

ZION REFORMED

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost ☛ September 19th, 2021 ☛ 11 A.M.



WORSHIP GUIDE

Words of Wisdom

Meditation of the Day

***"Eternity is not something that begins after you
are dead. It is going on all the time".***

~ Charlotte Perkins Gilman ~

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"

Words of Welcome

Prelude to Worship✦

"When, in Our Music, God is Glorified"

↑ Call to Community

Hear the Good News - The wolf shall live with the lamb, the calf shall lie down with the lion,

And a little child shall lead them.

Light shall shine in the darkness, the dawn from on high will break upon us,

And a little child shall lead us.

The last shall be first, and the first will be last of all and servant of all,

And we must become like a child.

Let us follow the Wisdom of God, which seems foolish to the world.

Let us follow the Prince of Peace, who guides our feet, our hands and our hearts.

Let us worship together.

↓Psalter Reading (unified response)

Psalms 1

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of God, and on God's law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for God watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Meditative Interlude✦

"All Creatures of our God"

Children's Time

Blessing the Prayer Blankets

Invitation

God of love and comfort, we gather together to celebrate one of the ministries of Zion Church. We give thanks for the opportunity – out of love and out of concern for our brothers and sisters – to share a tangible gift to those in need, the prayer blanket.

While we know that you are always present in our lives and that your love transcends all tragedy, illness and pain, we also know that sometimes a physical reminder can bring hope, healing and peace to someone who is crying out. We pray that these prayer blankets bring comfort to those who will receive them.

Oh God, open our eyes so that we might see, open our ears so that we might hear and open our minds so that we might know who is in need of your healing power and presence. Open our hearts so that we might reach out to them.

Affirmation of Our Ministries

Without even knowing who would receive it, this shawl was made specifically for the person who will receive it.

May they see the intricate love and care given to this shawl, mirroring the intricate love and care that God bestows upon all people.

This shawl was made to bring warmth to someone who feels a chill.

May they feel the warm breath of the Holy Spirit as they wrap themselves with it.

This shawl was made to bring comfort to someone who feels alone.

May they feel comfort in knowing that someone prayed for them as they pieced it together.

This shawl was made to bring peace to someone in need of prayer.

May they feel the power of our prayers as they feel the yarn winding through their fingers.

This shawl was made to remind the recipient that they are part of this community.

May they feel touched by our love, moved by our guidance and held up by our support.

Prayer of Blessing

God of creation, redemption and sustaining grace, we praise you for the opportunity to take part in this ministry so that we might see a world beyond ours. We thank you for putting those in need on our hearts and in our minds so that we might fully live out your call to love and serve. We ask that you bless these shawls and those who will receive them. May they feel the love, comfort and peace of your presence. And may your light shine in them and be a beacon of the hope that is promised to all of us. Amen.

Blessing

May the power of the Holy Spirit live and breathe within each one of us, through these shawls and through the lives that they will touch.

Shower us all with your loving grace, O God. Amen.

(Children are Dismissed for Children's Church)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD
The Holy Scriptures

Epistle Lesson

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a (NRSV)

Lector: Wells Ridenour

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom.

But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind.

But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Gospel Lesson✦

Mark 9:30-37 (NRSV)

Rev. Katie Penick

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, 'The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the way?' But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.' Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

The Message

Willow Tree

Contemplative Interlude✦

"Praise with Joy the World's Creator"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to Give

Blessing Our Gifts

Rather than boast of all that we have and are, may we humble ourselves, as we offer our lives, our hearts, and our gifts, in putting others first, that they might discover the wonders of the kingdom of grace and hope. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

The Communion Prayer

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

Prelude to Service ✦

"Processional for Trumpet and Organ in C"

GO FORTH IN PEACE,



AND SERVE IN LOVE!



CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week of September 19th



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*



Sunday School Updates



Christian Education would like to remind everyone that Sunday School is in session from 9:45-10:45am every Sunday, with three adult class options, Children's Sunday School, and Children's Church.

Rev. Arthur Grove Adult Class with David Ridenour is offered in-person in the Burhan's Room.

Journeys Adult Class with Sue Graff is offered virtually via Zoom. (Meeting ID: [894 3614 5937](#) and Passcode: [536055](#))

Young Adult Class (ages 18-25) with Richard Cantilena is offered in the History Room.

