

A Changemaker is a risk-taker, someone who puts their faith into action to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Jesus was a Changemaker. The Good News is...so are we.

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: Rev.Sarah Frische-Mouri Hannigan
Sabbath Day Off: every Friday, along with Saturday, as the church calendar allows
Organist: Martha Main
Bell Choir Director: Vivian Thomas
Custodians: Michael Law
Tech Steward: Michael Law
Scripture Reader: Greg Miller

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October 25, 2026 – Changemakers: Creativity

Prelude

Gathering *The Call to Fly with "Fly" sung by Kaylee Gephart-Kile*

Centering Words…
In my dreams I can fly
and I soar
and my feet touch the sky
and it seems I can go
anywhere if I try
and the world's not so dark
when the clouds make it light
If there's no hope
tell me why
in my dreams I can fly

Centering Words…
In our dreams we can fly
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Responsive Gathering

One: The world needs to change, a lot. There are so many things that need change,
Many: and we can get overwhelmed,
One: especially if we think that we need to make all of the change by ourselves. We need to remember that God is already at work.
Many: God has been, and always will be, doing a new thing.
One: We are called to show up and cooperate with what God is doing! We are the changemakers, and we are being made ready!
Many: May we be changed by this time of worship!

***Hymn** *Come, All Christians, Be Committed,* 459

Prayer—Creative God, you fill the world with beauty, diversity, and possibilities beyond our imagining. When the challenges around us seem too big to change, open our minds to new ways of thinking and our hearts to the work you are already doing. Help us trust the gifts you have placed within us and discover how even small acts can make a meaningful difference. Shape us through this time of worship, and make us ready to be your changemakers.

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: *October Kindness Challenge – Where did you see kindness?*

Scripture *Luke 7:36-50 (CEB)*

36 One of the Pharisees invited Jesus to eat with him. After he entered the
Pharisee's home, he took his place at the table. 37 Meanwhile, a woman from the city, a
sinner, discovered that Jesus was dining in the Pharisee's house. She brought perfumed
oil in a vase made of alabaster. 38 Standing behind him at his feet and crying, she began to
wet his feet with her tears. She wiped them with her hair, kissed them, and poured the oil
on them. 39 When the Pharisee who had invited Jesus saw what was happening, he said to
himself, If this man were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him.
He would know that she is a sinner.

40 Jesus replied, "Simon, I have something to say to you."

"Teacher, speak," he said.

41 "A certain lender had two debtors. One owed enough money to pay five
hundred people for a day's work. The other owed enough money for fifty. 42 When they

couldn't pay, the lender forgave the debts of them both. Which of them will love him more?"

43 Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the largest debt canceled."

Jesus said, "You have judged correctly."

44 Jesus turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? When I entered your home, you didn't give me water for my feet, but she wet my feet with tears and wiped them with her hair. 45 You didn't greet me with a kiss, but she hasn't stopped kissing my feet since I came in. 46 You didn't anoint my head with oil, but she has poured perfumed oil on my feet. 47 This is why I tell you that her many sins have been forgiven; so she has shown great love. The one who is forgiven little loves little."

48 Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

49 The other table guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this person that even forgives sins?"

50 Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."

Reflection *Changemakers: Creativity*

Hymn *Change My Heart, O God,* 373 (2x)

We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving

Invitation—God is always creating new possibilities, often in ways we might not expect. As we offer our gifts today, may we give with open hearts and imaginations, trusting that God can use what we share to nurture new ideas, meet real needs, and bring healing to our community and our world.

October Benevolence *Neighbors in Need + OCWM*

***Doxology** (On screen. Please sing the version that is most meaningful to you.)

We Give Thanks—Generous God, thank you for the gifts you place in each of us and for the possibilities that emerge when we share them. Bless these offerings and use them to bring hope, healing, and new life wherever they are needed. Continue to stretch our imaginations, that we might recognize the opportunities before us and join in the creative work of your Spirit. Amen.

Hymn *This Is My Father's World,* 21

A Blessing for the Changemakers

Sending Forth

Postlude

*If you are comfortably able and so called, you're invited to stand. *This worship was designed in collaboration with The Changemaker Initiative (www.thechangemakerinitiative.org) with the help of Kim Jones, Executive Director, and Karen Kehlet, Director of Learning.*

