

ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Third and Jackson Streets

Decatur, Indiana

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(* Please stand either in body or in spirit.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026

John 14:1—14

“In anxious times, seek help from others.”

Gathering Music: “I Need Thee Every Hour” Shelly Nussbaum

The Welcome and Announcements: Bill Carpenter, Liturgist

(Visitors: Please sign the Friendship Folder)

The Prelude: “Ye Servants Of God”

*Please take a moment and quiet your mind and open your heart as
we focus ourselves in preparation for worshipping God.*

The Light appears: The Acolytes serve

The Church Bell rings:

*The Call to Worship: Please Rise (inspired by Psalm 31) Liturgist

In You, Holy One, we seek sanctuary. In you, Sovereign God,
we seek refuge.

Holy One, for your name's sake lead us and guide us.

You are indeed our rock and our fortress. Our times are in your
hands. Strengthen us in your righteousness.

Holy One, for your name's sake lead us and guide us.

Shine upon us this day as we worship you. Saturate us in your steadfast
love.

Holy One, for your name's sake lead us and guide us.

*Hymn of Praise: “Come, Thou Fount Of Every Blessing” No. 2

*Invocation: (Unison) Liturgist

**Holy and Living God, build us into a spiritual house, a
gathering of witnesses for the world and in the world to declare**

your goodness, to follow in your way, to do the work of your hands, voice, and heart. Renew our spirits as we worship you and bask in your presence. Fill us with your Spirit that we collectively proclaim ourselves as your people, called to the fullness of your glorious and radiant being. Amen.

Call to Transformation: (Unison)

Rev. Kahler

Redeemer of our lives, we come to you knowing that we participate in a world often crushed by tyranny and evil. Our hearts are troubled, overwhelmed, and dismayed. At times, we feel helpless and hopeless by the enormity of the problems presenting all around us. We believe the lie of the enemy that there is nothing that we can do or that someone else is the one to do it. May you, Holy and Righteous One, be glorified in the tumbling of walls cemented in evil and fortified by hate. For this, we pray for courage and resolve to do the works needed in this hour. For this, we pray for faith, trust, and hope to believe that the realm of the possible eclipses the narrow places of improbability. For this, we pray for the boldness to pray for what the world needs and more than our imaginations may hold. Amen.

Words of Grace:

Rev. Kahler

The Special Music: “Thine Is The Glory/

Crown Him With Many Crowns” Heavenly Ringers

Time with the Youth:

Prayers of the People:

The Morning Prayer:

The Prayer Response:

“Hear Our Prayer”

**Hear our prayer, O Lord,
Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

Breaking and Pouring: (Unison)

**Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ.
Through the cup of blessing we participate in the new life Christ
gives.**

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 yours is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Distribution:

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

**Almighty God, we give thanks for the gift of our Savior's
presence in the simplicity and splendor of this Holy meal. Unite
us with all who are fed by Christ's body and blood that we may
faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that your
universal church may be a sanctuary of hope in an uncertain
world; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

*The Hymn Of Commitment: "Wherever He Leads I'll Go" No. 367

*The Benediction:

Do the Works: **Service Prayers for the Fifth Sunday in Easter Year A** was written by the
Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

*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: “Work, For The Night Is Coming”

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Each of Us A 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

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Ken Uhrick, Jerry Hill Door Greeters

Kacie Shaffer, Brenda Strickler Ushers

Scott Heller Money Counter

Acolytes Ushers

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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.

Our Operation Help item for May is **soup**. Please place your donations in the tubs in the dining room and West vestibule.

Our Bible Study group will resume their studies this Thursday, May 7th with a six-week series on 1 Corinthians. Everyone is invited to meet in the lounge at 10 a.m.

The Decatur Ministerial will conduct the National Day of Prayer service this Thursday, May 7th at the Courthouse. Everyone is invited to attend this service, which begins at noon.

We will meet on Saturday, May 9th for our road clean-up. Please be at the church by 9 a.m. to carpool and don't forget your gloves and old clothes.

Looking Ahead

Wednesday, May 6: Chancel Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 7: Bible Study 10 a.m.
National Day of Prayer,
Courthouse Lawn 12 p.m.

Saturday, May 9: Adopt-A-Road 9 a.m.

Sunday, May 10: Mother's Day

Website: zionuccdeatur.org Email: office: office@zionuccdeatur.org
pastor: arkinpastor59@gmail.com

Last week's Worship Attendance: 42 Offering: \$ 9262.00 (\$350 Hilty Memorials)

Needed each week: \$4045.87

Scan here to make your donation via Paypal

