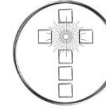




ORDINARY TIME



Serve & Enrich
Zion United Church
of Christ

Our Mission: United by Christ's loving embrace, a welcoming light in an unsure world, we serve and enrich the community and provide a safe gathering space for fellowship, spiritual growth, and self-exploration.

Our Vision: Transforming and caring for our community through Christ's love.

Pastor: Sarah Frische-Mouri Hannigan



Organist: Martha Main

Bell Choir Director: Vivian Thomas

Office Manager: Michael Law

Custodians: Anita and Greg Law

Scripture Reader: Paula Prange

Tech Steward: Michael Law

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June 21, 2026 – Freeing Jesus Series: Jesus as Friend

Prelude

“A Blessing for the Dad’s”

By Kate Bowler

Gathering (responsive)

One: As people of faith, we follow the ways of Jesus Christ, but who is Jesus?
Peter said...

Many: **Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God.**

One: The people said...

Many: **He’s a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.**

One: Jesus said...

Many: **Love one another as I have loved you...You are my friends.**

Many: **In our worship let us meet Jesus—the Messiah, the friend of tax collectors and sinners, the friend of you and me.**

***Hymn**

Come Away from Rush and Hurry, 655

Prayer—Jesus, we often pray in your name yet if we are honest with ourselves there are many ways in which we don’t really know you. Open our hearts and minds that we might free you from our own limited understandings and be ready to meet and follow you today and every day. We ask this in some of your many names - Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence.~

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

- What was the first image or idea of Jesus that you were introduced to when you began your faith journey?
- What is the most meaningful image or idea of who Jesus is for you today?

Scripture

Matthew 16:15-16 (NRSVUE)

¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

Luke 7:34 (NRSVUE)

³⁴ the Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’

John 15:12-17 (NRSVUE)

¹² “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Reflection

Jesus as Friend

Hymn

Jesus Loves Me, 437

We Respond to God’s Word with Our Giving

Invitation—Jesus invited us to love one another as he loved us. If we do this, we are his friends. May the gifts we bring this day be a witness to our love for one another and all our neighbors. May they be a sign of our commitment to following in Jesus’ ways.

June Benevolence

Habitat for Humanity

***Doxology**

We Give Thanks—God, in this broken world, we need more friendship and care and love. Jesus shows us what it is to be friend to those on the margins, the so-called tax collectors and sinners. Use these gifts in our ministry at Zion that we might be bold in our friendship, bold in our care, bold in our love. Amen.

Hymn

What a Friend We Have in Jesus, 473

Benediction—As you go forth this week to follow in the ways of Jesus, know that you go forth, not alone, but with Jesus, your friend, ready to guide your way. Go forth to serve and enrich with the love of Jesus. Amen.

Postlude

*If you are comfortably able and so called, you're invited to stand. ` <https://katebowler.com/blessings/a-blessing-for-the-dads/> ~Cathedral of Hope *Freeing Jesus* Study Guide by Dr. Greg Smith, sowhatfaith.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK AT ZION

- **Sunday** – Happy Father's Day (No 3rd Sunday Lunch)
- **Wednesday, 12 pm** – Gospel Concert Planning Meeting (off-site)
- **Saturday, 1-3 pm** – Community Puzzle Day (Fellowship Hall)
- **Sunday, June 28, after worship** – June Congregational Meeting

SERVE

- **JUNE BENEVOLENCE: Habitat for Humanity**—The Greater Indy Habitat for Humanity provides access to education, house construction, and mortgages for low-to-moderate income buyers to purchase a home in Marion, Hamilton, Hendricks, Hancock and Shelby Counties. In 2024, 32 homes were built, 48 homes repairs completed, and 19 mortgages paid off. Seeking to put God's love in action, Greater Indy Habitat for Humanity envisions a world where everyone has a decent place to live!
- **BLOOD DRIVE**—Save the date for our next Red Cross Blood Drive, scheduled for July 23 from 12-6 pm. Registration is now open for donors. Help us spread the word as we join this community partner to help save lives.

ENRICH

- **SUMMER WORSHIP SERIES**—Join us June 21-July 26 for a special worship series this summer. The Faith Formation Team and Worship Team have decided to merge our Summer Book Study and Worship Series into one. Worship will be a bit

more conversation this summer as we explore themes from *Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence* by Diana Butler Bass. You do not need to read the book to be part of this worship series or our conversations, but if you'd like a copy of the book, please sign up in the back of the sanctuary.

- **COMMUNITY PUZZLE DAY**—Puzzle with us on Saturday, June 27 from 1-3 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a snack to share and invite your family and friends to join us for a fun afternoon. Puzzles for all ages will be available.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **PASTOR SARAH**—Pastor Sarah will be off Monday, June 22, and Tuesday, June 23. Pastor Ted Schory is on call for any pastoral care emergencies.
- **ALL CHURCH RETREAT**—Thank you to council for leading us in our retreat last Sunday and for everyone who was able to participate and share your thoughts and ideas for what is ahead in our ministry! Thank you to the Kitchen Team for a wonderful lunch.
- **3rd SUNDAY LUNCH**—Because the 3rd Sunday in June is Father's Day, we will not have a 3rd Sunday Lunch. Join us on July 19 at Tian Fu.
- **BAPTISM SUNDAY**—On Sunday, June 28, during worship we will celebrate the baptisms of Marge Limbach and her grandson, Scott Mosley. We hope you can join us for this special celebration as the whole church offers their love and support.
- **JUNE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**—Please join us after worship on Sunday, June 28, for our Congregational Meeting. Updates will be shared related to our finances and Strategic Plan. A report is now available for you to pick up in the back of the sanctuary that shares a summary of our Strategic Plan Retreat. Council hopes that everyone can stay for these important conversations.
- **SUMMER SLOW DOWN**—Our council and ministry teams are working at keeping our July calendar as light as possible. We've been busy at Zion and our volunteers deserve a little break.