

ZION REFORMED

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost ☞ October 24th, 2021 ☞ 11 A.M.



—
Meditation of the Day

*"What we plant in the soil of contemplation,
we shall reap in the harvest of action"*

~ Meister Eckhart ~

—
WORSHIP GUIDE

Let All Creation Praise!

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✦

"The Old Hundredth"

Words of Welcome

Prelude to Worship✦

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

↑ Call to Community

God stretches out the heavens and shapes the earth.

Come and give thanks!

God raises up the mountains and pours water into the seas.

Come and give thanks!

God calls forth plants from the soil and forms animals in infinite variety.

Come and give thanks!

God breathes upon us and fills us with life.

Come lift your voices in praise!

God gives our lives meaning through laughter and tears.

Come lift your voices in praise!

God touches our hearts through family and friends.

Come lift your voices in praise!

God loves us and blesses us with everything good.

Come and worship!

God loves us and overwhelms us with never-ending generosity.

Come and worship!

God loves us and surrounds us with love in abundance.

Come and worship!

↓ Call to Reconciliation

Prayer of Brokenness

Forgive us, God, that we have taken your creation for granted. You have given us the run of the land, the pick of the crop and we have squandered these resources; distributed these unfairly, vandalized their beauty, violated their purity.

Forgive us, God, that we have taken your kingdom for granted. You have given us the seeds of faith, the fruits of the spirit, and we have misused these resources;

displayed them rarely, bestowed them grudgingly, ignored them casually.

Thank you, God, that you are stronger than our destructiveness and greater than our meanness, that you give us a fresh start, a second chance. Overwhelm us with the power of your resurrected love. Compel us with the challenge you issue for change. Lead us in the conquest of our own limits and restrictions. Drive us towards a new life of peace, justice and integrity. Amen.

~silence is kept~

Words of Blessing

Meditative Interlude[✦]

"To God Be the Glory"

Children's Time

(Children are Dismissed for Children's Church)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD
The Holy Scriptures

Hebrew Lesson

Joel 2:21-27 (NRSV)
Lector: Rae Smith

Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has done great things! Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the LORD your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing-floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you.

You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

Gospel Lesson[✦]

Matthew 6:25-33 (NRSV)
Rev. Katie Penick

Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father

feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

The Message by Rev. Katie Penick

Don't Worry, Be Happy!

Contemplative Interlude ✨

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Stewardship Moment

Richard Cantilena

Invitation to Give

Blessing Our Gifts

We know that many voices clamor and compete for our attention and our resources. We pray that these offerings given may become symbolic of our decision to serve our one true God. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

In the beginning there was nothing, and out of nothing you fashioned a universe so vast, so unimaginable that we can only sigh with amazement when we stare upwards on a star-lit night. And within this universe you positioned the earth and populated it, provided for it and designed for it to be a place of beauty. Creator God:

We thank you.

In the beginning there was just potential; the seed within the packet, soil's nutrients, sunshine's warmth, rain clouds gathering. And within the tiny seed all that is our daily bread encoded, primed and ready should it be planted and allowed to grow. Creator God:

We thank you.

Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. And the LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (Genesis 2: 8).

In the beginning there was humankind, placed within your garden, made steward, gardener and caretaker of this place of beauty, given responsibilities and the capacity to enjoy. And yet among the seeds we have sown have been weeds and crops of our own choosing, which have not shown fruit or have spread and choked the earth. Creator God:

Forgive us.

An ancient Korean proverb tells us that: "If you plant a bean, then you will harvest only beans, not grapes or strawberries." God gave us new life through Jesus Christ and planted special seeds of forgiveness and love in our hearts. What fruit will we bear in our daily lives?"

We praise you.

Let us take a moment of quiet, time to listen, time to be still with God – what does God say to you this harvest time?

~silence is kept~

The Story

Sharing the Meal ✨

Prayer of Our Savior

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy 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 thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
Forever and ever.
Amen.**

Sending Forth

Prelude to Service ✨

"Praeludium in c-moll"

GO FORTH IN PEACE



AND SERVE IN LOVE!



CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Week of October 24th

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*



Halloween Block Party *This Saturday*



Join us in the church parking lot, Saturday evening, October 30th, as we participate in downtown Hagerstown's Halloween Block Party from 5-7pm giving out treats in a safe, fun, and friendly atmosphere. Treats will include: hot dogs, candy bags, popcorn, hot cider, and more. Individually wrapped candy donations are being accepted now through Thursday. Volunteers are welcome beginning at 3:30pm to set-up, serve, and breakdown. Instead of participating in the city-wide trick-or-treat on Sunday evening, we will be participating in the Downtown Halloween Block Party that is occurring as a result of the Mummers' Parade cancellation.

