



Prayerful Living



ZION
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

15th Sunday After Pentecost
September 18, 2022

*Please rise if you are able

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

Gathering

Feel the Spirit of the community. Worship is a time of both shared community and private conversation with God. Let us all come to this sacred space to enjoy both the loving fellowship of our common faith and the prayerful quiet that will allow us all to draw closer to God.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

***Call to Worship** (Psalm 79, Jeremiah 8, Luke 16)

One: O God, we come into your courts with praise and thanksgiving!

Many: We come in celebration and song.

One: We come in gratitude of your inheritance.

Many: We come as those who have received blessing upon blessing.

One: We hear the cry of the poor in the land, and ache to offer them relief.

Many: We come to bring them blessing upon blessing, in Jesus' name.

One: O God, we come into your courts with praise and thanksgiving!

Many: We come in celebration and song.

***Invocation**

***Hymn 339 "Just as I Am, Without One Plea"**

Call to Reconciliation

Silent Reflection

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Source of Wholeness, we confess that sometimes our goals don't align with yours, and we get lost. At times, we have pursued power, knowledge, and

wealth instead of you, who are the source of all. We know that you are the balm we need, and we turn ourselves towards you. You are steadfast in your love and justice. Help us to be the same, help us to be a balm to others as you are to us. Amen.

Words of Grace

Message in Music: *"O Master Let Me Walk with Thee"*

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Prayer of the Day

Response 326: "Thy Word"

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 79:1-9

O God, the nations have come into your inheritance; they have defiled your holy temple; they have laid Jerusalem in ruins. They have given the bodies of your servants to the birds of the air for food, the flesh of your faithful to the wild animals of the earth. They have poured out their blood like water all around Jerusalem, and there was no one to bury them. We have become a taunt to our neighbors, mocked and derided by those around us. How long, O LORD? Will you be angry forever? Will your jealous wrath burn like fire? Pour out your anger on the nations that do not know you and on the kingdoms that do not call on your name. For they have devoured Jacob and laid waste his habitation. Do not remember against us the iniquities of our ancestors; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low. Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us and forgive our sins, for your name's sake.

Epistle Lesson: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, who desires

everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

One: The Word of God **All: Thanks be to God**

***Gospel Lesson: Luke 16:1-13**

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes. "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with

what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

One: The Gospel of Christ **All: Thanks be to God**

The Message

***Hymn 561: "It Is Well with My Soul"**

Invitation to Generosity

Our Gifts Are Gathered

***Offertory Response 46**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Steadfast One, receive our gifts in the gladness we give them. Thank you that we have an abundance of resources to share so that every need is met. May we always give from wide open hearts, and may what we give, be used to bring a balm of justice. Amen.

Prayers of the People

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

WE DEPART IN PEACE

***Hymn 612: "O Jesus, I Have Promised"**

***Benediction**

One: By our words and deeds, we show God that we are faithful with the gifts we have received.

Many: Whether over a little or a lot, we seek to be faithful stewards of God's gifts.

One: Take the gifts of God into the world, remembering the poor, the least, and the lost.

Many: We will take God's gifts to a hurting world, spreading a healing balm in all that we do. Praise be to God!

Postlude

WE FOCUS ON OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Leader: Steve Wilcox

Reader: Kerri Wilcox

Guest Organist: Patricia Amato

Message in Music: Zion Handbell Choir

In Our Thoughts and Prayers...

Kay Arnold, Bryan Barbalace, Kevin Barbalace, Howard Bethke*, Les & Vivian Bowser, Les Bowser Jr, Casey Brewer, Richard Buck, Betty Cornes, Shirley Dalgo, Tim Dalgo Jr., Betty Dillinger*, Joan Edwards*, Ann Golden, Gloria Jean Golden, Shirley & Tom Hayman, Cindy Heese, Brantley Horton, Marie Kachinski, Becky Karbley, Henry & Gerri Krotee, Janice Lane, Barbara Langenfelder*, John Langenfelder, Judy Langenfelder, Ruth Langenfelder*, Donald & Tee Legere, Scott Lein, Joyce Murphy, Gloria Nethkin, Catherine Pardo*, John Reali, Pastor Bob & Barbara Ridenour, Joann Ringsdorf, Shirley Ritter*, Donald Shaffer, Bruce Simon, John Small, Dina Thomakos, Doris Wengler, Paul Wienecke Sr, service men & women, Ukraine, Peace on Earth. (* Shut-ins)

Looking Ahead...

