

ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Third and Jackson Streets
Decatur, Indiana

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(*)Please stand either in body or in spirit

October 19, 2025

Luke 18: 1-8

“Persist in prayer and God will Answer”

Gathering Music: “No Matter What” Shelly Nussbaum
The Welcome and Announcements: Liturgist: Bill Carpenter
(Visitors, Please sign the Friendship folder)

The Prelude: “Immortal, Invisible”
*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:

*The Call to Worship: (Inspired by Psalm 121) Liturgist

As the sun sets behind the hills,

We celebrate hope in our Creator.

Even as the sun strikes the earth in daytime

We celebrate peace in our Creator.

As we move about this earth from day to day

We celebrate the love of our Creator.

*Hymn of Praise: “Blessed Assurance” No.345

*The Invocation: (Unison) Liturgist

Holy One, Holder of our Hearts,
From time to time, we notice our souls are heavy from injustices.
From the ways our community members are treated to the lack of

compassion towards folks in faraway places, we attempt to embrace hope and often feel defeated. Yet you continue to be the bearer of dreams, God of Love. May we feel your Spirit's peace even when struggles accumulate. May we be baptized by your glimmers even as we journey through a world filled with ashes. 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 and New Life:

Beloved God of All,

We often feel deserted by Divine Justice and Peace, especially after absorbing the news each day. We allow ourselves to fully walk away from spreading Good News of your love and grace after feeling the lack of mercy in our world. We would rather be silent in places of comfort instead of shining your light in our pain-present reality. Our hearts can not bear knowing of any further wrongdoings. Open our souls to your healing. Embolden us to be persistent in our quest to do justice and love kindness. May we follow your light when the shadows attempt to swallow our resolve. Amen.

Words of Grace:

Greetings from the Indiana/Kentucky Conference of the United Church of Christ:

Rev. Dr. Monica J. Ouellette

Associate Conference Minister

Indiana Kentucky Conference

The Choir Anthem: “Yes, Lord” Chancel Choir

Prayers of the People:

The Morning Prayer: Spoken and Silent

The Lord’s Prayer:

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: Chancel Choir

The Scripture Reading: Luke 18: 1-8 Rev. Kahler
Pew Bible, pg. 911
*The Sermon Hymn: “I Must Tell Jesus” No. 430

The Sermon: “The Prayer That Quits”

The Moment of Offering: Liturgist

Invitation to Generosity:

Prayer Of Thanksgiving: (Unison)

Divine Connector of our Souls, with much gratitude, we share our gifts with you today. We continue to search for your dreams and fulfill your visions as we create your Realm here on earth. Energize us to utilize our gifts for the strength of all humanity. Empower us to share our time, talents, and treasures as we seek to never lose hope and heart. Amen.

The Offering:

Ushers Serve

The Offertory Music: “Down To The River To Pray”

*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.**

*Hymn of Commitment: “What A Friend We Have In Jesus” No. 435

*The Benediction:

Not to Lose Heart: Service Prayers for the Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost was written by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian , an ordained UCC minister in Belleville, Illinois.

*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: “Keep On Praying”

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Each of Us
Rev. Allen Kahler
Barb Engle
Jan Miller
Maggie Bolinger
Stacey Smith
Lisa Krueckeberg
Shelly Nussbaum
Kacie Shaffer

A Minister of Christ
Minister
Congregation President
Board Secretary
Office Secretary
Church Treasurer
Financial Secretary
Music Director/Church Organist
Custodian

Justin Shaffer	Building Manager
+++++	
Brennan & Wanda Miller, Ken Uhrick	Door Greeters
Tim & Maggie Bolinger	Ushers
Scott Heller	Money Counter
Ushers	Acolytes

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We welcome all members, visitors, and guests to our worship service this morning. Visitors: Please sign our Friendship Folder located in each pew.

Our altar flowers are presented today by Dave and Myra Gaunt in honor of their wedding anniversary. Bulletins are presented in memory of Eugene Miller.

Our Operation Help products for October are soups and stews. Please place your donations in the bins in the dining room and West vestibule.

We will collect funds to benefit UNICEF the entire month of October. UNICEF benefits children in need throughout the world. Plastic pumpkins are available in the vestibules for your donations.

We hope you will join us this afternoon at 2 p.m. for Rev. Kahler's installation service. Rev. Dr. Monica J. Ouellette, Associate Minister of the Indiana/Kentucky Conference, will be our guest speaker. A reception will follow in the dining room. We invite everyone to join us as we begin this next step in our mutual ministry with Rev. Allen and Shannon Kahler.

As cooler temperatures arrive, it is time for the Men's Fellowship Chili Party on Sunday, October 26th. The Kahlers will be hosting at the parsonage, beginning at 4 p.m. Please bring a container of chili for the community pot, a covered dish to share and lawn chairs. Hot dogs, sloppy joes, table service and drinks will be provided. It will be cancelled in the event of rain.

We are planning a “Trunk Or Treat” event for neighborhood children during the city’s Trick or Treat Hours on Friday, October 31st. Hours are 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in our parking lot. We hope you will come and join in the fun as we share treats with the neighborhood families. You are encouraged to dress in costume, but it is not required. Last year we had 160-180 children come for treats.

Daylight Savings Time will end November 2nd. Don’t forget to Fall Back and set your clocks **back** 1 hour!

Looking Ahead

Wednesday, Oct. 22: Handbell Choir Practice 6 p.m.
Chancel Choir Practice 7 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 26: Happy Birthday, Rev. Kahler!!
Men’s Fellowship Chili Party, Parsonage, 4-6 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 31: Trunk or Treat, Parking Lot, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

www.zionuccdeatur.org

e-mail: office: office@zionuccdeatur.org
pastor: arkinpastor59@gmail.com

Last week's attendance: 34 Offering: \$2215.00
Needed each week: \$4085.87

Please scan this code to make your donation by PayPal

