute of the lives lost on September 11th, 2001, as we remember them. Performed by Byron L. Stay (Trumpeter), all rights reserved. *Source(s): [Wikipedia](http://en.wikipedia.org) (en.wikipedia.org).

Scripture Lessons: Unless otherwise noted all scriptures are from the [New Revised Standard Version](#) of the Holy Bible, ©1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. All rights reserved, used with permission.

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