

**ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Third and Jackson Streets**

**Decatur, Indiana**

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

**Second Sunday of Easter**

**April 12, 2026**

**John 20:19—31**

**“Everyone doubts, Jesus understands.”**

Gathering Music: “Christ Arose” Shelly Nussbaum  
The Welcome and Announcements: Jeanne Reidenbach. Liturgist  
(Visitors: Please sign the Friendship Folder)

The Prelude: “Rejoice, the Lord Is King”  
*Please take a moment and quiet your minds and open your hearts as  
we focus ourselves in preparation for worshipping God.*

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

\*The Call to Worship: Please Rise (inspired by Psalm 16) Liturgist

Let us say to the Holy One: You are our God; we have no good  
apart from you!

**Holy One, you are our God, we have no good apart from you!**

The Holy One is our chosen portion and our cup; God holds our lot.

**Holy One, you are our God, we have no good apart from you!**

The Holy One provides us protection and refuge, keeps us in pleasant  
places, and gives a good heritage.

**Holy One, you are our God, we have no good apart from you!**

\*Hymn of Praise: “Thine Is The Glory” No. 227

\*Invocation: (Unison) Liturgist

**Gracious and Eternal God, you are the one who calls us**

**together and the one who sends us out in the world. Remind us, as we gather, how good it is to dwell with you and one another. Stir our hearts to love boldly, freely, and joyfully. Let us praise you with our whole lives and magnify your name by our works. We bless and honor you, O Faithful One, from generation to generation and from community to community. Speak to our spirits and receive our worship. Amen.**

Call to Transformation: (Unison)

Rev. Kahler

**Gracious and Eternal God, you never abandon us the way that we sometimes abandon you. We doubt your power and your compassion. We call upon your name, but too often without expectation that you will answer. We blame you for the things we have collectively caused or that life demands. Yet, we give ourselves credit for the good that comes our way. We offer empty apologies devoid of real repentance. We want to be absolved without engaging in repair. Help us to cherish grace as a gift and mercy as a miracle. Have mercy on us, Holy One. Amen.**

Words of Grace:

Rev. Kahler

The Scripture reading:

1 Peter 1:3-9

Liturgist

Pew Bible, pg.1058

The Choir Anthem: “You Have Broken The Chains” Chancel Choir

Time with the Youth:

Prayers of the People:

The Morning Prayer: Spoken and Silent Prayer of our Savior:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Prayer Response: Chancel Choir

The Scripture Reading: John 20: 19—31 Rev. Kahler  
Pew Bible, Pg. 945

The Word of God for the People of God

The Response: **Thanks be to God.**

\*The Sermon Hymn: “In the Garden” No.425

The Sermon: “Becoming A Believer”

The Moment of Offering: Liturgist

Invitation to Generosity:

Prayer Of Thanksgiving: (Unison)

**Generous One, may these gifts be a blessing to those in need, a source of hope for those in despair, comfort for those who grieve, encouragement for those who doubt, a balm for those in pain. May our generosity reflect our gratitude and our giving be another source of praise. Amen.**

The Offering: Ushers serve

The Offertory Music: “The Risen Lord”

\*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: “The Day Of Resurrection” No. 226

\*The Benediction:

**So I Send You: Service Prayers for Easter 2A** was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

\*The Song of Departing Friends: “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.**

\*The Light is carried forth Acolytes serve

\*The Worship Leaders exit

\*The Moment for Silent Prayers Chimes

\*The Postlude: “Praise Him! Praise Him!”

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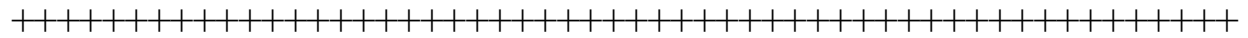
Each of Us	A Minister of Christ
Rev. Allen Kahler	Minister
Barb Engle	Congregation President
Jan Miller	Board Secretary
Maggie Bolinger	Office Secretary
Stacey Smith	Church Treasurer
Makayla Smith	Financial Secretary
Shelly Nussbaum	Music Director/Church Organist
Kacie Shaffer	Custodian
Justin Shaffer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

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Neil & Sue Keller, Russ Augsburg	Door Greeters
Maggie Bolinger, Scott Heller	Ushers

Russ Augsburger  
Acolytes

Money Counter  
Ushers



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 Operation Help item for April is **cereal**. Please place your donations in the tubs in the dining room and West vestibule.

Men's Fellowship is looking for large, insulated coolers to use for the Nelson Chicken Sale in June. Nelsons will no longer be providing them, so we are looking for 8-10 coolers to be donated. Please do not donate a new one, as they cannot be used for other purposes once they have been used for chicken. Please see Scott Heller if you have one you can help. The chicken sale is scheduled for June 27<sup>th</sup>.

Our last mailing of College Boxes for this school year will be today. Thank you to all who have helped with another successful year. There are 2 boxes being sent.

The Lunch Bunch will meet this Wednesday at Soul Pig in Decatur at 11:30 a.m. Please see Russ Augsburger if you are planning to attend. Everyone is invited to this time of good food and fellowship.

Zion will be hosting the Spring meeting of the Northeast Association of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference on Sunday, April 26. The meeting begins at 3 p.m. and will include a discussion of the current bylaws. Our delegates are Bruce and Jeanne Reidenbach.

