

Ephesians 6:10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his great power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can fight against the devil's evil tricks. Our fight is not against people on earth but against the rulers and authorities and the powers of this world's darkness, against the spiritual powers of evil in the heavenly world. That is why you need to put on God's full armor. Then on the day of evil you will be able to stand strong. And when you have finished the whole fight, you will still be standing. So stand strong, with the belt of truth tied around your waist and the protection of right living on your chest. On your feet wear the Good News of peace to help you stand strong. And also use the shield of faith with which you can stop all the burning arrows of the Evil One. Accept God's salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times with all kinds of prayers, asking for everything you need. To do this you must always be ready and never give up. Always pray for all God's people.

Also pray for me that when I speak, God will give me words so that I can tell the secret of the Good News without fear. I have been sent to preach this Good News, and I am doing that now, here in prison. Pray that when I preach the Good News I will speak without fear, as I should.

John 6:56-69

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever." He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum. On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?"

Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before! The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life. Yet there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. He went on to say, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled them."

From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve. Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God."

# WELCOME TO ZION'S REFORMED CHURCH

United Church of Christ

260 Main Street, Greenville, PA 16125

Phone: 724-588-6940

Rev. Steven L. Craft, Senior Pastor

Pastor's email: [1pastorsteve@gmail.com](mailto:1pastorsteve@gmail.com)

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Welcome to  
worship!  
We're glad you  
are here!

The Altar Flowers are placed in memory of Martha Baird,  
by Parke, Jen, Ada and Iris Wentling.

Ushering this month are Debbie Woodworth, Lynn  
Rinella, Emily Rinella, Val Suntheimer and Noah Profater.

We do not hold Church Happening in the summer. The  
children are invited to stay for the entire service.

Everyone is invited to the Anderson Lounge after the ser-  
vice for coffee and conversation.

**Large Print Bulletins** and seat cushions are avail-  
able in the back of the sanctuary. Coloring books and  
crayons are available for children.

**Members of the Prayer Chain will meet after the service  
in the chapel.**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**TODAY!** Over 80's Garden Party in the Anderson  
Lounge at 3:00.

**Thursday, August 29:** Potluck and singing with  
Lori at 6:00.

**Saturday, September 7:** Meet Me on Main from  
11:00-2:30. The Ministry of Christian Education  
and Youth will be participating with children's ac-  
tivities and an invitation to Sunday School.



**Sunday, September 8:** Rally Day!  
Sunday School begins again for  
adults and children. The theme is  
**BUILDING BLOCKS OF FAITH.**

Confirmation Class will begin in September. All  
students in Grades 7 and 8 can participate.  
Adults are also welcome if you want a refresher  
course! Classes will be held Sunday mornings at  
9:15.

SCRIPTURES Ephesians 6: 10-20 (back of bulletin)  
John 6: 56-69 (back of bulletin)

SERMON "Armor Yourself"

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Invitation

Offertory Music "There Is No Name So Sweet" Becket

\*Doxology No. 780

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*CLOSING HYMN NO. 478 "I've Got Peace Like a River"

\*THE BENEDICTION and TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

\*THE POSTLUDE "Grand Choeur Dialogue" Eugene Gigout

**ZION'S REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**Rev. Steven L. Craft, Senior Pastor**  
**Lori Seinar-Roknick, Director of Music Ministries**

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

August 25, 2024 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 Kelly Bielata, 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 Emilee Deeter, Acolyte

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

PRELUDE "Be Thou My Vision" Dan Forrest

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Place your trust in the Lord.

**People: Cast away those things which detract from your faith in  
God.**

Leader: God will provide for all your needs.

**People: The love of Jesus Christ and his witness strengthens and  
sustains us.**

\*OPENING HYMN "Holy, Holy"

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Ho - ly, ho - ly,  
 2. Gra - cious Fa - ther, gra - cious Fa - ther, We're so blest to be Your  
 3. Pre - cious Je - sus, pre - cious Je - sus, We're so glad that You've re -  
 4. Ho - ly Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it, Come and fill our hearts a -  
 5. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah,

Lord God Al - might - y; And we lift our hearts be - fore You as a  
 chil - dren, gra - cious Fa - ther; And we lift our heads be - fore You as a  
 deemed us, pre - cious Je - sus; And we lift our hands be - fore You as a  
 new, Ho - ly Spir - it; And we lift our voice be - fore You as a  
 hal - le - lu - jah; And we lift our hearts be - fore You as a

to - ken of our love, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly.  
 to - ken of our love, Gra - cious Fa - ther, gra - cious Fa - ther.  
 to - ken of our love, Pre - cious Je - sus, pre - cious Je - sus.  
 to - ken of our love, Ho - ly Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it.  
 to - ken of our love, Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

HOLY HOLY

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

\*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we confess that we have conformed our lives to the ways of the world and not the ways of your kingdom. We think of ourselves too highly and regard others as lowly. We exalt possessions and power, when you alone are to be exalted. We let conflicts prevail over grace and divisions over harmony. Have mercy upon us, we pray. Forgive and transform us that we may be holy and acceptable to you, discerning and doing your will. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*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.**

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

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.**

\*HYMN NO. 329 "Jesus the Joy of Loving Hearts"