

ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Third and Jackson Streets

Decatur, Indiana

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(*) All who are able, please stand

April 5, 2026

RESURRECTION SUNDAY

April 5, 2026

John 20:1—18

“Mary Magdalene inspires our daily mission: What does Jesus want from us today?”

Gathering Music: “Hymn To Joy” Shelly Nussbaum

Welcome and Announcements: Liturgist: Barb Engle

(Visitors, please sign the Friendship folder)

The Prelude: “Come Faithful, Raise The Strain”

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

The Procession:

The Light appears: The Acolytes serve

The Church Bell rings:

*Call to Worship: Liturgist

O give thanks to the Holy One, for God is good; God's love abides, endures, and prevails forever!

Alleluia! The resurrection life comes to us. Christ is risen!

In distress, I call. In grief, I cry. In despair, I come. The Holy One answers. The Holy One comforts. The Holy One comes.

Alleluia! The resurrection life comes to us. Christ is risen!

God, my refuge and confidence, surrounds me with strength and victory! Exalt God's holy name!

Alleluia! The resurrection life comes to us. Christ is risen!

* The Hymn of Praise: "Christ The Lord Is Risen Today" No. 217

*The Invocation: (Unison) Liturgist

Holy One, just as they came to the tomb to honor you on that

early Easter morning, we gather to praise you this day. May our alleluias resound in adoration and shared joy that you are risen, and we share in the promise of new life. May we encounter your glory in this assembled community as we follow you from the empty tomb into the possibilities that await. Amen.

***The Affirmation of Faith: The Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures, he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

English Language Liturgical Consultation, 1988 ecumenical version of the Nicene Creed

The Scripture Reading:	Acts 10:34-43	Liturgist
		Pew Bible, pg.957
The Choir Anthem:	“He Lives”	Chancel Choir

Welcoming New Members:

Prayers of the People: (In remembrance, gladness, gratitude & need)

The Morning Prayer:

The Prayer Response: The Chancel Choir

The Scripture Reading: John 20: 1—18 (Responsively)
Pew Bible, Pg. 944

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, **“They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.”** ³ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴ The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷ and the cloth that had been on Jesus’s head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸ Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed, ⁹ for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb, ¹² and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³ They said to her, *“Woman, why are you weeping?”* She said to them, **“They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.”** ¹⁴ When she had said this, she turned around and

**Praise God for all that love has done.
Creator, Christ and Spirit One. Amen.**

Holy Communion

The Invitation: (Responsively)

On the night of betrayal, denial, and desertion, Jesus prepared his disciples for life beyond the tomb. He demonstrated with wine and bread what he would later perform in his flesh and blood.

Jesus wanted them to remember and to understand his solidarity and his sacrifice.

Jesus still prepares a place for each and all of us at this table. Will you come?

In awe and wonder, humility and thanksgiving, we come to the table to feast with the Risen One.

Words of Institution:

Prayer for the Bread and Cup:

The Lord's Prayer:

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 yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Distribution:

Prayer of Thanksgiving: (Responsively)

Holy One, thank you for this feast at your table. As we receive bread and cup, may we encounter your grace and be filled with your love. May we go forward from this table with great joy, ever seeking your

resurrecting presence among us and discerning your call for us to be present for our neighbors in the world. By your spirit, we pray.

Holy, Holy, Holy One, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the Highest! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God. Hosanna in the Highest!

*The Hymn of Commitment: "He Lives " No. 220

*The Benediction:

They Left The Tomb: Service Prayers for Resurrection Sunday Year A was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

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 Moment for Silent Prayers Chimes
*The Light is carried forth Acolytes serve
*The Worship Leaders exit
*The Postlude "Because He Lives"

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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
Makayla Smith	Financial Secretary
Stacey Smith	Treasurer
Shelly Nussbaum	Music Director/Church Organist
Kacie Shaffer	Custodian
Justin Shaffer	Building Manager

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

Greeters
Ushers
Acolytes
Money Counter

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

Altar flowers and bulletins are provided today by Scott and Brenda Strickler in honor and in memory of their parents and grandparents.

Thank you to all who have helped to make this Lenten Season a successful one. Without the Wednesday evening chefs, special music, the breakfast crew, Music and Worship Committee, and Shelly Nussbaum's efforts as Music Director/Organist, and Eric and Stacey Smith and Lauren Rowell for live-streaming the services, these events would not have been possible. A special Thank You to Rev. Kahler for his leadership.

We are blessed this morning to welcome two new members into the Zion family, Laura Hakes and Makayla Smith. Please extend the Right Hand of Fellowship to them.

Our Operation Help items for April will be **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 27th.

Our last mailing of College Boxes for this school year will be next Sunday, April 12th. Thank you to all who have helped with another successful year. There are 2 boxes being sent.

Please remember to take your flowers today from the Easter Garden. Thank you to all who contributed to making the sanctuary so beautiful.

Several updates to our sound system are in progress to help project and record sound necessary to enjoy in person or online. To help raise the \$7874.35 needed, Stewardship Committee is holding a fundraiser. Envelopes with a dollar amount on them can be found on the bulletin board in the lower hall by the lounge. As you are able, you are asked to take an envelope and donate that amount to the fundraiser. Of course, you may always donate more if you are able. Amounts range from \$1-\$100 and we hope all who are able will help. You may also mail a check to the office or use the PayPal scan code.

Looking Ahead

Wednesday, April 8: NO Choir Practices

Sunday, April 12: College Boxes

website: www.zion-ucc-decatur.org

e-mail: office@zionuccdecatur.org

pastor: arkinpastor59@gmail.com

Last Sunday: Worship Attendance: 54

Offering: \$1963.00

Needed per week for budget: \$4045.87

Scan here to make your donation via Paypal

