



ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**WORSHIP @ HOME**

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

*Kinship in Christ*

August 8, 2021

**Prelude**

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*

**We are Called to Worship** – As one body of Christ, we gather together this day. Blessed by one Spirit, we gather in unity and love.~

### **Sharing Our Joys and Concerns**

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

**A Time of Prayer**— Speak truth to us this day, O God. Speak truth to the most inward parts of our hearts and minds, that we might speak your truth in love and that you might speak your truth through us each and every day. In your holy name, we pray.~

### **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**

*Ephesians 4:1-16 (NRSV)*

4I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup>with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup>making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit, just as

you were called to the one hope of your calling, <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

<sup>7</sup> But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup>Therefore it is said,

'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.'

<sup>9</sup>(When it says, 'He ascended', what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? <sup>10</sup>He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup>The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. <sup>14</sup>We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup>But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup>from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

## **Meditation**

*Kinship in Christ*

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

**Invitation** – Whatever measure of grace and giftedness you have been given, it is enough. From this measure, you are invited to share yourselves with God and with God's world.~

**August Benevolence** – "...for I was hungry and you gave me something to eat..." This month we are once again supporting God's Bounty Food Pantry. God's Bounty works with our neighbors who are facing food insecurity, providing them with staples they need to feed their families. God's Bounty is a joint ministry of the Franklin Township Ministerial Association.

You can mail your offerings to our office or give online at [www.zionuccindy.net/donate](http://www.zionuccindy.net/donate)

## **Doxology**

**We Give Thanks** – For calling us into ministry with you, we give you thanks and praise, O God. For gracing us with gifts and abundance, we are ever grateful. Bless these gifts we now dedicate to you, that they may nourish others with the grace of your presence. In gratitude, we pray. Amen.~

**Hymn**

*Called as Partners in Christ's Service, 581*

**We Are Sent Forth with a Blessing** – In the Spirit of peace, we go into the world. May we share the unity and love we have found here, that others may touch the presence of Christ's peace, and the grace of God's love.~

**Postlude**

*Go Forth with Knowledge*