

ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Third and Jackson Streets

Decatur, Indiana

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

November 9, 2025

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

“It may feel like the end is near, but we have to keep Going.”

Gathering Music: “Let Freedom Ring” Shelly Nussbaum
The Welcome and Announcements: Ken Uhrick, Liturgist
(Visitors: Please sign the Friendship Folder)

The Prelude: “God Of Our Fathers”
*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: (Inspired by Psalm 17) Liturgist

Guard me as the apple of your eye, O God.

You wondrously show us your steadfast peace

Hide me in the shadow of your wings, Divine Spirit.

You wondrously show us your steadfast strength.

I behold your face in righteousness, Christ of Hope.

You wondrously show us your steadfast love.

*Hymn of Praise: “America, The Beautiful” No. 572

*Invocation: (Unison) Liturgist

**God of Love, Divine Traveler, we see only a fraction of your
presence, God. We know you only in part, as we experience this**

world with our senses, our experiences, and what is tangibly in front of us. How does the sacredness of each earthly breath draw us closer to your presence on this side of Heaven? May we grasp the beauty of this world, even on the gloomy days. May we cherish our relationships here on earth even when times are challenging. May we know that God is forever present with us and will care for us as we arrive at our eternal home on the other side of Heaven. Amen.

***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 & New Life & Words of Grace: Rev. Kahler

**God of the Heavenly Winds and Earthy Air,
So often, we concern ourselves about the afterlife. We wonder who will be there, what we need to believe, and more. Yet, on this side of heaven, in your earthly Realm, there are many still hurting from the pains accumulated in this life. From illnesses to poverty, and from the lack of kindness to the overwhelming injustices, we overlook the needs of our siblings. Open our hearts to the gaps happening in our world. Allow us to be more compassionate and less judgmental about our neighbors who need additional help. Help us to set aside our worries about the afterlife as we know you will care for us there and then. Amen.**

Words Of Grace:

The Scripture Reading: Luke 20:27—38 Liturgist
Pew Bible, Pg 914

The Special Music: “Battle Hymn Of The Republic” The Heavenly
Ringers

Recognizing Our Veterans:

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 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: **“Hear Our Prayer, O Lord”
Hear our prayer, O Lord,
Hear our prayer, O Lord.
Incline Thine ear to us,
And grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

The Scripture Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17 Rev. Kahler
Pew Bible, Pg. 911

*The Sermon Hymn: **“Now Thank We All Our God”** No.556

The Sermon: **“Skipping to the End”**

The Moment of Offering: Liturgist

Invitation to Generosity:

Prayer Of Thanksgiving: (Unison)

**God of Infinite Love,
Through our gifts, we create glimmers here on this side of Heaven. Through our treasures, time, and talents, we nurture your Realm. We provide for our neighbors who lack basic necessities and who look for inclusion of their souls. May Heaven be a place that we can experience throughout our**

lives as we breathe the invigorating air of your Spirit. With gratitude, we celebrate our gifts from you and dedicate our gifts to bring peace to this earth. Amen.

The Offering:

Ushers serve

The Offertory Music: “God Bless America ”

*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: “Eternal Father, Strong To Save” No. 575

*The Benediction:

God of the Living: Service Prayers for the Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost was written by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian , an ordained UCC minister in Belleville, Illinois.

*The Song of Departing Friends: “Savior Again, To Thy Dear Name”

**Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;
Once more we bless Thee ere our worship cease;
With eager hearts we wait Thy word of peace. Amen.**

*The Worship Leaders exit

*The Light is carried forth

Acolytes serve

*The Moment for Silent Prayers

Chimes

*The Postlude: “Columbia, The Gem Of The Ocean”

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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

Lisa Krueckeberg
Shelly Nussbaum
Kacie Shaffer
Justin Shaffer

Financial Secretary
Music Director/Church Organist
Custodian
Building Manager

Faith Walchle, Sandy Uhrick
Ken Uhrick, Terra Roop
Terra Roop
Acolytes

Door Greeters
Ushers
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 products for November will be items for the Harvest Food Table next Sunday. Please let Janet Smith know if you know of someone in need of help this holiday season. Extra food items are donated to Operation Help to serve the wider community.

We hope you will join the Men's Fellowship next Sunday, November 16th for their Thanksgiving Carry-in dinner. Turkey, ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, dressing, dinner rolls, and table service will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. Dinner begins at 5 p.m.

Our Fall Congregational meeting will be held next Sunday, November 16th, following worship. There will be elections for the 2026 Official Board, presentation of the 2026 budget for consideration and other items of interest to the congregation.

Names for the United Way/Salvation Army Angel Tree are available from Janet Smith. We have 20 children to provide for this season. Unwrapped gifts should be returned to the dining room as soon as you have finished your shopping but no later than **November 30th**. Thank you for helping our needy families.

It is Red Kettle season! The Salvation Army begins its bell-ringing season on November 28th at Kroger and Walmart. Please call the United Way at 260-728-2056 to volunteer an hour or more of your time. Funds raised are used for emergency situations for people of all ages and all funds raised in Adams County stay in Adams County. Donations are significantly higher when there are bell ringers present and it is a fun way to help our neighbors.

This year we are inviting the Trunk-or-Treat families back for a Parents Morning Out on November 29th from 9:00-1:00 for children ages 3-11. We can provide four hours of childcare to help parents things done while we watch their children. This gives us the opportunity to get to know some of the families that are a part of our neighborhood, and them the opportunity to get to know us. There will be themed activities, games, crafts, and snacks and volunteers are needed to assist. Contact Pastor Allen & Shannon to volunteer!

Advent begins on Sunday, November 30th. We will be decorating the church on Sunday afternoon, November 23rd. Please meet at 2p.m. The Men's Fellowship will also meet at that time to set up the Nativity. A new stable has been purchased and donated for use on the front lawn.

Looking Ahead

Today, Nov. 9: Official Board Meeting 11:30 am

Wednesday, Nov. 12: Bell Choir Practice 6 pm

Chancel Choir Practice 7 pm

Thursday, Nov. 13: Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, Nov. 16: Harvest Food Table

Fall Congregational Meeting 11 am

Men's Fellowship Thanksgiving carry-in 5 pm

Sunday, Nov. 23: Thanksgiving Communion

Advent Decorating 2 pm

website: www.zionuccdeatur.org

e-mail: office: office@zionuccdeatur.org

pastor: arkinpastor59@gmail.com

Last week's Worship Attendance: 39 Offering: \$1856.00

Needed each week: \$4045.87

Scan here to make your donation via Paypal

