



**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

July 23, 2017 10:00am

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 *Come! Come! Everybody Worship*

(Refrain):

"Come! Come! Everybody worship with a prayer or song of praise! Come! Come! Everybody worship! Worship God always!"

Worship and remember to keep the Sabbath day.

Take a rest and think of God. Put your work away!"

(Repeat Refrain)

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

***Hymn FWS 2012** *Let Us With a Joyful Mind*

***Invitation to
Worship**

One: We come to celebrate God's blessings to us.

Many: **Surely God is in this place!**



One: We come to open ourselves to God's guidance and love.

Many: **Surely God is in this place!**

One: We come to see more clearly God's presence in our lives.

Many: **Surely God is in this place!**

One: We come to see God in this community of seekers.
Many: Surely God is in this place!

One: We come to pray, praise, and offer ourselves to God.
All: Surely God is in this place! Let us worship!

***Opening Prayer** Gracious God, we come before you in this time of worship, asking for empowerment to be better stewards of the mission you have given us. In the fields of our lives, we strive to be faithful, and we ask for the Spirit's guidance for this purpose. Help us to be vigilant against the clutter in our lives that chokes out the joy you intend for us. Keep us alert so we are ready when the time of harvest is at hand. We trust in you as we face the challenges in days and weeks ahead. We lift up these petitions in Jesus' name. **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."*

Special Music

Brian White

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; Alleluia, Alleluia. Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.*

***Prayer of Dedication** Loving God, having received the blessings of the harvest begun in us, we offer back to you what we have been given: our treasure, our time, and our lives. Bless our gifts and multiply them for your purposes. **Amen.**

***Hymn 611** *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

Scripture Readings **First Reading** Psalm 139



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

Gospel Reading Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Message Beth Staten

***Hymn 606** *He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought*

Benediction

***Sung Response** *We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord, born of the Spirit, established by the Word. Our cornerstone is Christ alone, and strong in Christ we stand; O let us live transparently and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.*

Postlude Brian White

We Are Praying For

Harriette Fairchild (Terri Miller's Mom), 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 Matthew Wilson

Ushers/Greeters Rose Ann Haynes
and Mark Miller

Sunday School Resumes in September



Birthdays

July 25 Sue Johnston

July 26 Wayne Rogers

July 30 Jan Anible

Anniversaries

July 25 Josh & Chelsea Caslow

Beth Staten is a graduate of METHESCO and is currently a Member-in-Discernment in the UCC, anticipating ordination within the next year. Previously, she spent nine years in professional lay ministry and helped lead a congregation into affiliation with the United Church of Christ.

Thanks to Rev. Seth Stout for preaching last week. Next Sunday, Grace Fuchs will share her experience with international travel.

Council members. Matthew Wilson; President, Nate Jenkins, Amanda Rodenborg, Dan Fuchs, Jan Anible and Kellye Powell.

A note about fellowship. There is now a sign-up sheet for fellowship on the bulletin board. Please consider volunteering for this. Currently, most Summer Sundays are open. There is a cart in the kitchen to help bring items upstairs. If you have any questions please contact Deb Fuchs at dfuchs1@columbus.rr.com or 740-363-3863.

There are **Z-Mail newsletters** on the table by the office for those who do not have access to the internet.

Zion Website Updated. You can take a look at our new website at uccdelaware.com and feel free to give any feedback to Brian White or Mike Newcomb. In addition, we are attempting to make sure our online calendar is correct for meetings and church use, so let Brian or Mike know if you have any events or reoccurring meetings at the church. They'll get it on the online calendar which is visible on our website.

Ever pondered what it might be like to play handbells? Well, it's fun! **The Zion Handbell Choir** is looking for a few additional ringers to fill empty spots. Please talk to any of the ringers or Brian if you're interested in giving it a try. If you have any musical background with any instrument, it will translate well to handbells. Remember – it's fun!



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)