

Jeremiah 8:18-9.1

18 You who are my Comforter in sorrow, my heart is faint within me.
19 Listen to the cry of my people from a land far away:
“Is the Lord not in Zion? Is her King no longer there?” “Why have they aroused my anger with their images, with their worthless foreign idols?”
20 “The harvest is past, the summer has ended, and we are not saved.”
21 Since my people are crushed, I am crushed; I mourn, and horror grips me.
22 Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is there no healing for the wound of my people?
9.1 Oh, that my head were a spring of water and my eyes a fountain of tears! I would weep day and night for the slain of my people.

Luke 16:1-13

16 Jesus told his disciples: “There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. 2 So he called him in and asked him, ‘What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.’
3 “The manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I’m not strong enough to dig, and I’m ashamed to beg— 4 I know what I’ll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.’
5 “So he called in each one of his master’s debtors. He asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ 6 “‘Nine hundred gallons[a] of olive oil,’ he replied. “The manager told him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred and fifty.’ 7 “Then he asked the second, ‘And how much do you owe?’ “‘A thousand bushels of wheat,’ he replied.
“He told him, ‘Take your bill and make it eight hundred.’
8 “The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. 9 I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.
10 “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. 11 So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? 12 And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else’s property, who will give you property of your own?
13 “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

WELCOME TO ZION’S REFORMED CHURCH

United Church of Christ

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“Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.” -Luke 16:10





*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 Rev. Dr. Tim Morrison to the pulpit. Thank you for being here!

The Altar Flowers are placed in memory of my family, by Dan Douthett.

Ushering today are Linda Allison, Teri Swartzbeck, Dan Douthett and Carol Saal.

The children are invited to the Youth Center after Word for the Family for an activity.

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

The Good Shepherd Center request for
September is
**Mac and Cheese
Soups/Stews**

Barrels are located in the front and rear
lobbies of the church for your donations.

SOUP/SALAD AND SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

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

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

- Does the worship service meet your faith needs?
- What element of worship is most important to you? Music, Prayers, Sermon, Children's Sermon, other?
- What additions/changes would you like to see in our Christian Education programs, for adults and children.
- Describe the characteristics in a minister that you value.
- Describe the style and content of preaching that you value.
- What are your thoughts on our current relationship with the wider church (UCC).
- Are you familiar with local church autonomy and what that means for our congregation?

**SOUP AND SALAD WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE MINISTRY OF
WELCOMING AND FELLOWSHIP.**



**ZION'S PRESCHOOL FALL
MUM SALE**

If you would like to purchase mums, there is an order form in the church office. Vouchers will be available for Second Time Around Gardens on September 29. The deadline to order is September 22.

**JOIN THE CHOIR!
REHEARSALS ARE SUNDAY
MORNINGS AT 9:45.
ALL VOICES WELCOME!!**

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Class and Elementary Class

Pastor Glenn and Carol Holler will lead the adult class which meets Sundays at 9:15 in the Anderson Lounge.

The Elementary Class meets in the Youth Center and is led by Debbie Frerotte, Lynn Rinella and Brianna Sulecki. Children in Preschool through Sixth grade are welcome!

ZION'S REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Dr. Tim Morrison

Lori Seinar-Roknick, Director of Music Ministries

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

September 18, 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 Sherry Winner, 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 Sydnie Powell , Acolyte

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

PRELUDE "I Vow to Thee, My Country" Gustav Holst

*CALL TO WORSHIP Sherry Winner

Leader: Come, let us worship the one who calls us here.

People: We gather to worship with joy and in hope.

Leader: Come, let us set aside all that distracts us from true worship.

People: We come as we are and ask the Spirit to gather us in and direct our vision.

*OPENING HYMN NO. 451 "Be Thou My Vision"

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: Before we speak, God knows our needs, yet our words open our hearts to God's grace.