Children's Sunday School (ages 4-18) with Kim Ridenour is offered in-person in Rm ## and virtually via Zoom. (Meeting ID: [865 7471 1577](#) and Passcode: [YouthSS](#))

** To connect virtually via Zoom, go to <https://zoom.us/join> or call [301.715.8592](tel:301.715.8592), and when prompted, enter the Meeting ID and Passcode associated with your desired class.*

Blessing of the Animals **Next Week**

Join us in the Church parking lot next week for worship as we bless the animals. Bring your animal companion with you, or simply bring a photo if your critter is shy or doesn't play well with others. A memorial wall will be available for those who would like to honor a pet(s) that has already crossed Rainbow Bridge by bringing a photocopy of your friend to place on the wall and/or writing a personalized message on the wall. For safety, pets should be leashed, in a pet carrier, or some other means of keeping them from running astray. All pets will receive a Certificate of Blessing. Pet treats and water will be available. Donations will be accepted for the Zion Food Pantry to purchase nonperishable pet foods, supplies, and treats.



Dinner Theater Postponed



Dinner Theater has been postponed until 2022, possibly June, due to safety concerns. It is hoped that by then, the world will have a better grasp on containing the virus as more people get vaccinated and as booster shots become available. If you (or someone you know) have not been vaccinated yet, now is a good time to act. Free vaccinations are available throughout the month at Christ's Reformed UCC every Monday from 10am - 2pm.

95th Annual Mummers' Parade

Hagerstown's annual Mummers' Parade will be held October 30th from 6-11pm. Tickets are on sale now through September 30th and will open to the public on October 1st. Sidewalk seats are \$6.00/ticket and \$5.00/ticket for "wall" seats. All proceeds raised go directly to Christian Education in support of the Rev. Arthur Grove Class, Young Adult Class, and Children's Class. We will be setting up the canopy and chairs beginning at 6am the morning of the parade, followed by breakfast at Golden Corral. All are welcome to come help out!



Joys & Concerns

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to **Brynn Nilson** (Sep 19th), **Janet Roberts** (Sep 21st), **Teresa Zukowski** (Sep 21st), **Gerald Saum** (Sep 23rd), and **Pastor Katie** (Sep 23rd). 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 Lorring](#), [Diane Pugh](#), [David Ridenour](#), [Betsy Roulette](#), [Norm Schmidt](#), [Diana Shafer](#), [Staci Shafer](#), [Thelma Summers](#), [Janet Taylor](#), and [Robert Yeoman](#).

Our Sympathies

Lana Rosalie Ritter Barnhart, 80, entered into her heavenly rest peacefully at home on Tuesday, September 14th, 2021, while among family and friends. A memorial service will be held Tuesday, September 21st at 11:00 am at the [Douglas A. Fiery Funeral Home](#) located at 1331 Eastern Blvd. North, Hagerstown. Family will receive friends at the funeral home on Monday, September 20th from 6-8pm. Our sympathies are extended to the Barnhart family during this difficult time.



Lector Ministry



Lector this week is **Wells Ridenour**. Next week's scheduled lector is **Aaron Kelly**.

**If unable to serve as lector for your designated week, please let Michael know by the Wednesday prior to your scheduled date at connectionssixeight@gmail.com or 240.203.0854.*



International Day of Prayer for Peace – Sep 21st

Soup Kitchen / Food Pantry – Sep 21st 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

Downtown Hagerstown 4H Club – Sep 23rd at 4:30pm via Zoom.

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

Zion Book Club – Sep 24th at 7pm at the home of Sue Graff.

Contact Church Office for more details.

International Day of Prayer for Peace and Just Peace Sunday

The United Nations first recognized an annual Day of Peace in 1981. It was fixed on September 21st in 2001. In 2004, the World Council of Churches began recognizing September 21st as an International Day of Prayer for Peace. Across the world, 280 million people were aware of September 21st as a day of peace in 2012.

The United Church of Christ's Just Peace Sunday is one way to participate in the International Day of Prayer for Peace and to acknowledge the International Day of Peace events. The theme for Just Peace Sunday 2021 is "Grow Justice, Know Peace!" based on the lectionary passage Psalm 1:3a:

"They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season." (Psalm 1:3)

In 2021, we find ourselves still mired in a dangerous pandemic impacting and dividing our communities in many ways. We have lost loved ones and face a myriad of COVID-19 challenges and fears. Our children, the unhoused, the unemployed, and other vulnerable populations suffer both in the U.S. and around the world where vaccine access still remains scarce.