Reformation Sunday *Next Week*

Reformation Sunday is October 31st. Martin Luther was a monk, theologian, and religious reformer. ...To express his concern, he nailed 95 theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany on October 31st, 1517, hoping to discuss his concerns with other members of the church. This simple action laid the groundwork for the Protestant Reformation of which we are a direct descendant of as a United Church of Christ church. Join us next Sunday as we embrace the reforming Spirit in our midst.



November Newsletter Now Available



In an effort to reduce the cost of postage, monthly newsletters are being placed on the table in the vestibule. Please pick up your copy, placing a check mark by your name on the list to let us know you have received your copy and let us know your preferred method to receive the monthly newsletter: Pick-up hard copy at Church; By Email; or Website Download if you prefer to download your newsletter from the Church website. Those who attend virtually only or cannot physically attend will continue to receive their newsletters by regular mail.

40 Days of Prayer

Week four of 40 Days of Prayer begins this Monday, October 25th, as we remember that we belong to an entire network of churches within the Catoctin region by praying for one another's congregations. In addition to reminding us that we are part of an association within our denomination, it is also a great way to put our covenantal responsibilities into practice as we pray for, embrace, and support one another. At the conclusion of the 40 days on November 20th, the association will hold its Fall Meeting here at Zion beginning at 9am. We hope you will plan to attend. Daily posts at www.facebook.com/CatoctinAssociation.



Remembrance Sunday



Remembrance Sunday will be Nov 21st as we celebrate the lives of loved ones that passed between Nov 2020 to Oct 31st of this year. Please submit name, DOB, DOD, picture (if available) and obituary link (if available) by Nov 15th of anyone that you would like to honor this solemn day. In lieu of All Saint's Day at the beginning of Nov, we will be remembering our loved ones on Totenfest Sunday, the German-Reformed day of remembrance.

Joys & Concerns

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to **Beth McDonald** (Oct 26th), **Ed Patterson** (Oct 26th), **Nicholas Patterson** (Oct 30th), and **James Minnich** (Oct 30th). 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: [Beanie](#), [Holly Bell](#), [Naomi Brackett](#), [Linda Cantilena](#), [Cisco](#), [Kim & Bill Cook](#), [Sonny Crebbs](#), [Beth Gross](#), [Sherry Hockman](#), [Rev. Ann Holmes](#), [Dee Krause](#), [Lagenfelder Family](#), [Dennis Peters & Family](#), [Colleen Rand](#), [David Ridenour](#), [Betsy Roulette](#), [Norm & Lori Schmidt](#), [Diana Shafer](#), [Staci Shafer](#), [Thelma Summers](#), [Eleanor Wible](#), and [Robert Yeoman](#).

Lector Ministry



Lector this week is **Rae Smith**. Next week's scheduled lector is **Wells Ridenour**.

**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.*



Properties Meeting – Oct 25th at 10am (Burhans Room/Hybrid).

Christian Ed Meeting – Oct 25th at 7pm (Burhans Room/Hybrid).

Soup Kitchen / Food Pantry – Oct 26th from 5pm-6:30pm in the basement Fellowship Hall.

More Info at www.facebook.com/events/344211243835048

Search & Call Meeting – Oct 27th at 5:30pm (Burhans Room/Hybrid).

Staff Meeting – Oct 28th at 11am (Burhans Room).

Executive Meeting – Oct 28th at 2pm (Burhans Room/Hybrid).

Downtown Hagerstown 4H Club – Oct 28th at 4:30pm via Zoom.

<https://zoom.us/join/join> -- Meeting ID [815 1055 0627](#) Passcode [899733](#).

Halloween Block Party – Oct 30th from 5-7pm. (Volunteers meet at 3:30pm.)

**40 Days of Prayer continues through November 20th*

ZION REFORMED UNITED CHURCH CHRIST
201 North Potomac Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740

Trick or Treat

Safe Family Fun

Happy Halloween!

Free hot dogs, popcorn, hot cider and
candy bags from 5-7pm,
Saturday, October 30th during
Hagerstown's Halloween Block Party.

www.facebook.com/events/897564294504631



Catoctin Association 40 Days of Prayer – Week 4

Day 1 - October 25th: Evangelical Reformed UCC, Frederick, MD

We pray with Evangelical Reformed UCC:

From the earliest days Holy God, you set your Spirit upon your people in new places as they sought to serve you faithfully in their world. We pray today for the people at Evangelical Reformed Church in Frederick. As they celebrate their 275th anniversary, we thank you for their faithful witness to your call to be a voice for peace and justice in our community. May their prophetic witness give voice to your Spirit among us. Amen.

Explore Evangelical Reformed UCC at <https://erucc.org>
or on Facebook at [@eruccfrederick](https://www.facebook.com/eruccfrederick).