People: Let us prepare ourselves for God's healing as we tell of all that separates us from God and one another.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Loving God, You tell us we cannot serve two masters, yet we spend more time focusing our energies elsewhere, diverting our time, our energy, our money, our attention away from you. Give us strength and courage to get our priorities straight; help us to live faithfully and joyfully in the world, and to be friends with the people you call us to serve. Help us also to remember that our best relationship is the one we have with you. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**


Leader: Now that we have let go of the pain, the bitterness, the anger of our lives, let us be kind, tender-hearted, and gentle towards each other, forgiving as God has forgiven us.

People: We are God's beloved children, and will model God's grace and love in our hearts. Thanks be to God! We are forgiven! Amen.

***A SONG OF PRAISE NO. 327 "Jesus Loves Me"**

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

WORD FOR THE FAMILY "About Baptism"

	<p>ALTAR FLOWERS</p> <p>We are so blessed to have fresh flowers on the altar every Sunday and April Konig does a beautiful job at coordinating it all! However, every once in a while, we do not have a donor for the flowers. If you would like to donate the flowers on a Sunday when no one else has signed up, please tell April Konig and she will call you as needed. 724-988-9268 or 724-588-2316.</p>
<p>IMMERSE CLASS</p> <p>The Immerse Bible Study class continues every Tuesday at 11:00 in the Jackson Conference Room. The class is led by Pastor Glenn. There are extra books so if you would like to participate, let Julie know.</p>	
<p>USED BOOK SALE</p> <p>The Greenville Area Public Library is holding their annual book sale at The First Methodist Church on Clinton Street. September 21: 6:00-8:30 September 22 and 23: 9:00-8:00 September 24: 9:00-2:00 (bag day!)</p>	

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 553 “There Is a Balm”

*BENEDICTION

*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*THE POSTLUDE “Ayre” Jeremiah Clarke (1659-1707)

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Bennett Rowland Wilkerson

Parents: Ashley Malson and Taylor Black

James Wilkerson and Erika Pfaff

Pastor: They were bringing children to Jesus that Jesus might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, Jesus was indignant, and said to them,

People: “Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it.”

Pastor: And Jesus took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

Pastor: The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. Inasmuch as the promise of the gospel is not only to us but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ’s church, the sign and seal of their participation in God’s forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

People: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ’s body.

QUESTIONS FOR THE PARENTS

Pastor: Do you desire to have your child baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Parents: We do

Pastor: Will you encourage this child to renounce the powers of evil and to receive the freedom of new life in Christ?

Parents: We will, with the help of God.

Pastor: Will you teach this child that he may be led to profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Parents: We will, with the help of God.

Pastor: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciples, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

Parents: We do, with the help of God.

Pastor: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow with this child in the Christian faith, to help this child to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, by celebrating Christ's presence, by furthering Christ's mission in all the world, and by offering the nurture of the Christian church so that he may affirm his baptism?

Parents: We do, with the help of God.

Pastor: Bless by your Holy Spirit, gracious God, this water. By your Holy Spirit save those who confess the name of Jesus Christ that sin may have no power over them. Create new life in the one baptized this day that he may rise in Christ. Glory to you, eternal God, the one who was, and is, and shall always be, world without end. Amen.

Pastor: By what name will your child be called?

Parents: Bennett Rowland Wilkerson

Pastor: Bennett Rowland Wilkerson, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

PRAYER FOR THE BAPTIZED

Gracious God, you have filled the world with joy by giving us the gift of Jesus. Bless this child. May he be filled with joy; and he never be ashamed to confess faith in you. Bless the parents of this child. May they always show their gratitude for the life you have given by loving and caring for their child. And bless these

your faithful people. Unite them in the peace of Christ and the company of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

Pastor: Go in the peace of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM

"I Love You, Lord" with "My Jesus, I Love Thee"

Laurie Klein/Stam Pethel

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH AND 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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS Hebrew Scripture Jeremiah 8:18-9.1
Gospel Luke 16:1-13

SERMON Is There a Balm in Zion's?

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Invitation

Offertory Music "Praise to the Holy One" Fry/Kaiser

*Doxology No. 780

*Prayer of Dedication

Creator God, receive our gifts in the gladness we give them. Thank you that we have an abundance of resources to share so that every need is met. May we always give from wide open hearts, and may what we give, be used to bring a balm of justice. Amen.