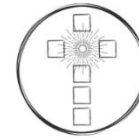




# WORSHIP WITH ZION

## Summer 2024



*Serve & Enrich*  
Zion United Church  
of Christ

*The 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost*

### **Prelude**

*Through It All*

**Gathering**—Why have you come to this place? Are you tired in body and spirit? Why have you come today? We have come to follow Jesus. Come and eat your fill... There is plenty for all...Come! Let us worship.~

### **\*\*Hymn**

*This is the Day (2x), 652*

**Prayer**— Great and Mighty God, we seek your presence among us. We strain to hear your voice as it so often gets drowned out by the noise of the world. We pause to consider your works, your word, and your way. Speak to us now in spirit and in truth. Open your hand and our hearts that we may join in this moment of holy encounter. Forge us as a community committed to follow the path Jesus has marked for us.+

**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.

### **Back to School Blessing**

**Exploring God's Word for All Ages**—Spiritual Practices in Feeding the 5,000

**We Hear God's Word**—*John 6:1-21 (NRSVUE)*

**6** After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias.<sup>[a]</sup> **2** A large crowd kept following him because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. **3** Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. **4** Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. **5** When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" **6** He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. **7** Philip answered him, "Two hundred

denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.”<sup>8</sup> One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him,<sup>9</sup> “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?”<sup>10</sup> Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was a great deal of grass in the place, so they<sup>[b]</sup> sat down, about five thousand in all.<sup>11</sup> Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted.<sup>12</sup> When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.”<sup>13</sup> So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets.<sup>14</sup> When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.”

<sup>15</sup> When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

<sup>16</sup> When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea,<sup>17</sup> got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them.<sup>18</sup> The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing.<sup>19</sup> When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified.<sup>20</sup> But he said to them, “It is I;<sup>[c]</sup> do not be afraid.”<sup>21</sup> Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

## **Meditation**

*Intentional Community*

## **Hymn**

*Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness, 93*

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

**Invitation**—Generosity encourages us to consider what we have to share beyond our own use. May we exhibit the generosity of the young person found in the gospel narrative that shared their lunch when Philip surveyed the crowd of thousands. The miracle starts with that act of sharing and faith.+

## **Opportunities to Serve**

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

## **Doxology**

**We Give Thanks**—Sustaining God, receive our offerings and magnify them beyond our imagination for the benefit of your kingdom, this ministry, and your creation. Cultivate a heart of generosity within us and enable us to witness the abundance that can be found in the fragments that remain as testimony to your power at work in us. Amen.+

**Hymn**

*Amazing Grace, 422*

**Benediction**—Go to follow Jesus, who gives us the bread of life. Go to walk in the ways of Christ, who strengthens us in our inner being through the power of the Holy Spirit. Go to serve our living Lord, who gathers the fragments of our lives, that nothing may be lost.~

**Postlude**

*This Our Song of Praise*