

World Communion Sunday

October 5, 2025

10:15 a.m.

(* Indicates: stand if you are able.)

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP *Come Into His Presence*

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD

PRAYER OF CONFESSION **Merciful God, We confess that we have not always trusted You as we should. We have been faithless in thought, word, and deed. We have allowed fear to silence our witness, and selfishness to guide our actions. Forgive us, Lord. Renew us by Your Spirit, that we may live as Your faithful people, reflecting Your steadfast love in all we do. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Hear the Good News: "If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot disown Himself." In Christ, we are forgiven. In Christ, we are made new.

People: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*HYMN *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

*PRAYER **Faithful God, we gather in Your presence with grateful hearts. You are the same yesterday, today, and forever. Even when we stumble, Your mercy holds us fast. Even when we doubt, Your promises never fail. Speak to us now through Your Word and Spirit, that we may leave this place renewed in faith and strengthened in hope, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ANTHEM *A Place at the Table*

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MOMENTS

GOD'S WORD FOR US

SCRIPTURE READING 2 Timothy 2:1-13

MESSAGE *One Thing God Can't Do*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN *Blessed Assurance*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Dina, Gene, Mack McQueen family, Gina, Sam & Kathy Cull, Mary Jean, Kevin Kramer, The Country, George, Bonnie, Lenkaitis Family, Theresa Grove, Dixie, Lauren, Arnie & Jan Watkins, Dawn & Ron Narczewski, Jean Mikus, Deb Cooper, Ryan, Cindy Harzheim, Paul Lewis, Marilyn Haslam, Bob & Holly Antkowiak.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

PRAYER RESPONSE *Hear Our Prayer, O Lord*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*RESPONSE *Doxology*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION **Faithful God, we dedicate these gifts to You. Use them to proclaim Your steadfast love in our community and throughout the world. As You never fail us, may we live as faithful stewards of all You have entrusted to us. In Christ's name, Amen.**

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

...With faithful people in every time and place we say,

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

...Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING **We give you thanks for granting us your presence and refreshing us at your table, Lord. Now send us forth renewed in faith, hope and love, rejoicing in the continuing presence of your Holy Spirit. Amen.**

*HYMN *Now Let Us From This Table Rise*

BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE

Announcements

New Prayer Requests

- Dina, for health
- Gene, in hospice care
- Family of Mack McQueen

*If you would like to make an announcement during worship, please request a microphone. Thank you!

Please join us for fellowship refreshments after worship today. *If you would like to provide refreshments there is a sign-up sheet for October in fellowship hall!

We had wonderful weather for the **Illinois Valley CROP Walk** this year. We will post donation totals as they become available. Thanks to walkers and sponsors!

Did you know? Copies of the hymns and large print bulletins are located in the Narthex.

Also, new copies of “These Days” daily devotions are available in fellowship hall.

Prayer Requests In the Bulletin We are grateful for the privilege of praying for one another. To help us keep our prayer list current, each new request will be included in the bulletin for four weeks. After that time, we will remove it unless we are asked to continue sharing it longer. If you would like a request to remain, please let us know—we want to walk alongside you in prayer for as long as you need. Tune in to Pastor Alex every Sunday morning at 8:25 on 103.9 WLPO. Be sure to spread the word to your friends!

Join the CREW!

Our Sunday School program, **CREW**, is meeting again every Sunday at 9:00 AM. Kids in kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to join us for stories, games, crafts, and activities that help build faith and friendships. We’re excited to see you this Sunday!

Join Us for Bible Study!

Bible Study is underway Tuesdays at 6:30PM! Our study is based on the inspiring series *The Chosen* and is open to all adults.

This is a hybrid event, so you can join us in person at the church or via Zoom—whichever works best for you. We are currently discussing Season 3, so come ready to share your thoughts, questions, and insights.

Let’s continue to grow in faith and community together. See you Tuesday! All are welcome!

More news about The Chosen Bible Study: There are good reviews of the first two seasons on YouTube. They are The Chosen RECAP: Season 1 www.youtube.com/watch?v=8FtuFaPonTQ which is 12 min. long and The Chosen RECAP: Season 2 www.youtube.com/watch?v=pOMOhuz7PT8 which is 8 min. long. Both are worth watching. If you were part of the study group last year they will refresh your memory and if you are new to the group they will give you a good sense of what has been discussed so you will feel “at home” joining now. You can participate in person at the church or online.

Feeding the Future – The Illinois Valley Food Pantry launched a major fundraiser to fund their new building purchase, necessary renovations, and expanded food programs —so that we can continue to serve the growing number of individuals and families in need across our region. Local individuals, churches and businesses are joining together to make this vision a reality. Learn more or donate at www.ivfoodpantry.com or by contacting the Pantry directly.

Choir practice is underway Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. If you like to sing and have fun please contact Jim Greening (815/223-1858) with questions, or come to practice.

Zion Diners met Sept. 18 at Angelo's in Spring Valley with Jyll as host. Next Diners will be Thursday, Oct. 16th at 6:00pm. Candie is host and will let us know the place she chooses. Come join the fun.