9/25 Worship – Tim Dalgo Sr. (9:45 am)

ZION CABIN RENOVATION

We are currently holding a "Crabtober" raffle to raise funds to repair the Scout cabin. Tickets are \$1.00 each and you can win a bushel of Crabs (donated by Vince's Crab House). The

drawing will be held on October 9th. To purchase tickets, see Jane Anderson, 410-598-2110.

UCC MISSION MOMENT

1 Timothy 2:1-7 Prayerful Living

Michael Neuroth has served for more than a dozen years as the International Policy Advocate at the national United Church of Christ office in Washington, DC. Michael, and his colleagues on this small but mighty staff, are the UCC ear and voice in the nation's capital.

Their work is multiplied by relationships fostered in the Washington Interreligious Staff Community (WISC), an ecumenical group from across a variety of faith traditions. WISC is made up of at least twelve working groups, which find ways to collaborate and let leadership emerge where there is expertise. They follow public policy and give voice in DC to various issues. Michael's leadership on the Peace and Security Working Group and the International Affairs Working Group have been especially valuable.

As we acknowledge the 30th anniversary of the Just Peace resolution this year, everyone in the United Church of Christ can celebrate that identity whether or not they declare the local church a Just Peace church. Just Peace is part of our connection and identity as UCC, since the United Church of Christ was the first denomination to so designate.

On this Just Peace Sunday, local congregations are invited and encouraged to publicly witness and articulate locally what Just Peace means to them as they pray about and act on issues they feel called to in church communities and the world. By celebrating and upholding Just Peace Sunday, you can raise your local profile and also lift up the hard work of our national UCC staff. Just Peace Sunday creates synergy between what we say we are at the national level and who we are at the local level.

According to Michael Neuroth, the work of Just Peace is the work of avoiding conflict and war in the first place. As we look for ways to eliminate weapons of mass destruction, the ecumenism and cooperation that is lived out daily by our staff in the DC office and their colleagues in WISC is one beautiful model for a path forward.

Hymn # 339: "Just as I Am"

Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me, and that thou bid'st me come to thee, O lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt; fighting and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, thy love unknow, hast broken every barrier down; now, to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Hymn 561: "It is Well with My Soul"

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll; whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.

It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul,) It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trial should come, let this blest assurance control, that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and hath shed his won blood for my soul. It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul,) It is well, it is well with my soul.

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought! My sin, not in part but the whole, is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more, praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul,) It is well, it is well with my soul.

May God haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll; the trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend, even so, it is well with my soul.

It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul,) It is well, it is well with my soul.

Hymn # 612: "O Jesus I Have Promised"

O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end; be thou forever near me, my master, and my friend; I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side, nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

O let me feel thee near me! The world is ever near; I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear; my foes are ever near me, around me and within; but, Jesus, draw thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear thee speaking, in accents clear and still, above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will; O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control; O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be; and, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end; O give me grace to follow, my master and my friend.

Church Staff

Ministers	All members of Zion UCC
Tim Dalgo, Sr.	Council President 410-608-1670 Email: <i>tadalgo@comcast.net</i>
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Jen Pilarski	Sunday School Super. 410-303-7446
Rev. C. Larry Fisher	Pastor Emeritus

Administrative Office: 410-687-0980

- * Press 1 to leave voicemail message
- * Press 2 for Pastoral Services
- * Press 3 to contact Council President
- * Press 4 to contact Cemetery
- * Press 5 to contact Caretaker
- * Press 6 to contact Congregational Care

Website: www.zionuccmd.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/zionuccmd

Live worship is held each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. in the sanctuary as well as live streamed on our website. The education building is also open and available for meetings, community groups, and other gatherings.

The church office remains closed during business hours but is open to members by appointment. The phone and email are monitored, and all incoming mail is processed daily. For your convenience, you may leave envelopes or correspondence in the locked mailbox on the office porch. Messengers, Bulletins, Upper Room Devotionals, and communion elements are also available.

If you require pastoral services, please call the church office, and press #2 or email to *pastor@zionuccmd.com*. Tim Dalgo will respond and can arrange for a local, on-call pastor to contact you.



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