

Jeremiah 18:1-11

18 This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ² “Go down to the potter’s house, and there I will give you my message.” ³ So I went down to the potter’s house, and I saw him working at the wheel. ⁴ But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him.

⁵ Then the word of the LORD came to me. ⁶ He said, “Can I not do with you, Israel, as this potter does?” declares the LORD. “Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel. ⁷ If at any time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down and destroyed, ⁸ and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned. ⁹ And if at another time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be built up and planted, ¹⁰ and if it does evil in my sight and does not obey me, then I will reconsider the good I had intended to do for it.

¹¹ “Now therefore say to the people of Judah and those living in Jerusalem, ‘This is what the LORD says: Look! I am preparing a disaster for you and devising a plan against you. So turn from your evil ways, each one of you, and reform your ways and your actions.’”

Romans 9:20-24

²⁰ But who are you, a human being, to talk back to God? “Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, ‘Why did you make me like this?’” ²¹ Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for special purposes and some for common use?

²² What if God, although choosing to show his wrath and make his power known, bore with great patience the objects of his wrath—prepared for destruction? ²³ What if he did this to make the riches of his glory known to the objects of his mercy, whom he prepared in advance for glory— ²⁴ even us, whom he also called, not only from the Jews but also from the Gentiles?

WELCOME TO ZION’S REFORMED CHURCH

United Church of Christ

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Welcome to Zion's Reformed Church

We're glad you're here!

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! We welcome Bill Henry to the pulpit. Thank you for being here!

The Altar Flowers are placed in memory of Russ and Grace Weston, Susie Stone Huber and Sandy Stone, by Bob Stone and Family.

Ushering today are Linda Allison, Teri Swartzbeck, Lynn Rinella and Dan Douthett.

Serving Communion are Sherry Winner, Charlotte Fenton, Karen Galus, Sandy Harter and April Konig.

Everyone is invited to the Anderson Lounge after the service for refreshments.

There is no Church Happening in the summer. Children are encouraged to stay for the entire service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The church office is closed tomorrow.

The Alzheimer's Support Group meets Tuesday, September 6 at 2:00 in the Anderson Lounge.

Next Sunday is Rally Day. Sunday School begins for Elementary students and adults at 9:15.

Restore Riverside Park committee is sponsoring a Patriots Day program at 1:00 P.M. at the Graul Amphitheater on September 11. Service organizations who support our community will be recognized and a flag pole dedication in memory of Major Ryan Nicklin.

Consistory will meet Wednesday, September 14 at 6:00.

The Good Shepherd Center request for September is mac and cheese and/or soups and stews.



SOUP/SALAD AND SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

Wednesday, September 28
at 6:00 in the Anderson
Lounge.

We will use the questions from the August newsletter as a basis for discussion. The results of these small group discussions will assist the Search Committee in their search for a pastor.

*UNISON BENEDICTION

Let the joy and love of the Lord flood into our hearts and lives today. Let this day of discipleship be a day of celebration as we go into the world to serve God. Amen.

*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*THE POSTLUDE "Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens Adore Him"
Lani Smith

ZION'S REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Bill Henry

Lori Seinar-Roknick, Director of Music Ministries

*Please rise in body or spirit, as you are able.

September 4, 2022 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 Julia Langietti, 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 RINGING OF THE CHIMES

THE ENTRANCE OF LIGHT Emily Rinella, Acolyte

~Please use prelude time for thought, reflection and prayer~

PRELUDE "Look, Ye Saints!" Thomas Chesterton

*CALL TO WORSHIP Julia Langietti

Leader: Let all who seek to grow in their faith enter this place for worship!

People: We would have the Lord mold us and shape us into God's people today.

Leader: God is the Potter and we are the clay in the Great Creator's hands.

People: We yield our lives unto the Lord to mold us as is pleasing before God.

Leader: Praise be to the Lord, for God is faithful to prepare us for eternity.

All: Blessed be the name of the Lord!

*OPENING HYMN "Have Thine Own Way, Lord"

Isa. 64:8
Adelaide A. Pollard, 1902

ADELAIDE 5.4.5.4.D.
George C. Stebbins, 1907

1. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Thou art the
2. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Search me and
3. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Wound-ed and
4. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Hold o'er my

Pot - ter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me
try me, Mas - ter, to - day! Whit - er than snow, Lord,
wea - ry, Help me, I pray! Pow - er— all pow - er—
be - ing Ab - so - lute sway! Fill with thy spir - it

Aft - er thy will, While I am wait - ing, Yield - ed and still.
Wash me just now, As in thy pres - ence Hum - bly I bow.
Sure - ly is thine! Touch me and heal me, Sav - ior di - vine!
Till all shall see Christ on - ly, al - ways, Liv - ing in me!

