

ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Third and Jackson Streets

Decatur, Indiana

+

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

September 7, 2025

Philemon 1:1—21

**“It is easier to avoid conflict; we are called to the hard
work of relationships?”**

Gathering Music: “O Come To The Altar”

The Welcome and Announcements:

Liturgist: Barb Engle

(Visitors, Please sign the Friendship folder)

The Prelude: “Praise To The Lord! Ye Heavens Adore Him”

*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

**We seek a big enough God who has overcome all things. Jesus said,
“If you would be my disciple, you must deny yourself and take up the
cross.”**

**We take heart knowing that “Nothing can separate us from
God’s love, which enables us to do all things.” This we do by
the promise of faith guaranteed by God’s abounding grace.
Amen.**

***Hymn of Praise:**

“To God Be The Glory”

No. 66

***Invocation: (Unison)**

Liturgist

**We are welcomed into your presence this day by your gracious
hospitality, O God. Grant that we will lay aside our cares and
anxieties to concentrate our thoughts on you alone. Open us to**

the teaching and guidance for living which we receive, that we will be strengthened to walk with you and follow wherever you lead us. Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.

*Passing the Peace of Christ:

Liturgist

Please pass the peace through our words and through our actions in a world that desperately needs to see the results of following the Prince of Peace.

May the Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you

Litany of Confession and Reconciliation:

To you, God, we turn to have our hearts filled with love.

Give us new wineskins and fill them with new wine.

We remember that your love is for all people, and that the blood of Christ was shed for all:

For the accepted and for the marginalized,

For the poor and the wealthy,

For the weak and the powerful,

For the ill and the healthy

And for the wise and the simple.

We confess our tendency to think we are better than others.

We confess our pride when we minimize our sins.

We confess being blindly certain of our limited understanding.

We confess snatching the right to judge out of the hand of Jesus, whom we say we trust.

We confess letting go of our obligation and opportunity to love our neighbor.

We confess that we too often worship our own ideas about Jesus, rather than the actual Person of Jesus.

It is to that Person that we cry now:

Have mercy on us according to your unfailing love, according to your great compassion. Blot out all our iniquity and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

—Adapted from Fran Pratt, "Litany for Reconciliation, Confession and Forgiveness," franpratt.com.
November 1, 2015.

The Scripture Reading: Luke 14: 25-33 Liturgist
Pew Bible, pg. 907

The Special Music: "Heaven Came Down And Glory Filled My Soul"
Chancel Choir

Time For Youth:

Prayers of the People:

The Morning Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your Kingdom come your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, and Power, and Glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

The Prayer Response: Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading: Philemon 1:1—21 Rev. Kahler
Pew Bible, pg. 1051

*The Sermon Hymn: "He Leadeth Me" No.461

The Sermon: “Re-concile Relationships ”

The Moment of Offering: Liturgist

Invitation to Generosity:

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication:

Jesus is the One who walked between the two worlds, who gives hope to the sad and distressed and to the self-satisfied also. Jesus calls us to walk between these two worlds with him and give life. “As you do it for the least of these you do it to Christ.” Amen.

The Offering: Ushers serve

The Offertory Music: “Music Box Dancer”

*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: “Leaning On The Everlasting Arms”
No. 354

*Benediction:

*The Song Of Departing Friends: “Lord Dismiss Us”
**Lord, dismiss us with Thy blessing,
Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, Thy love possessing,
Triumph in redeeming grace.**

**O refresh us, O refresh us,
Traveling through this wilderness. Amen.**

*The Light is carried forth	Acolytes serve
*The Worship Leaders exit	
*The Moment for Silent Prayers	Chimes

***The Postlude: “The Little Brown Church”**

+++++

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
Lisa Krueckeberg	Financial Secretary
Shelly Nussbaum	Music Director/Church Organist
Kacie Shaffer	Custodian
Justin Shaffer	Building Manager

+++++

Scott and Brenda Strickler	Door Greeters
Aithen Shaffer, Scott Strickler	Ushers
Ushers	Acolytes
Karen Heller	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.

Altar flowers and worship bulletins are presented today by Barb Engle in honor of friends and family.

Bible Study will meet this Thursday morning in the lounge at 10:30. Please join us as we continue our study of the Book of Acts.

Our Operation Help for September will be **cereal**. Please place your donations in the bins in the dining room and West vestibule.

We offer our sympathy to the family of Donna Roth, who passed away Tuesday, September 2nd. Services will be conducted next Saturday at Zwick and Jahn Funeral Home at 11 a.m.

Our Rally Day celebration will be held on September 21st. There will be attendance awards given during the worship service. Christian Education Committee is sponsoring a carry-in luncheon following the service. Sloppy Joes, Coney Dogs, drinks and table service will be provided, with an ice cream sundae bar for dessert. Please bring a covered dish to share. After lunch, we will have a White Elephant auction to benefit missions. Please bring a wrapped gift to be auctioned off.

LOOKING AHEAD

Wednesday, Sept. 10: Bell Choir Practice 6 p.m.
Chancel Choir Practice 7 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 11: Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, Sept. 14: Official Board Meeting 11:30 a.m.

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

Last week's Worship Attendance: 38 Offering: \$2220.00 (\$20 Osterman memorial)

Needed each week: \$4045.87

Scan here to make your donation via Paypal

