**ZION’S REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Rev. June Boutwell, Senior Pastor**

**Lori Seinar-Roknick, Director of Music Ministries**

August 16, 2020 10:30 a.m.

*Where the past and the future with Jesus Christ are celebrated so the present can be lived abundantly.*

**Welcome and Announcements**

Welcome to worship. The Altar Flowers today are placed in memory of W. H. Knierman and Clara Jones, by the Baker Family.

Thank you Zach Morgan and Lori Seinar-Roknick for providing special music. Zach, 14, will be a Freshman this year at Greenville High School. He maintains a 4.0 average with science as his favorite school subject. Zach is an avid bird watcher and plays the trumpet in the Trojan Marching Band. Zach is the son of Matthew Morgan and Julie Small Morgan. Thank you for sharing your talents with us this morning!

Just a reminder that we will return to in-person worship on September 6 with Holy Communion. We will continue to have lectors and musicians as part of the service and continue to live stream and post worship videos each week. You can find worship materials under the “Pastor’s Corner” tab on our website [www.zionsucc.org](http://www.zionsucc.org). You can choose to connect to worship however you feel most comfortable. Many thanks to Allen Morrill, Leslie Graul, Lance Callahan and Julie Hills for helping with the livestream equipment and Lori and all the volunteers who offer their gifts of speech and music.

Please send Pastor June any prayer requests by email, text, phone, or messenger. And share any feedback or comment on worship in the sanctuary, the live stream, or video posting. This is meant to be meaningful for you so we appreciate knowing what works and what we could do differently.

As always, each of you is in our prayers. Physical distancing does not mean we are distant from one another in heart and spirit. And we know that our Creator, Redeemer, and Loving Spirit is present with us always and in every moment. For all this we give thanks.

**A Time of Gathering**

THE SOLEMN DECLARATION

Leader: And now may we prepare our hearts and minds for worship as we are gathered in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES AND THE ENTRANCE OF THE LIGHT

THE PRELUDE “Black Water in the Moonlight” (Theme from Les Preludes by Liszt)

Zach Morgan, piano

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP Romans 11:1, 29

*I ask, then, has God rejected God’s people? By no means! For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.*

GATHERING SONG “Great Is the Lord” (CCLI #1149) (bulletin page 5)

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 67)

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make God’s face to shine upon us.

**People: That God’s way may be known upon earth, God’s saving power among all nations.**

Leader: Let the peoples praise you, O God;

**People: Let all the peoples praise you.**

Leader: For you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

**People: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,**

OPENING PRAYER

OPENING HYMN “We Gather Together” (CCLI #3865495) (bulletin page 6)

**A Time of Prayer**

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, you see deep into our hearts and know us better than we know ourselves.**

**Forgive us we pray--For the times we turn away from your word, remind us that you are the Lord our God, our eternal protector and guide; For our impulses of anger and jealousy, scorn or spite, grant us your healing peace; For our resistance to forgiveness, generosity and mercy, inspire us with your compassionate love. Hear us now as we lift our silent prayers to you….**

A MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION AND PRAYER

THE ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS AND LOVE

A SONG OF ASSURANCE “God Will Take Care of You”

**Be not dismayed whate’er betide, God will take care of you;**

**Beneath God’s wings of love abide, God will take care of you.**

**God will take care of you, through every day, o’er all the way;**

**God will take care of you, God will take care of you.**

THE CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Friends in Christ, God invites us to hold the needs of our sisters and brothers, our friends and neighbors, as dear to us as our own needs. Loving our neighbor as ourselves, we offer our thanksgivings and petitions on behalf of the church and the world. Today we hold in prayer, Charlie and Millie Owen, Linda Allison, Sam and Elaine Gano, Linda Schehl, Fred Graham, Linda Henry, Lynn Marlowe, Gabriel Sobina, and Frank Lawrence. I invite you to name other joys and concerns in the space provided in the prayer or in chat so we can all offer our prayers. Please feel free during the week to let me know if there are others you would like added to the prayer list.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**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.**

PRAYER RESPONSE

**Hear our prayer, O God. Hear our prayer, O God.**

**Incline your ear to us and grant us your peace.**

SPECIAL MUSIC “Kindermarsch” Franz Schubert

1 piano, 4 hands Zach Morgan, Primo and Lori Seinar-Roknick, Secondo

**Dwelling in the Word**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 56:1-8 New International Version

**56**This is what the Lord says: “Maintain justice and do what is right, for my salvation is close at hand and my righteousness will soon be revealed.  **6**And foreigners who bind themselves to the Lord to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my covenant—**7**these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer.

Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.” **8**The Sovereign Lord declares—he who gathers the exiles of Israel: “I will gather still others to them besides those already gathered.”

SERMON  *No Barriers to Entry*

OUR OFFERING TO GOD

We give our offerings to God—our treasure, our gifts, our labor. And God receives them all with graciousness. You may mail or drop off your offering in the office, use a bank bill pay service or use the “give” button on the website. Thank you for your continued support of Zion’s ministries. Let us offer the doxology in response to the gifts we receive and return.

The Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise God all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above you heavenly host.**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

CLOSING HYMN “Lead On Eternal Sovereign” (CCLI #87163) (bulletin page 7)

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE “The Church’s One Foundation” arr. by Jason W. Krug

**Our worship is ended and our service begins.**

MEDITATION - Carla Jo Masterson, contemporary American author

*Love does not cost anything. Kind words and deeds do not cost anything. The real beauty of the world is equal for everyone to see. It was given by God equally to all, without restrictions.*