At the same time, we are witnessing the trauma in Afghanistan as refugees flee Taliban rule and the debate over the human and financial cost of war continues. We face daily reminders of the urgency of the climate crisis, deepening poverty, systemic racism, and the erosion of our democracy. Life feels uprooted, scarce, and uncertain in so many ways. We do not see the "fruits" of our years of struggle and labor we had hoped to enjoy by now.

Yet, Psalm 1:3 reminds us that there is still hope. Although our branches may be barren now, we are reminded that hope is not seen by looking at the fruit, but rather at the roots. Gardening is not passive, but active. The trees were "planted" near streams of water with intention and the root systems share nutrients to bear fruit. As [new research](#)* on trees has discovered, trees, like us, are communal and rely on one another.

By rooting deeply in God, community, love, and justice, fruit will come in its due season. To know peace and experience the fruits of the spirit (Gal. 5:22-23), we must invest in, nurture, and grow justice.

Let us "Grow Justice, Know Peace!" Together!

"We now need to put as much effort into defining a just peace as we have done in the past in defining a just war."
-Dr. Robert V. Moss



*www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/the-whispering-trees-180968084

For Kids: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bzOH77FSQXhCkg9MVhIQe3xi1np-zbJm/edit>

About: www.ucc.org/worship-way/justice_just-peace_international-day-of-prayer

Resources: www.ucc.org/international-policy/just_peace_sunday_resources

Just Peace Handbook: www.uccfiles.com/pdf/just-peace-handbook-06-2015.pdf

Blessing - of the - ANIMALS



**Sunday, September 26th
11am in Zion's Parking Lot**

Join us with your furry companion for a Blessing of the Animals service. Bring your pet in-person 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.

For those of us who have pet companions that have crossed the Rainbow Bridge, bring a photo or write a personalized message of blessing with your pet's name on the memorial wall. Many of us have a special critter (or many) that won our hearts but are no longer with us. They were a blessing to us, let us bless them even now.

All pets are welcome to come and be blessed.

Pet Treats & Water Available.

Pets will be given a certificate of blessing.

Remember your pet(s) on the Memorial Wall.

**Monetary donations accepted to support Zion's
Food Pantry with pet supplies for those in need.**

Animal Blessing Services are a special time for us to not only show love for our pets but also, our witness to God's and the Church's love, care, and concern for creation. As we recognize our mutual interdependence with God's creatures, the Church's witness of stewardship of creation is strengthened.

Zion Reformed UCC Parking Lot, 201 N. Potomac Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ.

(Colossians 4:2-3a, NIV)



Forty Days of Prayer October 6th – November 20th

Even Paul knew that the mystery of Christ, the Kingdom of God, was irrevocably tied to prayer.

The Catoctin Association is 38 churches - a wide diversity of geography, faith, and practice, and yet one body. Separate and together, we labor side by side for a more just and generous world. That work is rooted in prayer - the prayers of our people, congregations, and the wider church.

On Oct. 6th, we will launch 40 Days of Prayer, where we will pray for each congregation, by name. We want to kneel in prayer as one association in prayer for each other through 40 days, to practice our covenant commitments to each other to love and support one another as siblings in Christ, to strengthen and encourage each other as a new chapter of faith emerges in our region.

We're really excited about the power of 38 congregations praying together, as one body, for 40 days. We can't think of anything more UCC than living into our covenant with prayer and presence.

Rev. Sam Chamelin, Catoctin Association President (St. Mary's UCC/Keep & Till UCC)
Listen to Sam's message at www.facebook.com/CatoctinAssociation/videos/164007892370170



40 Days
38 Congregations
1 Church Praying

Making A Difference in One Another's Lives, Congregation by Congregation

You ever considered what an amazing thing a church prayer list is? Across time, across space, across boundaries, we can make the difference in another person's life. That's the power of prayer. Which is why we're excited about 40 Days of Prayer. Because we can make a difference in each other's lives through praying for our congregations.

