

ZION'S REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Rev. June Boutwell, Senior Pastor
Lori Seinar-Roknick, Director of Music Ministries

**Please stand in body or spirit as you are able*

September 12, 2021 10:30 a.m.
Rally Day

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pat Seiple, Lector

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 ENTRANCE OF THE LIGHT

Emily Rinella, Acolyte

PRELUDE "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" (CCLI# 7010083) Arr. by Tedd Smith

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP Hebrews 10:24-25

*And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving
up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another.*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pat Seiple, Lector

Leader: Return to the Lord your God,

People: for God is gracious.

Leader: Confess to the Lord your God,

People: for God is merciful.

Leader: Repent to the Lord your God,

People: for God is slow to anger.

Leader: Praise the Lord your God,

People: for God abounds in steadfast love.

Leader: Worship the Lord your God.

People: Together, let us worship God!

*GATHERING SONG

"Awesome God" (CCLI #41099) (bulletin page 4)

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of unity and love, place within each of us a spirit of hope and community. Have mercy upon us when we speak without love or act without humility. Cleanse us with the living water of your grace. Create in us willing hearts to live in patience and gentleness. Raise us up to be your children, growing toward maturity in faith and love. Strengthen this church, that we may be a model of ministry and unity for all the world to see. In Christ's name, we offer our silent prayers....

*A MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION AND PRAYER

*THE ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS AND LOVE

*A SONG OF ASSURANCE

I need you every hour, O God of grace. The voice your peace affords, I now embrace. I need you, how I need you! Every hour I need you. O bless me now, my Savior, I come to you.

~Please be seated~

BLESSING OF TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

PRAYER FOR TEACHERS (unison)

We thank you God, for these teachers; for good curriculum, for creativity and patience in the learning process. Our teachers have helped us all learn to know you and learn about you. Bless our teachers, we pray, infuse them, and us all, with an eagerness to dwell in you and your Word; to seek and find you in classrooms, at home, in quiet reading and conversation, and in other experiences where you await us this season of learning and growth. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Prayer for Students

Pastor June

Presentation of Bibles to Third Grade Students - Debbie Frerotte

Emilee Deeter

Ryleigh Perry

Zackary Suntheimer

Cashton Wig

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – HAND OUT SCOOPS—How could I encourage someone to come to SS or church? Why it is important to meet together on Sunday mornings? What is your favorite church activity? COLLECT SCOOPS

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your Spirit in this place. Lord, listen to your children praying. Send us love, send us power, send us grace. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON Ephesians 4:11-16

¹¹ So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. ¹⁴ Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

CHOIR ANTHEM "Come Follow Me" (CCLI#3607691) Paul Williams/Joseph Martin

SERMON *Built Up*

OUR OFFERING TO GOD

Invitation

Offertory Music "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" arr. by Larry Shackley

*The Doxology

*The Prayer of Dedication

*CLOSING HYMN "O God, Who Teaches Us to Live" (bulletin page 5)

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE "Down to the River to Pray" (CCLI# 7021286) arr. by Mark Hayes

MEDITATION: Michelle DiFranco

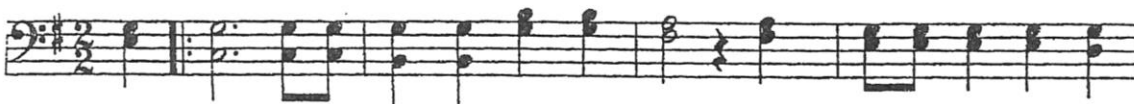
Parish life is like a sundae; the more we add to it, the better it becomes.

*GATHERING SONG "Awesome God"

Harmony optional



Our God is an awe-some God; He reigns from heav-en a-bove With



wis-dom, pow'r and love; Our God is an awe-some God! Our God! Our



God is an awe-some God; He reigns from heav-en a-bove With



wis-dom, pow'r and love; Our God is an awe-some God! Our God! Our



God is an awe-some God! Our God is an awe-some God!



O God, Who Teaches Us to Live

359

Tom Hunter, 1992

1 O God, who teach - es us to live and
 2 For love that wel - comes chil - dren in and
 3 For wis - dom, skills, and con - fi - dence where
 4 For words and num - bers, hopes and dreams that
 5 For all who fol - low teach - ing's call with

guides us on our way, For all the teach - ers
 holds them when they stray, For knowl - edge hearts and
 won - der leads to faith, For those who ask and
 grow from day to day, For in - spi - ra - tion's
 cour - age and with grace - To build a fu - ture

in our midst, we give you thanks and praise.
 souls re - ceive, we give you thanks and praise.
 those who hear, we give you thanks and praise.
 mes - sen - gers, we give you thanks and praise.
 for us all, we give you thanks and praise.

United Church of Christ minister Tom Hunter describes himself as a "minstrel" for schools and churches across the United States. This hymn was written "to celebrate and thank teachers in both Sunday and weekday schools because their work shapes the future for us all."

Tune: ST. ANNE C.M.
 William Croft, 1708