

ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Third and Jackson Streets

Decatur, Indiana

+

(*) Please stand either in body or in spirit.

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 18, 2026

John 1:29—42

“Encouragement to keep searching for God and God’s intentions for our lives.”

Gathering Music: “This Little Light of Mine”

The Welcome and Announcements: (Visitors, please sign the Friendship folder)

The Prelude: "Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

The Prelude calls us together. It is a time of quiet reflection to focus ourselves in preparation for worshipping God.

The Light appears:

The Acolytes serve

The Church Bell rings:

*Call to Worship:

Liturgist

Christ is calling, inviting, urging and wooing: Come and follow me!

Let us set aside our worry and fear, our busyness and competing agendas to respond to Christ's call.

Christ offers us the opportunity to walk with him, to come to know his heart more deeply day by day.

Nothing is more precious than opening our hearts to God, who fills us with love.

Christ grants us the privilege of working alongside him in God's business.

There is no higher call and no greater joy than making a difference in the kingdom of God.

Come, let us worship the One who calls us to follow!

We worship in joy, in gratitude, in praise: Jesus Christ is Lord of all!

*Invocation: (Unison) Liturgist

God of the winter sky, place a star on our horizon, for we need to lift our tired eyes and weary souls from the multitude of tasks and lists. Raise us to glimpse your wonder, to be struck in awe and to marvel at your love. God of the winter sky, place a star on our horizon and a song in our hearts. In Jesus' name. Amen.

*Passing the Peace of Christ: Liturgist

Jesus is our peace. He has reconciled us to God; born in a manger and died on the cross. We meet in the name of Jesus and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer Of Confession: Rev. Kahler

The Confession:

Merciful God, we go about our days failing to proclaim your saving power with our voices or with our actions. We do not live as ones saved, but rather as people filled with fear and doubt. We often choose what is expedient, not what is right. We close our eyes and ears to those who are in need and close our hearts to those we claim to love. We are quick to hurt others, and slow to right our wrongs. Forgive us, O God, for all the ways we have not lived into our relationship with you. Amen.

The Scripture Reading: Psalm 40:1-11 Liturgist
Pew Bible pg. 486

The Choir Anthem: “Lord, Here Am I” Chancel Choir

Prayers of the People:

The Morning Prayer Spoken and Silent:

The Prayer of Our Savior:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Prayer Response:

Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading: John 1:29—42 Rev. Kahler
Pew Bible, pg.922

The Word of God for the People of God

The Response: **Thanks be to God**

*The Sermon Hymn: “Be Thou My Vision” No.382

The Sermon: “The Gift of Unbridled Curiosity”

The Moment of Offering: Liturgist

Invitation to Generosity:

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication: (Unison)

Thanks be to thee, O God, for all good gifts, and especially for thy inexpressible gift of the Lord Jesus. Help us, to see wherein we have been blessed, and to be a blessing to others. Amen.

The Offering: Ushers serve

The Offertory Music: “When The Saints Go Marching In/Glory, Glory, Hallelujah”

*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. Amen**

*The Hymn of Commitment: "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart" No. 515

*Benediction:

*The Song Of Departing Friends: “God Be With You”

God be with you till we meet again;
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you;
God be with you till we meet again.

*The Worship Leaders exit

*The Moment for Silent Prayers

*The Postlude: “Blessed Assurance”

Acolytes serve

Chimes

(Please be seated for the congregational meeting)	
Each of Us	Minister of Christ
Rev. Allen Kahler	Minister
Barb Engle	Congregation President
Jan Miller	Board Secretary
Maggie Bolinger	Office Secretary
Stacey Smith	Church Treasurer
Makayla Smith	Financial Secretary
Shelly Nussbaum	Music Director/Church Organist
Kacie Shaffer	Custodian
Justin Shaffer	Building Manager

Tim & Maggie Bolinger
Bill Carpenter, Aithen Shaffer
Ushers
Myra Gaunt

Door Greeters
Ushers
Acolytes
Money Counter

++++++
We welcome all members, visitors, and guests to our worship service this morning. Visitors are asked to take a few moments to sign the Friendship Folder located in each pew and place in the offering plate.

Please join us in the dining room after worship for a time of fellowship and cookies, coffee, and punch.

Bible Study continues this Thursday morning in the lounge at 10:30 a.m. Please join us as we continue our study of Ecclesiastes. We hope you will all join us.

Flower and Bulletin Charts for 2026 can be found in the West Vestibule. Flowers are \$30 per week and bulletins \$10. Please note the names of those who are being honored or remembered.

The Lunch Bunch will gather for lunch at the Galley in Decatur on Wednesday, January 21st at 11:30 a.m. Please see Russ Augsburger if you plan to attend. Everyone is invited for a time of good food and fellowship.

Please submit your completed Lenten Devotional to Barb Engle **by next Sunday**. The Lenten mailing will be sent out the week of February 9th.

January's Official Board meeting has been rescheduled to the following Monday, January 26th, at 6:30 p.m.

We will be submitting a gift card order to RaiseRight on January 26th. Anyone who wishes to place an order should see Stacey Smith by next Sunday. She will be placing an order at the end of every month.

LOOKING AHEAD

Wednesday, January 21: Lunch Bunch, Galley, 11:30 a.m.
Bell Choir Practice 6 p.m.
Chancel Choir Practice 7 p.m.

Thursday, January 22: Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, January 25: "RaiseRight" Gift Card Orders Due

Monday, January 26: Official Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.

website: www.zionuccdecatur.org e-mail: office: office@zionuccdecatur.org
pastor: arkinpastor59@gmail.com

Last week's Worship Attendance: 43 Offering: \$
Needed each week: \$4045.87

Scan here to make your donation via Paypal



