

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 17, 2023

10:15 a.m.

(* Indicates: all who are able please stand.)

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP *He Has Made Me Glad*

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD

OPENING SENTENCES

L: Sing praise to God who rescues us when we fall!

P: Sing praise to God who walks with us on all our journeys!

L: Even though we fall, God lifts us and places us on paths of peace.

P: Even though we stray, God finds us and brings us back to lives of hope.

L: Thanks be to God, whose love is continually with us.

P: Praise be to God, whose mercy is over us all.

*HYMNS *He Is Lord*

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

OPENING PRAYER **You have brought us to new life, O God, and gathered us in this community to be your people as we work and witness in this world. Feed us today with the presence of our risen Lord, and breathe into us your Spirit, that we may be enabled in all we say and do to glorify your name.**

CHOIR ANTHEM *Song of Fellowship*

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MOMENTS

GOD'S WORD FOR US

SCRIPTURE READING *Romans 14*

MESSAGE *Two Questions*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN *Seek Ye First*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Disaster victims, George, Joan Maxie Family, Sara, Dennis Miller, Rusty & Mary Thies, Leslie, The family of Alli Miller, Grace Knutson, Dixie Tonozzi, Marsha Reed, Shelly, Kathy Rue, Cheryl Johnston, Sue Krause, Tom Kaszynski, Paul Lewis, Clinton Crouch, Carol, Evie, Mary, Healthcare/Hospital, Quinn & family, Johanna Arkels family, Deb Cooper, Marilyn Haslam, Karen Kradle, Terry Dean, Bonnie, Marsha Dodd, Jeanie, Cathy Rose, Martin Nussbaum, Jack Yager, Mark Bishop family, Lucille Smith family, Tim Engel family, Gary Bruno, Ron Narczewski, Jason, Paul, Jose, Debbie, Mary Fiedler, Andy Gower, Neil Tipton, Jim L., Keisha Smith, Bob & Holly Antkowiak, Darrell, Joe Smith, Bill Vlastnik, Kathy Radtke, Jean Spayer, Ron Hudkins, Mrs. Lucas.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

PRAYER RESPONSE *Hear Our Prayer, O Lord*

OFFERING

*RESPONSE *Doxology*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION Giving God, all we are and all we have come from you. We offer back to you what has always been yours. As you have entrusted your gifts to us, so we return these gifts to you, trusting that you will multiply them to the great glory of your kingdom on earth. We pray through Jesus who gave his life for us. Amen.**

*HYMN *Just as I Am*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Announcements

New Prayer Requests

-Dennis Miller, for health. He will be having surgery for cancer soon.

-Disaster victims

-Marsha Reed, for health.

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

Listen to Pastor Alex at 8:25 every Sunday morning on 103.9 **WLPO**. Tell your friends!

Join us for fellowship refreshments after worship today.

The Church Council will meet tomorrow, September 18th at 7:00pm.

CREW (Creative Rejoicing in Early Worship)

Calling All CREW Members! Get ready for adventure, fun, and faith! Our Sunday School program, CREW, has set sail again! Join us every Sunday at 9:00AM if you're in kindergarten through 6th grade. We'll have games, stories, crafts, and more that will help you grow in your faith and friendships! Mark your calendars and don't miss the boat. Bring your energy and excitement as we learn how God is at work in our lives and world. Parents and grandparents - bring your kids and grandkids to CREW this Sunday! We can't wait to see everyone on deck for this exciting new year!

Join us for the annual **CROP Walk Against Hunger** today at LaSalle's Rotary Park, starting at noon. This year's walk will raise money to fight hunger locally and globally. We need walkers of all ages, as well as sponsors to donate to this important cause. 25% of funds raised will go directly to our local food pantry, with the remaining 75% supporting the global mission of CROP Hunger Walks to feed the hungry around the world. Help us take steps to end hunger! It is not too late to

participate! See Pastor Alex or Jim after worship to sign up to be a walker and/ or sponsor.

Zion Diners will be meeting this Thursday Sept. 21st at 6:00 at Garzanelli's in Oglesby. Everyone is welcome to attend for good food and fellowship. If you plan to attend let the office or Phyllis Bender know. You may also contact the evening's host Kay Harding at (815) 993-9220. The restaurant would like a count on Wed. the 20th.

We will have Sunday morning worship at Pilgrim Park on September 24th! Anyone who would like to carpool can meet at the church at 9:00. If you need a ride, please let Pastor Alex know. We'll have lunch after the service. There is a sign up sheet 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.

Choir has begun. Anyone who would like to join us can contact Jim at (815) 228-0459. You can also just show up to any future practice. All are welcome. Our weekly practices are on Wednesdays at 6:30pm and Sunday mornings at 9:35am. We will practice Wednesdays: Sept, 20 and Sept. 27 and Sundays Sept. 24 and sing for those worship services. Let me know if you will not be in church any of those Sundays. We will sing at Pilgrim Park service if we have enough choir members going. In October, I will be gone until Oct. 17, so choir will not meet until Oct. 18. Call me if you have any questions or will not be available to sing. Thanks. I'm looking forward to another fun year. -*Jim*

****HELP FEED THE HUNGRY!****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. Please open your hearts and wallets to support this important cause. 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. Together we can make a difference for the less fortunate in our community! 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!

Save the Date!

Rev. Molly Carlson, our Illinois Conference Minister, will be coming for a visit on Sunday, November 12th.

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.

The I.V. Food Pantry is looking for a larger space to store more perishable and non-perishable foods to help the community. To mail contributions: Illinois Valley Food Pantry- 122 Wright St. LaSalle.

You can 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 Garncarz
Organist	Jim Greening
Secretary	Erin Lewis
Liturgist	Shelly Garncarz
Audio Technician	Jerry Koehler
Video Technician	Rhonda Essl
Song Leader	Dave Jacobson
Fellowship	Arnie & Jan Watkins

Attendance: Morning Worship September 10 –
In person: 33 (5 Children)
On YouTube: 15

This week:

Monday, September 18th

7:00pm Church Council meeting

Wednesday, September 20th

6:30pm Choir practice

Thursday, September 21st

6:00pm Zion Diners

Saturday, September 23rd

8:00am Weight Watchers meeting

Sunday, September 24th

8:25am Pastor Alex on WLPO

9:00am meet at Church to Carpool

10:15am Worship and Lunch at Pilgrim Park

Office Hours

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 9:00am-2:00pm

Wednesday: Closed

Thursday: Closed

Friday: 10:00am-5:00pm

Zion
United Church of Christ

Handicapped Accessible

www.zionperu.org

Follow us on Facebook: Zion UCC, Peru, IL

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