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*CLOSING HYMN "Bringing in the Sheaves"

1. Sow - ing in the morn - ing, sow - ing seeds of kind - ness, Sow - ing in the
2. Sow - ing in the sun - shine, sow - ing in the shad - ows, Fear - ing nei - ther
3. Go - ing forth with weep - ing, sow - ing for the Mas - ter, Tho the loss sus -

noon - tide and the dew - y eve, Wait - ing for the har - vest and the
clouds nor win - ter's chill - ing breeze; By and by the har - vest and the
tained our spir - it oft - en grieves; When our weep - ing's o - ver He will

time of reap - ing— We shall come re - joic - ing, bring - ing in the sheaves.
la - bor end - ed— We shall come re - joic - ing, bring - ing in the sheaves.
bid us wel - come— We shall come re - joic - ing, bring - ing in the sheaves.

CHORUS

Bring - ing in the sheaves, bring - ing in the sheaves, We shall come re -

joic - ing, bring - ing in the sheaves. joic - ing, bring - ing in the sheaves.

SCRIPTURE READINGS Jeremiah 18:1-11 and Romans 9: 20-24
(back of bulletin)

SERMON "God's Pottery"

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Invitation

Offertory Music "Sing a New Song" Edward Broughton

*Doxology No. 780

*Prayer of Dedication

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Glenn Sadler

During the distribution of the cup, we will sing:

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

Let us break bread together on our knees;

Let us break bread together on our knees:

Refrain: When I fall on my knees, with my face to the
rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees;

Let us drink wine together on our knees:

Refrain.....

Let us praise God together on our knees;

Let us praise God together on our knees:

*UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this Holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by Christ's body and blood that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that your universal church may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ our redeemer. Amen.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: Draw close to God as we open our hearts to God.

People: Too often our cares and worries keep us at a distance from God.

Leader: Come, Gracious God, and speak a word of comfort to your people.

People: Hear us, help us in the quietness of these moments.

*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and merciful God, forgive us for past faults and help us in the present and future to make ourselves more available to the hurting world that surrounds us. Forgive us when the busyness of our lives erodes the intentions of our hearts; when our personal agendas take precedence over reaching out to others; when we keep putting off being more active "doers of the word"; when we resist change, knowing that our acting and thinking are limited by our prejudice and ignorance. Equip us to be patient and compassionate listeners, proclaiming the gospel not in overbearing ways but sensitively and lovingly. Strengthen us with the Holy Spirit to be fruitful and active witnesses to Jesus in all we do and say. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The steadfast love of God is with us - yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

People: Whether we turn away or doubt, whether we follow timidly or joyfully, we are loved and forgiven in Christ.

*A SONG OF PRAISE "Gloria Patri"

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

~before you sit down, please greet someone near you~

WORD FOR THE FAMILY

LITANY OF LABOR AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray to the Lord of all creation, from whom comes life and work and purpose. Through our work, you made us co-creators with you, shaping the world in which we live.

People: You gave dignity to our labor by sending your Son to labor with us.

Leader: By our labor, you enrich the world.

People: By our labor, we enjoy the fruits of creation.

Leader: By our labor, we find direction and purpose.

People: By our labor, our families are made secure.

Leader: For providing varieties of work and for blessing us by our labor:

People: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Leader: For those who plow the field and those who make the plow; for farmers and farm workers, for steelworkers and machinists; for those who work with their hands and those who move the earth:

People: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Leader: For those who tend the sick and those who seek new cures; for doctors and nurses, for scientists and technicians; for those who keep notes and those who transcribe:

People: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Leader: For those who think and those who create; for inventors and explorers, for artists and musicians; for those who write books and those who entertain:

People: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Leader: For those who work in offices and those who work in warehouses; for office managers, for stockers and bookkeepers; for those who market products and for those who move them:

People: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Leader: For those who inspire our minds and those who motivate us; for teachers and preachers, for public servants and religious servants; those who help the poor and those who work with our children:

People: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Leader: For those whose labor is tidiness and cleanliness; for janitors and sanitary workers, for drycleaners and maids; for those who produce cleaning products and those who use them:

People: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Leader: For those who sail the waves and those who fly the skies; for captains and attendants, for astronauts and deep sea divers; for those who chart and those who navigate:

People: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Leader: You bless us all with skills and gifts for labor.

People: You provide us opportunities to use them, for the benefit of others as well as ourselves.

Leader: Guard and protect those who labor in the world.

People: Bless the work of our hands, O Lord.

Leader: Look kindly upon the unemployed and the disabled.

People: Give health to the sick, hope to the bereaved.

Leader: Keep us from laboring only for greed.

People: Make us loving and responsible in all that we do.

Leader: Creator Lord, you are the source of all wisdom and purpose, you are the blessing of those who labor. Be with us in our labor to guide and govern our world. Give all men and women work that enhances human dignity and bonds us to one another. Give us pride in our work, a fair return for our labor, and joy in knowing that our work finds its source in you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to pray.

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.