



**Zion  
United Church  
of Christ**

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*No matter who you are or where you are  
on life's journey, you are welcome here.*

Matthew Wilson - Council President

Brian White - Music Director  
Angie Seward – Secretary

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**July 2, 2017 10:00am**

**Communion Sunday**

**Welcome!** *If you're a guest, please sign the guest register at the rear of the sanctuary. "FWS" Hymns are from the smaller, black hymnal, and all others can be found in the blue hymnal. Nursery care is available, so please see an usher for details.*

**CCLI #3197471**

\* denotes when to stand for those who are able

**\*Gathering Hymn** *This is the Day, (echo) This is the Day  
That our Lord has made, (echo) That our Lord has made,  
We will rejoice, (echo) We will rejoice,  
And be glad in it, (echo) And be glad in it.  
This is the Day that our Lord has made,  
We will rejoice and be glad in it.  
This is the Day, this is the day that the Lord has made.*

**Welcome** *Passing of Christ's Peace / Announcements*

**\*Hymn 690** *America the Beautiful*

**\*Invitation to Worship** **Leader:** Let us sing praises to God, all you faithful ones,  
**People:** **And give thanks to God's holy name.**



**Leader:** God does not abandon us in our distress.  
**People:** **God's healing presence restores us to life.**

**Leader:** Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.  
**People:** **Indeed, God turns our mourning into dancing; God removes our sackcloth and clothes us with joy.**

Leader: Let the peoples praise you, O God, and not be silent.

**All: O Lord, our God, we will give thanks to you forever!**

**\*Opening Prayer**  
*(unison)*

Gracious and loving God, we give you thanks for all the blessings we experience — the freedom to worship you without fear, the bounty and diversity of your creation, and the precious gift of unexpected joy. As we draw near to you this hour, may we immerse ourselves in your healing presence. Refresh us and renew us that we might become faithful laborers in your harvest of peace, justice, and joy. We pray in the name of our great Healer, Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

**Children's Moment**

Thought for the Young of All Ages *(Children come forward)*



*Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to Him belong; they are weak but He is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

**Prayers of the People**

**Sharing Our Joys and Concerns**

**Morning Prayer / Silent Prayer / The Lord's Prayer**



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. **Amen.**

**Offerings of Time,  
Talent and Treasure**

Brian White

**\*The Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One.*

**\*Prayer of Dedication** We give thanks to you, O God, for you have blessed us with all we need to do your work. Empower and embolden us to use our gifts in your service. May our sharing be a sign of your inbreaking realm and a source of healing and hope to a world in need. We pray this in the name of the One who called us to discipleship and sends us out to serve, Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

**\*Hymn 682** *This is My Song*

**Scripture Readings** **First Reading** Psalm 86:1-10



**One:** The Word of God for the people of God.  
**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading** Matthew 10:24-39

**Message** *Risk Required* Rev. Seth Stout

**Communion Hymn 458** *Take My Life and Let it Be*

**Invitation to Communion** We remember today this prayer of the ancient church: As the bread which we break was scattered over the mountains and when brought together became one, so let your church be brought together from the ends of the earth into your eternal realm.

**Prayer of Confession** O God, we know that Jesus sent out his disciples without purse, luggage, or sandals. All too often, we find ourselves clinging to possessions we don't need, looking for safety by avoiding risk, and bearing heavy burdens that slow us down. Forgive us for our reluctance to travel lightly and heal us of our pain and guilt. Forgive us and heal us, O God. Holy One, the Apostle Paul encouraged early Christians not to grow weary, but to use every opportunity to work for the good of all. And yet, hectic schedules, competing demands, cynicism, and doubt erode our commitment and leave us feeling burned out. Forgive us for any hollow excuses we are tempted to make and heal us of our exhaustion. Forgive us and heal us, O God.  
**(Silent Prayer)**



**Assurance of Pardon** There is no pain that God cannot heal. There is no wrong that God cannot forgive. Come, immerse yourselves in the healing waters of God's forgiveness. Come and be restored. Let God make you whole. Thanks be to God! **Amen.**

**Words of Institution** On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took the bread and blessed it, saying, "Take and eat, for this bread represents the sacrifice of my body, a sacrifice made for you." And likewise, after supper, he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he passed it to them, saying, "This cup represents my blood, poured out for the many." Happy are we who are called to the table of our Lord.

