



ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
**WORSHIP @ HOME**

[www.zionuccindy.net/worshipathome](http://www.zionuccindy.net/worshipathome)

*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

May 9, 2021

## **Prelude**

**We are Called to Worship** - God speaks to the heart, offering compassion and hope. God enlivens the mind, inviting curiosity and wonder. God awakens all spirits, fostering sacred connection. God nurtures our strength, creating unimagined possibilities. God calls the whole world, inspiring extravagant love.+ Let us worship.

**Gathering Prayer** - Creating Spirit, we join with the chorus of all of creation to celebrate your wondrous deeds. Fill us with your joy and train our ears for harmony, so that we may contribute to the world You are already creating. All this we pray in the name of Jesus, who revealed what is possible through love. Amen.+

## **Song 1**

*Joyful, Joyful*

## **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.

## **We Hear God's Word**

*John 15:9-17*

<sup>9</sup>As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup> 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

*1 John 5:1-6*

<sup>5</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup> This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

## **Meditation**

*Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Down in My Heart*

## **Song 2**

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

## **We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving**

**Invitation** – It is one thing to memorize the words of Jesus. But it is another thing to let those words transform us and rearrange our priorities and our lives. In these moments for quiet and reflection, what is it that God is inviting you to rearrange about your priorities? What is it that you want to offer to the Church and to the world as a practice of God’s love?+ Let us bring our gifts to God.

**May Benevolence** – Our May Benevolence Offering will go to support the UCC’s Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering. This special offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. Conferences and the national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ. As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults.

You can mail your offerings to our office. We check the mail regularly.

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

Or, donate online at [zionuccindy.net/donate](http://zionuccindy.net/donate).

### **Doxology**

**We Give Thanks** – With hearts full of gratitude and joy, we come to you, O God, with these our gifts. May they be signs of our recommitment to you to follow in your ways and keep your commandments. Bless these gifts that they might carry your love far and wide through our ministry together. Amen.

**We Are Sent Forth with a Blessing** – Let us go forth thankful that we have come. Let us go forth renewed in God’s abiding love. And let us go forth rejoicing in the Good News, of Jesus Christ, whose love will never let us go. Amen.~

### **Postlude**

Worship Notes: +UCC Worship Ways