

# ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Third and Jackson Streets

Decatur, Indiana

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(\*) Please stand either in body or in spirit.

May 18, 2025

Fifth Sunday Easter

Mental Health Sunday

Revelation 21:1-6 John 13:31-35

**"Resurrection is not just an event in the past, but an ongoing work of God."**

Gathering Music: "God Of Wonders/ Fairest Lord Jesus"

The Welcome and Announcements: Liturgist: Jan Miller  
(Visitors, Please sign the Friendship folder)

The Prelude: "O Worship The King"

*The Prelude calls us together. It is a time of quiet reflection to focus ourselves  
in preparation for worshipping God.*

The Light appears: The Acolytes serve  
The Church Bell rings:

\*Call to Worship: Liturgist

More than kind or charitable, or even humane  
this Love that calls us takes on flesh and bone and vulnerability.

**We gather here to practice Love's solidarity,  
rising up in the valleys and shadows of death.**

More than nice, or agreeable, or even polite this Love that  
forms us risks siding with the last and the least.

**We come together to become Love's liberation  
building collective power to resist injustice.**

More than tolerant or accepting, or even affirming  
this Love that guides us to new stories of harm and new  
visions of flourishing.

**We join together to embody Love's accountability  
laying down our defenses to grow beyond the edges of our knowing.**

More than peaceful or unifying, or even friendly  
his Love that compels us dares to imagine beyond empire

**we worship to remember Love's future  
praying, praising, and protesting until Love's kingdom comes.**

\*Hymn of Praise: "Great is Thy Faithfulness" No. 43

\*The Invocation: Liturgist

\*Passing the Peace of Christ: Liturgist

Please pass the peace through our words and through our actions in a  
world that desperately needs to see the results of following the Prince of  
Peace.

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you**

Prayer for Transformation and New Life: Rev. O'Shaughnessy

Words of Grace: Rev. O'Shaughnessy

Let your spirit receive this assurance: in all these things we are more  
than forgiven through the One who loved us.

**Therefore, we are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor  
angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor  
powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation  
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus  
our Redeemer. Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm Reading: Mental Health Awareness Sunday Liturgist  
Living Psalm 148 was written by Michelle L. Torigian.

The Choir Anthem: "I Will Call Upon The Lord" The Chancel Choir

Prayers of the People:

The Morning Prayer: Spoken and Silent

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

The Prayer Response:

The Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading:

Revelation 21:1–6  
John 13:31-35

Rev. O'Shaughnessy  
Pew Bible pg. 1085  
Pew Bible pg. 938

\*The Sermon Hymn: "In Christ There Is No East or West " No. 285

Sermon:

Rev. Susie O'Shaughnessy

The Moment of Offering:

Liturgist

Invitation to Generosity:

**Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication:**

**Let Love be our offering.**

**Let Love be our giving.**

**Let Love be our dedication.**

**Let Love be our calling.**

**Let Love be our thanksgiving.**

**Let Love be our prayer. Amen.**

The Offering:

Ushers serve

The Offertory Music: “The Unclouded Day”

\*The Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ and Spirit One. Amen**

The Hymn of Commitment: “Love Lifted Me” No. 505

\*Benediction: Rev. O’Shaughnessy

“Building Up a New World – Looking for Love” Service Prayers for Easter 5C was written by Dr. Sharon R. Fennema, who serves as Join the Movement toward Racial Justice Curator with UCC National Ministries.

\*The Moment for Silent Prayers Chimes

\*The Worship Leaders exit

\*The Light is carried forth Acolytes serve

\*The Postlude: “No Tears In Heaven”

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Each of Us	Minister of Christ
Rev. Allen Kahler	Minister
Barb Engle	Congregation President
Jan Miller	Board Secretary
Maggie Bolinger	Office Secretary
Stacey Smith	Church Treasurer
Lisa Krueckeberg	Financial Secretary
Shelly Nussbaum	Music Director/Church Organist
Kacie Shaffer	Custodian
Justin Shaffer	Building Manager

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Lois Isch, Jerry Hill	Door Greeters
Brenda Strickler, Confirmands	Ushers
Confirmands	Acolytes
Scott Heller	Money Counter

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We welcome all members, visitors, and guests to our worship service this morning. Visitors are asked to take a few moments to sign the Friendship Folder located in each pew and place in the offering plate.

Please join us in the dining room after worship for a time of fellowship and cookies, coffee, and punch.

Our altar flowers today are presented by Justin and Kacie Shaffer in honor of their 20<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Our bulletins are presented by Lauren Rowell in recognition of UCC Mental Health Sunday today.

Our Operation Help items for May will be cereal. Please put your donations in the collection bin in the dining room or West vestibule.

The Lunch Bunch will gather for lunch at the Soul Pig in Decatur on Wednesday, May 21st 16th at 11:30 a.m. Please see Karen Heller or Russ Augsburger if you plan to attend. Everyone is invited for a time of good food and fellowship.

Thank you to Rev. Susie O'Shaughnessey for serving as our guest pastor today. She is a familiar face to many of us and we are glad to have her back with us.

Pastor Allen and Shannon are enjoying a few days of vacation and will return to Decatur on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The Official Board will hold their May meeting today at 11:30 a.m. This was rescheduled from last Sunday.

Practices for both choirs will conclude this Wednesday. Thank you to Shelly Nussbaum for her leadership and to all the choir members for sharing their talents with us each week.

Zion will once again partner with several other churches in Adams County to offer a Community Bible School program for ages pre-k to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. This year's theme is "You Otter Be Here" and is open to all area children. Classes will be held from 9 a.m. to noon June 2<sup>nd</sup> through June 5<sup>th</sup> at the Adams County Fairgrounds in Monroe. Pastor Allen and Shannon will be teaching Bible verses. Please see Pastor Allen for more information or to volunteer to help.

We received word this week that Paul Feller has passed away. Many will remember Paul as the younger son of former pastor Rev. Wm. Feller. Funeral arrangements are incomplete at this time. Please keep Paul's wife and family, as well as his Ron and Jackie in your prayers.

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

Today, May 18: Official Board Meeting, 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 21: Lunch Bunch, Soul Pig 11:30 a.m.  
Handbell Choir Practice 6 p.m.  
Chancel Choir Practice 7 p.m.

Sunday May 25: Confirmation 11:30 a.m.

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Last week's Worship Attendance: 49

Offering: \$4029.00

Needed each week: \$4045.87

Scan here to make your donation via Paypal