WORSHIP NOTES

- **PRAYGROUND**—At Zion we believe that God invites us to intergenerational worship where all are welcome just as they are. Our Prayground is located at the front of our sanctuary where little ones can get a clear view of what is going on in worship. This is sacred space for young worshippers and their families. At the Prayground, you will find quite toys, activity sheets, books, and more to help aid in age-appropriate worship. Activity bags are also available in the back of the sanctuary to take with to other parts of the sanctuary where you may want to worship.
- **OFFERING**—The generous support of our congregation allows us to live the mission God has given to us to serve and enrich our community. Visitors are not expected to make financial donations unless you feel so called. Regular offering envelopes and benevolence offering envelopes are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary. You're invited to place your offerings in the basket in the back. You can donate online through PayPal at www.zionuccindy.net/donate. Additionally, you can mail your offering into the church office.
- **PLEASE BE COMFORTABLE**—Bottled waters are available on the tables in our entryway. Restrooms are through the door at the front right side of the sanctuary. You're welcome to get up and move during worship and are invited to bring fidgets and other activities that will help you engage in our time together.
- **CONNECT WITH ZION BEYOND WORSHIP**—Through our email list, we share weekly announcements and prayers each Saturday morning, along with our monthly newsletter. You can subscribe to our email list either by using the QR code or by going to our website at https://www.zionuccindy.net/contact/.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK AT ZION

- **Sunday, 9 am** – Bell Choir Practice
- **Sunday** – Horizon House Donations Due
- **Wednesday, 12:30 pm** – Fundraising Team (Zion Room)
- **Saturday, 10 am** – Young Adult Group at Irvington Halloween Festival

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING—**Thank you to everyone who was able to participate at our October Congregational Meeting! We are still in need of volunteers for council. If you feel called to serve or see gifts in someone else who you would like to see serve on council, let a council member know.
- **BE A BLESSING MAGNETS**—The rest of our "Be a Blessing" magnets have arrived! Pick yours up today if you haven't yet.
- **WABASH PASTORAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**—We shared with excitement earlier this year that Pastor Sarah was one of 13 pastors throughout Indiana to be selected for the Wabash Pastoral Leadership Program, sponsored by the Lilly Endowment. This two year program will help Pastor Sarah grow into a new stage of ministry and develop her leadership skills. Her orientation is November 5. During these training sessions, she will have limited access to phone and email. Please lift up Pastor Sarah and her cohort as they begin this new time of learning and growth.

SERVE

- **CLOTHING DRIVE FOR HORIZON HOUSE**—We are supporting our friends at Horizon House to provide warm winter clothing and other high-priority needs for our unhoused neighbors. Bring your donations with you to worship and help us fill our chancel through this Sunday. Thank you to everyone who has already been able to donate so generously! Gently used or new items needed include: hats; gloves; hoodies; coats; NEW socks; men's jeans in waist sizes 32, 34, 36, & 48; NEW men's underwear in sizes M-XXL; NEW women's underwear in sizes S-XL.
- **OCTOBER BENEVOLENCE: Neighbors in Need + OCWM**—Neighbors in Need is a Special Mission Offering of the United Church of Christ that supports justice and compassion ministries across the United States. This year's theme, inspired by Ephesians 5:1-2, reminds us that our past does not dictate our future. When we unite for advocacy and justice, we show the world that real change is possible. Thank you for your generosity as we help build a just world for all! Donations to Our Church's Wider Mission helps our Indiana-Kentucky Conference and our national United Church of Christ to continue providing services, care, and leadership locally, nationally, and globally.

ENRICH

- **YOUNG ADULT GROUP—**On Saturday, October 31, we are heading to the Irvington Halloween Festival. RSVP to Pastor Sarah. We'll meet at the IRV Starbucks at 10 am and will finish up at 12 pm.

- **GOLDEN FRIENDS**—We are excited to welcome an educator from the Marion County Health Department to our Golden Friends gathering on November 19 at 11 am. All are welcome to join us in the Fellowship Hall as we learn about the importance of nutrition for living a healthy life.
- **KINDNESS CHALLENGE WITH FAITH FORMATION**—Each fall the Faith Formation Team presents an opportunity for us to grow in our faith through daily engagement of spiritual practices. This year we are sharing with you the October Kindness Calendar from the non-profit Random Acts of Kindness. Our world desperately needs more kindness. Let's join together in creating a kinder world. Calendars will be available to pick up next Sunday and will be available to download in the weekly email.
- **ALL SAINTS**—Sunday, November 1, is All Saints Day, and it is our tradition at Zion to honor and remember the saints of our church who have passed away in the year leading up to this celebration. In addition to remembering the saints of our church, we want to remember the saints of your lives. You'll be invited to name aloud those you've loved and loss and can light a candle for them.
- **GIVING THANKS AT ZION: SAVE THE DATES**—There are so many reasons to give thanks to our Creator. Save the date for our Annual Thanksgiving Party and Pie Celebration on Sunday, November 15. This will take the place of our 3rd Sunday Lunch for November. We'll have Olive Garden soup and breadsticks, and folks are invited to bring their favorite pie to share. We will also have a special Thanksgiving service of song and praise during worship on Sunday, November 22. There are wonderful gatherings to which you may want to invite family, friends, and neighbors.