



3rd Sunday after Pentecost
June 21, 2020

A Father's Day Prayer

We give our thanks, Creator God, for the fathers in our lives.

Fatherhood does not come with a manual, and reality teaches us that some fathers excel while others fail.

We ask for Your blessings for them all – and forgiveness where it is needed. This Father's Day we remember the many sacrifices fathers make for their children and families, and the ways – both big and small – they lift children to achieve dreams thought beyond reach.

So too, we remember all those who have helped fill the void when fathers pass early or are absent – grandfathers and uncles, brothers and cousins, teachers, pastors and coaches – and the women of our families.

For those who are fathers, we ask for wisdom and humility in the face of the task of parenting. Give them the strength to do well by their children and by You.

In Your Holy name, O God, we pray. Amen*

Prelude

Glorify Thy Name, Martha Main, YouTube

We are Called to Worship

One: People of God, incline your ear and listen to the word of God.

Many: **We come with open hearts, ready to receive God's word of forgiveness and love.**

One: Call on the One who abounds in steadfast love.

Many: **We are ready to proclaim the good news of God in this place and throughout the earth!~**

Gathering Prayer - God of love and grace, we gather in thanksgiving and praise. Reassure us once more, that you never leave us or forsake us. Empower us by your Holy Spirit, that we may live faithfully as people of Christ. Help us leave behind the things that weigh us down, that we may find new life in Christ. Amen.~

Song 1

This is the Day, 652, YouTube

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

A Time of Prayer

You are welcome to send prayer requests to Pastor Sarah. Spend a few moments connecting with God and lifting up your prayers.

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Special Music

Be Still/Be Still My Soul, Martha Main, YouTube

Song 2

God of the Sparrow, 29, YouTube

We Hear God's Word

Matthew 6:25-27

25 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?

Matthew 10:26-31

26 'So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. 27 What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. 28 Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. 29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your

Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

Meditation

God of the Sparrow

Music for Reflection

His Eye is on the Sparrow, YouTube

Spiritual Practice of the Week



LOOK AT THE BIRDS OF THE AIR

Spend some time this week bird-watching. Consider the sparrows and all the birds of the air around you. How does God provide for and care for these creatures? Listen to their song. Might you be moved to share a song of your heart with the world? Notice the variety of birds. How many and diverse are the birds that fly even just around your home?

We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving

Offertory

Friends, we may not be together in person today as we worship, but the ministry of our church goes on. During this time when we are apart, we are still in need financial support for our ministry.

You're invited to take out your checkbook in these moments. As you write out your offering, be prayerful with each letter and number. In times such as these, when money becomes tight and our economy is under strain, God invites us to be generous and give what we can. These are gifts we freely give, as we are able and as we are called.

We ask that you please mail in your offerings to our office.

Zion United Church of Christ
8916 E. Troy Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46239

You can now submit your offerings on our website through a secure PayPal donation button. Please know that PayPal receives a 2.2% processing fee and a \$0.30 transaction charge. You are able to set up reoccurring, monthly payments. Check it out on our website at www.zionuccindy.net/donate.

***The Doxology** (Please sing the version that is most meaningful to you)

Version 1

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Version 2

*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.*

***We Give Thanks (unison) – Generous God, as we offer these gifts to you, we offer ourselves as well. May these gifts help our brothers and sisters, both near and far. And may they be a sign of our steadfast faithfulness, as we seek to live in your ways. Amen.~**

Song 3

I've Got Peace Like a River, YouTube

We Are Sent Forth with a Blessing - Generous God, as we offer these gifts to you, we offer ourselves as well. May these gifts help our brothers and sisters, both near and far. And may they be a sign of our steadfast faithfulness, as we seek to live in your ways. Amen.~

Postlude

What a Friend We Have in Jesus, Martha Main, YouTube

Worship Notes: ~ Scifres, Mary. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2017 . Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.

*<https://www.christiantoday.com/article/5-prayers-for-fathers-day/88623.htm>

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