Grubby Sunday – October 19 Mark your calendars for Grubby Sunday on October 19! On this special day, we invite everyone to come to worship dressed in their grubby cleanup clothes. We'll have a shortened worship service, and then roll up our sleeves together for some extra cleaning around the sanctuary and fellowship hall.

This is a whole-church event—all ages are welcome to help out! After we finish working together, we'll share a light lunch and enjoy some fellowship.

Let's join hands to care for our church home and one another. Come ready to worship, work, and share in community!

Memorial Sunday, when we will remember those of our family of faith who have died during the past year, will take place on October 26th.

The Renewal Leadership Team will gather on Monday, October 27 at 6:00 p.m. If you would like to be part of this team, we encourage you to join us that evening. Everyone is welcome—your presence and ideas will be a valuable part of our work together.

The Illinois Valley Flute Ensemble will present a Halloween concert on October 30th at 7:00PM in the sanctuary of Zion UCC. Please come and join us and enjoy a “flutey” Halloween with HAUNTINGLY beautiful music. It will be open to the public with free will donation.

Sunday morning worship at Pilgrim Park on November 2nd

Anyone who would like to carpool can meet at the church at 10:00am. **Our service will begin at 11:15am.** If you need a ride, please let Pastor Alex know. We'll have lunch and fellowship after the service. There will be a sign up sheet available soon in the Narthex, or contact the church office. Please sign up so that we can let Pilgrim Park staff know how many are coming and how much food to prepare. If you haven't worshipped at Pilgrim Park with us before, please join us. It's an amazing place to enjoy nature.

COOKIE SALE NEWS FLASH #4

We call it the Cookie Sale because calling it The Cookie, Candy, Pie, Cupcake, Bread and Coffee Cake Sale is just too long. But we do welcome and sell all those things. In fact we could use more of them. So please keep that in mind when you are planning your holiday baking. We'll have sign-up sheet for you to indicate what you plan to contribute to the sale starting in November. We'd like to know so we can plan and advertise accordingly. Thanks in advance for making this sale a part of your support for our congregation's ministries.

Zion Spaghetti Express-Save the Date! On Wednesday, February 19, 2026 we'll be hosting a Drive-Through Spaghetti Dinner. This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a delicious meal while supporting our church community. We'll need plenty of hands to make this event a success—help will be needed to prepare the food, serve meals, and clean up afterward. More details will be shared soon, so stay tuned!

Zion UCC is once again providing a delicious hot meal delivered to the **Peru PADS homeless shelter** each month. As the summer winds down, the shelter reopened earlier this year due to a greater need than ever. Every little bit helps us provide a nutritious meal each month through May. Write a check to the church and note **"PADS Meals."** Or go online and donate through the Giving page on our website. Your donation helps provide a healthy, hearty meal to those who need it most. Thank you for your generosity and support in feeding the hungry!

HELP WANTED! Ushers: We are building a new Ushers List. If you previously served as usher and would like to serve again, we would like to add you to the new ushers list. You can let Larry Grosenbach know you will serve as usher or email ushers@zionperu.org to be added to the ushers list. Evangelism: We are updating our visitor information about Zion church and will be creating a visitor packet that will contain information and a thank you gift or two for them visiting. If you would like to help the Evangelism Team with the visitor project you can let email evangelism@zionperu.org.

Live Life (Pre and Post Transplant Support Group) meets the second Monday of each month at 6:30pm at Zion UCC.

The Compassionate Friends Group meets at Zion every fourth Thursday at 6:30pm. This meeting is open to any parent who has lost a child. Please contact the church office for information.

Weight Watchers is meeting every Saturday morning at 8:00 here at Zion. We're happy to provide space for this worthwhile service to our community.

See donation table in fellowship hall to donate items to Tonica Church for those in need or contact Diane Gebhardt.

You can now donate to Zion by Text to (815)393-1954

Enter the amount you want to give to Zion in the Text box and send. If it the first time you are giving by text you will be prompted to set up your giving method (credit card or bank account).

Zion United Church of Christ 6 th & Grant Streets, Peru, IL Follow us on Facebook: Zion UCC, Peru, IL office@zionperu.org 1-815-223-2671 www.zionperu.org	
Ministers	Members of the Congregation
Pastor	Pastor Alex Garnarz
Organist	Jim Greening
Secretary	Erin Lewis
Liturgist	Arnie Watkins
Audio Technician	Jerry Koehler
Video Technician	Rhonda Essl
Song Leader	Dave Jacobson
Fellowship	Phyllis & Bill Bender

Attendance: September 28: In Person: 37 + 9 children
On YouTube: 6

This week:

Tuesday, October 7th

6:30pm Bible Study

Wednesday, October 8th

6:30pm Choir practice

Saturday, October 11th

8:00am Weight Watchers meeting

Sunday, October 12th

8:25am Pastor Alex on WLPO

9:00am CREW

9:30am Choir practice

10:15am Worship in person, also available on You Tube

Followed by Fellowship Refreshments

Office Hours this week

Monday-Thursday: Closed

*Friday: 9:00am -5:00pm *

Zion United Church of Christ



Handicapped Accessible

www.zionperu.org

Follow us on Facebook: Zion UCC, Peru, IL

815-223-2671

1521 6th St. Peru, IL 61354

