



Greetings

Welcome to the community in Christ at Zion United Church of Christ. We believe that all people are children of God and rejoice that you have chosen to worship God with us today. If you are visiting our community, we wish to extend our hand in Christian fellowship and hope that you will take a moment to visit with us after the service. If you have any questions prior to the service, please ask anyone in the community. We have all been visitors at some time in our life, and we are eager to assist you in any way. May the Holy Spirit fill us and guide us as we worship God together.

*Amplified hearing devices are available through our ushers.

September 6, 2020 Growing Your Faith

9:30 am

Church Bell

Welcome and Announcements

We Prepare to Worship God

Prayer & Prelude: *Sons of God* James Thiem

We Gather Around God's Word

A reading from: Psalm 5

Call to Worship: (responsive)

One: Praise God!

People: Sing to God a new song!

One: Give thanks to our Creator.

People: We sing with gladness to our sovereign God.

One: Let us praise God with dancing and music.

People: Let the faithful sing with great joy as we praise God together!

Prayer of Invocation: (in unison)

Glorious God, as we gather in the name of Jesus Christ, we know that you are already among us. Keep us open to your presence in us and around us that we may grow closer to you because too often we take you for granted. When you call us to leave this world behind because it restricts our faith, we are too complacent to hear your voice, and too timid to leave what is familiar. Make us ready to go where you lead us so that we may be a Christ's light in the world. Amen.

Musical Interlude: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

The Passing of Christ's Peace in Community

Prayer a sharing of community and world prayers

Affirmation of Faith

One: We are not alone; we live in God's world.

All: We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

We Engage God's Word

Scripture Readings

Hebrews 11: 1-3, 6-7, 24-30, 32-40

Psalm 86

Our Multigenerational Lesson

Message: *When Does Your Faith Blossom and Grow?*

Offering Declaration

One: God gives to us continually. In each breath, we receive God's Spirit and with each step we respond to God's generosity. May we always give to God in thanksgiving. We thank you for your continued support and love for this ministry of Jesus Christ.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

Generous God, we dedicate these gifts to you. We dedicate our time to you. We dedicate our lives to you. Receive our gifts as a sign of our gratitude and commitment. Multiply them so that we will continue into the 21st Century with joy and faithfulness. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Musical Interlude: *Amazing Grace*

We Are Sent into the World

*The Lord's Prayer (using "debtors" and "debtors")

*Commissioning & Benediction

Postlude: *Heaven Came Down and
Glory Filled My Soul*

John W. Peterson

Serving Today

Worship Leader: Kelly Nabb

Liturgists: The Nabb Family

Organist: Sandra Horman

Ushers: Church Council

Videographer: Donna Luepker

Disciples: All God's People

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Our website address is www.zionucclowden.org

Secretary: Linda Behrens **Zion office phone #563-941-7726**

The church office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
from 8:30 am to noon.

ZION PRAYER LIST

Joan Weimann	Blake Proesch	Pastor Scott
Luann Gottschalk	Briana Terlisner	Marlene Wiedenhoff
Rose Horman	Gladys Conrad	Daniel Johnson
Roger Huffman	Viola Thomas	Chad Minor & family
Carol Boedeker	Kylee Schmalfeldt	
Donna Breneman	Bruce Hoffmeier	Florence Deerberg
Helen Gottschalk	Berniece Minor	Pearl Huffman
Marcus Barnes	Rick & Mary Balke	Evelyn Unteidt
Elda Doermann	Nancy Loeffelhol	Mark Winder
Rhonda Scholenfelder	Terry & Doris Bilstrand	
The family of Marilyn Klahn The family of Neal Mess		
p.s. "Dear God, help us to love like Jesus!"		

Psalm 5

¹ Listen to my words, LORD, consider my lament.

² Hear my cry for help, my King and my God, for to you I pray.

³ In the morning, LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly.

⁴ For you are not a God who is pleased with wickedness; with you, evil people are not welcome.

⁵ The arrogant cannot stand in your presence. You hate all who do wrong;

⁶ you destroy those who tell lies. The bloodthirsty and deceitful you, LORD, detest.

⁷ But I, by your great love, can come into your house; in reverence I bow down toward your holy temple.

⁸ Lead me, LORD, in your righteousness because of my enemies—make your way straight before me.

⁹ Not a word from their mouth can be trusted; their heart is filled with malice. Their throat is an open grave; with their tongues they tell lies.

¹⁰ Declare them guilty, O God! Let their intrigues be their downfall.

Banish them for their many sins, for they have rebelled against you.