**Sharing the Elements** *(At Zion, we practice an open communion table. Children may partake at parent's discretion. Red is wine, clear is juice. Gluten free bread is in the center.)*

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** We give thanks, Almighty God, that you have refreshed us with the presence of your grace in this Holy Meal.  
*(unison)* Continue to nurture us in faith and courage so that our lives may proclaim the good news of your love and be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world. Through Christ Jesus, we pray. **Amen**

**\*Hymn FWS 2241** *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve*

**\*Benediction**

**\*Sung Response** *God bless America, land that I love,  
Stand beside her and guide her  
Thru the night with a light from above;  
From the mountains, to the prairies,  
To the oceans white with foam,  
God bless America, my home, sweet home.  
God bless America, my home, sweet home.*

**Postlude**

Brian White

## We Are Praying For:

The family of Dick Swisher on his death Tuesday, Harriett Fairchild (Terri Miller's mother), Jacob Hernandez (grandson of Ann Elliot), Bob Bailey (Susan White's step dad) Chris Fairchild (Terri Miller's sister-in-law), Patty Gaus, Heather Rodenborg, Sue Grotty, Jon & Jackie Carlson (Jan Anible's brother and mother), Chet Hammond, Amy (Rose Ann's daughter), Sandra Nichols, Marlene Hitchcock and family, Jon and Melissa Peterson, and students: Grace Fuchs, Heath Wilgus, Lorna Patterson, and Elizabeth and Sarah Newcomb.

**Prayer List Additions / Updates?** Please review the prayer list above and leave a note/email with Mike Newcomb, Brian White or Bertie Dell regarding updates. We would like to be sure the list is as current as possible. Thank you!

### Today at Zion

**Liturgist** Elizabeth White  
**Ushers/Greeters** Mike  
Newcomb and Del Hall



### Birthdays

July 7 Emily Abahazi  
July 7 Elizabeth Abahazi

### Anniversaries

July 6 Bill & Shirley Keesee

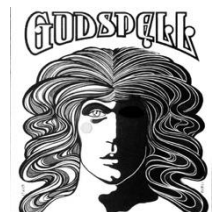
## Announcements

Our sincere thanks to **Rev. Gunnar Cerda** for preaching the past Sunday. Next Sunday, July 9, members of the Arena Fair Theater cast will present selections from their current production of *Godspell*, Rev. Stout will preach again on July 16, and Grace Fuchs will share her reflections on her recent international trip on July 23.

**About Our Speaker** Rev. Seth Stout was ordained in 2012 after earning his Masters of Divinity at Methodist Theological School in Ohio. Rev. Stout has worked a variety of ministries including Youth Ministry, New Church Ministry, and Interim Ministry. This Fall he begins a new journey at Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, CA. Seth is excited for this new project in a new setting.

**Current Council Members:** Matthew Wilson; President, Nate Jenkins, Amanda Rodenborg, Dan Fuchs, Jan Anible and Kellye Powell.

**Arena Fair Theatre Presents.** *Godspell*: the musical of Parables from St. Matthew, composed by Stephen Schwartz. July 14, 15, 16; Chappellear Drama Center (Ohio Wesleyan campus) Go to [www.arenafair.com](http://www.arenafair.com) for ticket info. See members of the company in the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade and visit with us at our booth on First Friday, July 7<sup>th</sup>.



## Affirming Statement of Welcome



We, the members of Zion United Church of Christ, welcome you.

- If you are Asian, Hispanic, Black, or White;
- If you are male, female, or transgender;
- If you are 3 days old, 33 years old, or 103 years old;
- If you've never stepped foot in a church, a synagogue, a temple, a cathedral, or a mosque;
- If you are single, married, widowed, divorced, separated, or partnered;
- If you are straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, or yet unsure of your sexuality;
- If you are a Republican, Democrat, Independent, Socialist, Libertarian, affiliated with another political party or no party at all;
- If you are pro life, or pro choice;
- If you have, or have had, addictions, phobias, or a criminal record;
- If you own your home, rent, live with your parents, or are homeless;
- If you have typical or atypical skills or are just beginning to sense your God given gifts and talents;

**However the rest of the world describes you and however you describe yourself.  
You are welcome at Zion.**

Being fully welcome in our community here at Zion United Church of Christ means that our congregation will:

- Always seek to affirm the person that you are with loving hearts and open minds.
- Follow the way of Christ Jesus with you in loving and being loved by both God and neighbor, with the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit.
- Love you for the person you are by living out our denomination's promise that "No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at Zion UCC."

(Portions adapted from the Affirmation of Welcome of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA; Philadelphia, PA USA)