

ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Third and Jackson Streets

Decatur, Indiana

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(*) All who are able, please stand either in body or spirit

July 20, 2025

Summer Communion

Colossians 1:15-28

“How God can transform our worst inclinations into tools of blessing”

Gathering Music: “Blessed Assurance” Shelly Nussbaum

The Welcome and Announcements: Carl Stevens, Liturgist

(Visitors, Please sign the Friendship folder)

The Prelude: “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

*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:

*The Call to Worship: (Please Rise)

Liturgist

(Inspired by Psalm 52)

In the presence of the faithful, we proclaim the name of God, for it is good.

We thank you forever because of what you have done.

Holy One, we trust in you. We take refuge in your safety. We call your
presence our home.

We are like olive trees rooted in your soil—growing and fruitful.

You nourish us and shine your light upon us.

Faithful God, in you, we find love and truth, abundance and compassion,
community and care.

**We praise and exalt you, Eternal One. We trust in your steadfast love
forever and ever.**

*Hymn of Praise: “The Church's One Foundation”

No. 277

*The Invocation: (Unison)

Liturgist

Abiding God, we invite you to inhabit our space. We long to renew our minds, restore our souls, and rest our presence before you. Still, we bring the burdens we carry into this gathering. We hold our responsibilities, cares, and concerns. Let us bind ourselves in your love and strength and the community of faithful and curious. We affirm that this time with you and one another equips and fortifies us for the journey and helps us discern the better way. Be glorified in our worship. Be honored by our praise. Be known by your people, O Creator, Teacher, and Friend. In your many names, we pray. 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

*Affirmation of Faith:

We affirm our faith in Jesus Christ, Word of God Incarnate, image of the invisible God.

He was in the beginning with God, the firstborn of creation.

Through Christ all things were made and came into being.

Nothing exists without Christ — no throne, no power, no ruler, no kingdom.

Christ holds all things together.

He is the head of the church, and we are his body.

In him we have forgiveness of sins and peace with God.

He is the firstborn of the dead, the new Adam, the foretaste of our own resurrection.

In him all things are reconciled, and heaven and earth will be renewed.

**Christ's kingdom has come, is coming, and will endure forever.
Hallelujah!**

—Adapted from John 1 and Colossians 1

The Scripture Reading: Psalm 52 Liturgist
Pew Bible pg. 493

The Special Music:

Time With The Youth:

Prayers of the People:

Morning Prayer:

The Prayer Response: “Best Be The Tie That Binds”

**Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above. Amen.**

The Scripture Reading: Colossians 1: 15-28 Rev. Kahler
Pew Bible, pg. 1026

*The Sermon Hymn: "Abide With Me" Pg. 419

The Sermon: “Called To Transformation”

The Moment of Offering: Liturgist

Invitation to Generosity:

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication:

Giver of all good and perfect gifts, we celebrate the opportunity to contribute to the ministry of this faith community. Receive the resources we offer in love and hope that needs will be met, lives will be changed, and the world will receive the testimony of compassionate care, action, and sharing. Amen.

The Offering:

Ushers serve

The Offertory Music:

*The Doxology and Presentation of Our Gifts:

**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.**

(Please be seated)

The Holy Communion

The Invitation:

The Spirit of Creation is with you!

And the Spirit of Creation walks next to you.

Open wide your souls.

We open them to the Creator's love.

Let us give thanks to the God of Earth and Rain.

**With joyous voices, hearts, and hands, we exclaim to God
our praise.**

The Prayer of Communion:

(Adapted from General Synod 34 Community Worship)

With glory to our God, we praise the Spirit of Creation:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Spirit of Earth, Air, Fire, and Water,
Heaven and Earth delights in your glory,
Hosanna, Hosanna.
Blessed is the one who brings love and light to our world.
Hosanna to our God. Alleluia!**

The Lord's 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, the Power,
and the Glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.**

The Distribution of the Elements:

(Zion Church observes open communion. Everyone who wishes to know the Lord and to walk in His way is invited to share in the sacrament. The Minister will give the cue when to eat and drink.)

The Prayer of Thanksgiving:

**Holy God, Divine Designer- With gentle compassion, you unite us as
vine and branches, whether near or far. For your meal we share our
gratitude. With thanksgiving we voice our joy for our siblings in faith
who shared the table with the Christ and with us. Our souls are
rejuvenated with your Holy Refreshment. Send us into the world
today with joy in our hearts and excited to proclaim your radical love
in this world. Amen.**

*The Hymn of Commitment: “Amazing Grace” No. 202

*The Blessing and Commission:

Few Things Needed: Service Prayers for the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

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

*The Postlude:	“Revive Us Again”	Organist
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Each of Us	Minister of Christ	
Rev. Allen Kahler	Pastor	
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	
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Lauren Rowell, Vicki Nussbaum	Greeters	
Scott Strickler, Ken Uhrick	Ushers	
Ushers	Acolytes	
Carl Stevens	Money Counter	
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We greet 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.

Our Operation Help items for July are boxed mixes such as mac & cheese, rice, noodles, or potatoes. Please put your donations in the collection bin in the dining room or West vestibule.

American Legion Post 43 Color Guard here in Decatur will be honored at the Summer Concert series this Thursday evening, July 24. There are five members of our congregation who are active members of the Guard, so we hope you will all come to support them. The concert begins at 7 pm on the Madison Street Plaza. Music will be provided by E5c4p3, who play the music of Journey.

We have been presented with a mission opportunity to help feed the migrant workers coming in from Texas to work on the tomato harvest at the Red Gold plant in Geneva. Workers will arrive the middle of August and will have no income the first week they are here. The Adams County churches are collecting Boxes of Blessings to help get them through this time. There are 100 apartments of various sizes at the Geneva location. We have committed to providing boxes for the two 6-person apartments. Donations should be brought to the dining room no later than August 3rd. You may also give a cash donation to Maggie Bolinger. Please see the flyer in the dining room for the items needed. Thank you for your help.

The Men's Fellowship Golf Outing is this afternoon. Tee-times start at 3 p.m. at the Geneva Golf Course. Cost is \$20 for 9 holes of golf and a cart. Golfers of all ages and skills are encouraged to come. Everyone is invited to join us for a cookout at 6 p.m. The location of the picnic has been changed to Tim and Maggie Bolinger's house. It will be held in the driveway and garage so it is on one level with no steps or grass to navigate. Please bring a covered dish to share and lawn chairs. Hot dogs, table service, and drinks will be provided. Thank you, Pastor Allen, for hosting the picnic.

Looking Ahead

Thursday, July 24: Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.

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

Last week's attendance: 52 Offering: \$1587.95 (Incl. \$225 Clothe A Child)
Needed each week: \$4045.87

Scan here to make your donation with PayPal