Rev. Jessica Townsley of Trinity UCC in Manchester, MD
Listen to Jessica's message at www.facebook.com/CatoctinAssociation

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Gathering Music: *"Prelude and Fugue in A-Minor, D-Minor, and G-Minor"* – Medley arrangement by Claire Marie Moblard of Zion Reformed UCC, all rights reserved. *"Prelude in A-Minor" (IGB 19)* by Georg Böhm (1661-1733), ©Public Domain. *"Prelude in D-Minor" (IGB 21)* by Georg Böhm (1661-1733), ©Public Domain. *"Fugue in G-Minor" (IGB 28)* by Georg Böhm (1661-1733), ©Public Domain. Performed by Claire Marie Moblard (organist) of Zion Reformed UCC. All rights reserved. *Source(s): [IMSLP-IGB19](#), [IMSLP-IGB21](#) and [IMSLP-IGB28](#) (imslp.org).

Prelude to Worship: *"When, in Our Music, God is Glorified"* – Arranged by Anna Laura Page, ©2011 by Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation. Based on the tune, *"Engelberg"* by Charles V. Stanford (1904), ©Public Domain, and lyrics by Fred Pratt Green (1971), ©1972 by Hope Publishing Company. Performed by Claire Marie Moblard (Organist) and Byron L. Stay (Trumpeter) of Zion Reformed UCC. All rights reserved. *Source(s): [Lorenz Corporation](#) (lorenz.com) and [Hymnary](#) (hymnary.org).

Meditative Interlude: *"All Creatures of our God and King"* – Tune, *"LASST UNS ERFREUEN,"* by Unknown, from Geistliche Kirchengesäng (1623), ©Public Domain. Lyrics by St. Francis of Assisi (1225), paraphrased by William H. Draper, ©Public domain. Performed by Claire Marie Moblard (Organist) and Byron L. Stay (Trumpeter) of Zion Reformed UCC. All rights reserved. *Source(s): [Hymnary](#) (hymnary.org).

Gospel Segue: *"Make Me A Blessing"* – Tune, "Schuler" by George S. Schuler (1924), ©Public Domain. Lyrics by Ira B. Wilson (1909), ©Public Domain. Performed by Claire Marie Moblard (organist), all rights reserved. *Source(s): [Hymnary](#) (hymnary.org).

Contemplative Interlude: *"Praise with Joy the World's Creator"* – Tune, *"Lauda Anima (Praise My Soul)"* by John Goss (1869), ©Public Domain. Lyrics by Iona Community (1985), ©1985 by The Iona Community, used by permission of G.I.A. Publications Inc. Lyric alterations by The New Century Hymnal, ©1995 by The Pilgrim Press. Performed by Claire Marie Moblard (organist) and Byron L. Stay (Trumpeter), all rights reserved. *Source(s): [Hymnary](#) (hymnary.org).

Communion Music: Medley of the following hymns performed by Claire Marie Moblard (organist) and Byron L. Stay (Trumpeter), all rights reserved:

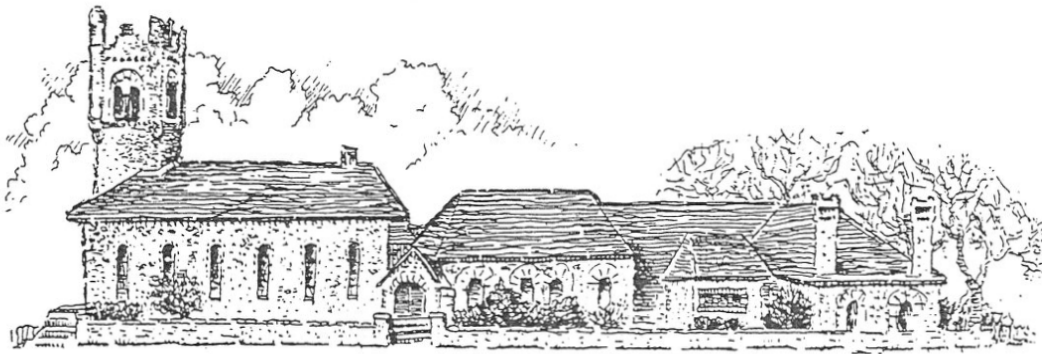
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"Let All Things Now Living" – Arranged by Mark Hayes, ©2018 by Lorenz Publishing Co, a division of The Lorenz Corporation. Based on the tune, *"Ash Grove,"* a traditional Welsh melody, ©Public Domain. Lyrics by Katherine Davis (1939), 1966 by C. Schirmer Music Co. Performed by *Source(s): [Lorenz Corporation](#) (lorenz.com) and [Hymnary](#).

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Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

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Rev Katie Penick, Interim Minister

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