¹¹ But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you.

¹² Surely, LORD, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield.

Hebrews 11: 1-3, 6-7, 24-30, 32-40

¹ Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ²This is what the ancients were commended for.

³ By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

⁷ By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he

condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith.

²⁴ By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. ²⁵ He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶ He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. ²⁷ By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. ²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and the application of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.

²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.

³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the army had marched around them for seven days.

³² And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. ³⁵ Women received back their dead, raised to life again. There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. ³⁶ Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were put to death by stoning;  they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated— ³⁸ the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground.

³⁹ These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, ⁴⁰ since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

Psalm 86

- 1 Hear me, LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.
- 2 Guard my life, for I am faithful to you; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God;
- 3 have mercy on me, Lord, for I call to you all day long.
- 4 Bring joy to your servant, Lord, for I put my trust in you.
- 5 You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you.
- 6 Hear my prayer, LORD; listen to my cry for mercy.
- 7 When I am in distress, I call to you, because you answer me.
- 8 Among the gods there is none like you, Lord; no deeds can compare with yours.
- 9 All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, Lord; they will bring glory to your name.
- 10 For you are great and do marvelous deeds; you alone are God.
- 11 Teach me your way, LORD, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.
- 12 I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever.
- 13 For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the depths, from the realm of the dead.
- 14 Arrogant foes are attacking me, O God; ruthless people are trying to kill me—they have no regard for you.
- 15 But you, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.
- 16 Turn to me and have mercy on me; show your strength in behalf of your servant; save me, because I serve you just as my mother did.
- 17 Give me a sign of your goodness, that my enemies may see it and be put to shame, for you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator,
with you no shadow of turning we see.
You do not change, your compassions they fail not;
all of your goodness forever will be.
Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed your hand has provided,
Great is thy faithfulness, God, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
to your great faithfulness, mercy, and love.
Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed your hand has provided,
Great is thy faithfulness, God, unto me!

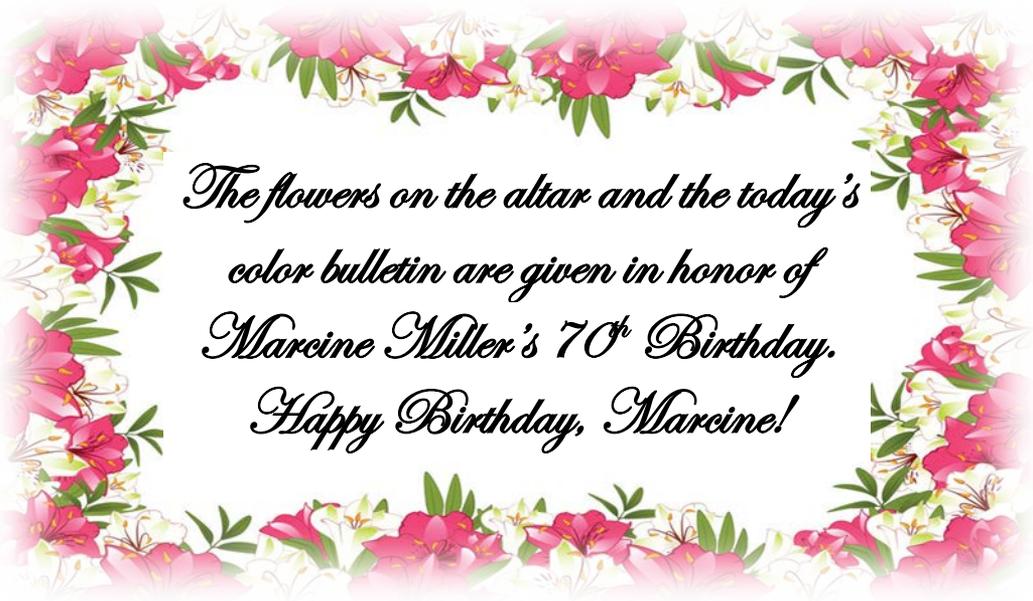
Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:30 am Worship Service Mask required		HACAP Mobile Food Pantry in Bennett 3:30 to 4:30 pm				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:30 am Worship Service & Christian Education Mask required	Pastor Susan Begins			Church Council 6:00 pm		



*The flowers on the altar and the today's
color bulletin are given in honor of
Marcine Miller's 70th Birthday.
Happy Birthday, Marcine!*

If you have a pastoral need before Pastor Susan begins on Sept. 14, please contact the church office at (563) 941-7726 or Aaron Horman at (563) 941-7590.