



dream



Serve & Enrich
Zion United Church
of Christ

Sunday, August 17, 2025 – Holy Spirit, Help Us Dream

Prelude

Lead on O King Eternal

Gathering—From north and south, east and west, the winds of the Spirit have swept us up to this time and this moment to gather as one and to worship our awesome God. It is good and right to be *together* in this holy place, in the sacred spaces of our homes, through the connections of cables and servers and screens that keep us united even when we are apart. Church, let us gather ourselves now, wherever we may be, and lift up our prayer and our praise.

**Gathering Song

In Christ There Is No East or West, 603

Prayer—God, we give you thanks that you keep us united as one body in Christ. There are moments when we may feel separated by time and distance, by theology and perspective, by culture and generation, but God you draw us in to you, connecting us through your love and care for all humanity and all creation. You call us to be church, to serve and enrich your people. Help us to receive the good news of your love for us today. Heal the divisions that keep us from meaningful relationship. Hear the prayers of our hearts...Thank you, God, for the uniting and connecting Spirit that draws us to worship as your church.

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 Together—Back to School Blessing

Scripture—Matthew 28:16-20 (CEB)

Paula Prange

¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshipped him, but some doubted. ¹⁸ Jesus came near and spoke to them, "I've received all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to obey everything

that I've commanded you. Look, I myself will be with you every day until the end of this present age."

Meditation *Holy Spirit, Help Us Dream*, Pastor Sarah Frische-Mouri Hannigan

Hymn *Dream God's Dream*, handout and screen

We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving

Invitation—May the gifts we have be the gifts we use to supply the needs of the community. When we employ generosity, we...reject the lie of scarcity and assert trust in the God who provides. May our gifts reflect the blessings we have received and the faith that we proclaim.+

August Benevolence—Our Church's Wider Mission

****Doxology**

We Give Thanks—Holy, Holy, Holy God, who provides, who gifts, and who refines. We offer these gifts to you in gratitude and hope. May they extend beyond the walls of our sanctuaries so that your name will be known through us. May they spark hope and joy to dispel despair and despondency. May needs be met and lives changed through our giving and our living. Receive these gifts as our tangible prayer that your kingdom come and will be done. Amen.+

Hymn *We Are the Church*, 550

Benediction—We give God thanks for the uniting gift of the Spirit here in our worship. As you leave this time together, let the winds of the Spirit courageously lead you to share God's love and dream God's dream. Go forth in peace. Amen.

Postlude Now Thank We All our God