Day 2 - October 26th: Christ Reformed UCC, Shepherdstown, WV

We pray with Christ Reformed UCC:

Wondrous Creator, we give you heartfelt thanks and praise for all the gifts you grant us each day of our lives. For the loving support of friends and family, for the strangers who touch our lives as well and for the rhythm of the seasons we praise you. We pray this day for the congregation of Christ Reformed UCC in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. Just as their town draws its drinking water from the Potomac River may their church draw strength and faithfulness from the stream of Living Water that flows from you. Open all of us to your grace, that we might hold its treasure and then pour it out in your service. Amen.

Explore Christ Reformed UCC at <https://christreformedshepherdstown.org>
or on Facebook at [@CRUCCShepherdstown](https://www.facebook.com/CRUCCShepherdstown).

Day 3 - October 27th: St. Paul's UCC, Westminster, MD

We pray with St. Paul's UCC:

Liberating God, Let your Spirit pour over the people of St. Paul's UCC. Embolden them with the strength to seek justice for the oppressed and make ways in the wilderness. Bless their clergy and parishioners as they seek your will. Remind them again that they are your beloved children, loved without question and called to care for those whom others ignore. Bless their sisters and brothers in Peru. Watch over the day center, and protect the people that rely on their services. In all things, help them to live into this one precious life you give. Amen.

Explore St. Paul's UCC at <https://stpauls-ucc.org>
or on Facebook at [@StPaulsUCCWestminster](https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsUCCWestminster).



Catoctin Association 40 Days of Prayer – Week 4

Day 4 - October 28th: Lazarus UCC, Lineboro, MD

We pray with Lazarus UCC:

Dear Heavenly Creator, we praise You for the everlasting life that You have given to us as a body of Christ by Your extraordinary grace and love. We thank you for the many blessings that you have bestowed upon us. May the people of Lazarus UCC continue to grow day by day to be more like You, full of compassion and kindness. Saturate their hearts with Your love so that they may love You more with every fiber of their being. Thank you for Your Holy Spirit, who is making us be more like You, Lord Jesus. We pray that You are magnified more and more at Lazarus and their surrounding community so that the beauty of our Lord Jesus Christ is manifested in all that they do for you. May they continue to be a greenhouse for nurturing your people. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Explore Lazarus UCC at <http://lazarusuccchurch.com>
or on Facebook at [@LazarusUCC](https://www.facebook.com/LazarusUCC).

Day 5 - October 29th: Grace UCC, Frederick, MD

We pray with Grace UCC:

Welcoming God: From you comes every blessing, and as a grateful response you call us to bless the world. We pray for the people and ministries of Grace Church, that their outreach to the homeless and refugees in their community may truly give hope and change lives to those most in need. Empower and inspire them by your Spirit, Holy One, that Christ may be made known, through their work and in their lives, Amen.

Explore Grace UCC at <http://www.grucc.com>
or on Facebook at [@GraceUCCFrederick](https://www.facebook.com/GraceUCCFrederick).

Day 6 - October 30th: Mt. Vernon Reformed UCC, Keedysville, MD

We pray with Mt. Vernon Reformed UCC:

Gracious God, we pray for Mt. Vernon Reformed UCC, a small but close-knit spiritual community. We pray for their ecumenical ministries: the South Washington County CROP WALK and Emergency Fund, Community Thanksgiving Service, Community Lenten Services, and Refugee assistance. We pray for continued Spiritual growth and our weekly prayer requests for the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Explore Mount Vernon Reformed UCC on Facebook at
[@MtVernonChurchofChristKeedysvilleMD](https://www.facebook.com/MtVernonChurchofChristKeedysvilleMD).

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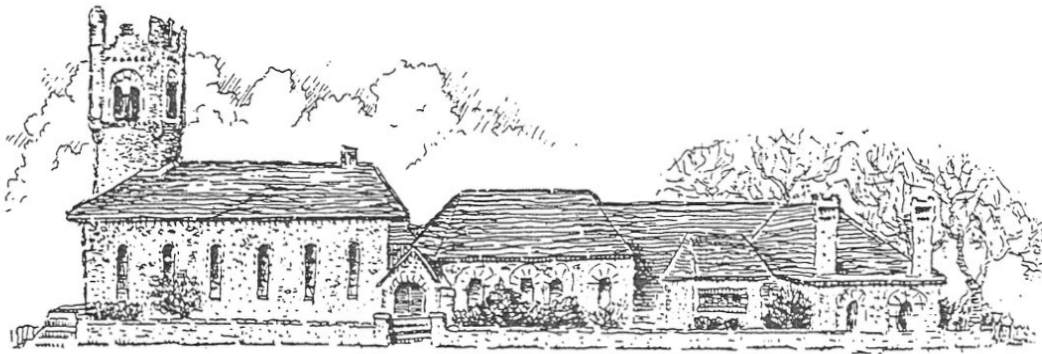
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Zion Reformed United Church of Christ

201 North Potomac Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740

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