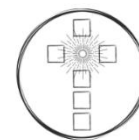




WORSHIP WITH ZION

Summer 2024



Serve & Enrich
Zion United Church
of Christ

The 7th Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude

Peace, Quiet Peace

Gathering—Rely on God’s providential care. God’s grace is sufficient for us. Take nothing for the journey but faith in Christ. We can trust the God of our salvation. Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised. God’s steadfast love endures forever. Come! Let us worship.~

****Hymn**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling, 358

Prayer—O God of grace and mercy, you call us to proclaim your healing and faithfully fulfill your kingdom mission. Let us not count the cost of our wins and losses, but keep our eyes fixed on you as we seek your realm of peace.=

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.

Exploring God’s Word for All Ages—Travel Light

We Hear God’s Word—Mark 6:1-16 (NRSV)

¹He left that place and came to his home town, and his disciples followed him. ²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, ‘Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?’ And they took offence at him. ⁴Then Jesus said to them, ‘Prophets are not without honour, except in their home town, and among their own kin, and in their own house.’ ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, ‘Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.’ ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Meditation

The Places We'll Go

We Gather at the Table

Hymn

A Place at the Table, 617 (v. 1, 2, 3, 5)

Set Your Place at the Table—Whatever you have on hand to celebrate communion will work just fine, because this ancient ritual is not about what we use for this meal or where we partake of it. Instead, it is about the act of remembrance. So, gather around the table, prepare your place, and remember that Christ is in our midst.

Our Invitation—Christ has called us to love our neighbors, to serve them and enrich them, to share with them the Good News of Christ’s love. Let us gather, now, at Christ’s table to find the nurture and nourishment we need to do Christ’s work.

A Prayer for Transformation—Gracious and Loving God, have mercy on us. We confess our own forms of rebellion and stubbornness. We seek our own way and fail to wait for your counsel, wisdom, and insight. We hold fast to hopes and dreams that do not include your kingdom or our neighbors. We choose comfort over holy confrontation, doctrine over faithful discipleship and position over spiritual power. Awaken in us hunger and thirst for righteousness. Amen.+

Assurance of Grace— Power-filled beloved, the Holy One is with you and fuels your journey. God grants you power to be the church, to be faithful, and to be active agents in the kingdom. You have power to make things new in your heart, in your neighborhood, and in your community. Receive the grace to try

even when your way is uncertain, to hope even when circumstances seem dim, and to love even when love does not come easily. God is with you and will be with you.+

The Words of Institution— On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” And so, we remember...we offer ourselves...we proclaim God’s love...

Blessing Our Meal— Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and cup. May the grace and love we receive here sustain us for the work that is ahead. May it heal our hearts, inspire our imaginations, and strengthen our faith. Amen.

We Share the Bread and the Cup—Take now and eat, this is the body of Christ broken for you. Take now and drink, this is the cup of the renewed covenant, Christ’s blood given for you.

We Give Thanks—Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior’s presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by Christ’s body and blood that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that your universal church may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.`

We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving

Invitation—Through this ministry, Christ equips us that we might be sent out into the world to proclaim the Gospel. With gratitude and thanksgiving, we answer Christ’s call to build God’s kingdom here on earth, to equip one another, and serve our community. Let us bring our gifts to God this day.

Opportunities to Serve

July Benevolence—CUE (Chicago, United, and Eden) Seminaries

Doxology

We Give Thanks— You give us everything we need, O God, to build your kingdom. With nothing but your presence and your promise to be with us, your presence in our lives blesses the world. Receive our love and commitment in this morning's gifts and offerings, that the world may know the healing love of your Son. Amen.~

Hymn

Sent Forth by God's Blessing, 712

Benediction— Go with the blessing of God, our guide and guardian. We walk without fear to share the realm of God. Go with the assurance of Christ, who shows us the way. We have all we need for our journey of faith. Go with the power of the Spirit, who anoints our way. We travel in the footsteps of the saints of God.~

Postlude

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying