

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ
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Rev. Amy E. Northridge, Pastor
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June 28, 2026

9:45 AM

Mt. Zion UCC Summer Road Trip

June 28, 2026: Petrified Forest National Park

Seeing God in the beauty of nature as the US celebrates 250 years

Thank you for worshiping with us today. If you are a guest, we invite you to take a moment to complete a visitor's card located in the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate when it is passed. We also invite you to sign your name in our guest book located in the back entrance of the sanctuary.

We welcome infants and children and all their wiggles & voices in our worship! We have children's books and activity bags for them to enjoy in the side narthex! Sunday School is currently paused for the summer and will return in the fall. Please see a member of the welcoming team for assistance!

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS & CONCERNS

PRELUDE

Early Morning Breeze

by Combs

CALL TO WORSHIP (inspired by Psalm 8:3-8)

L: Come, travelers on the road of faith.

C: We gather in God's presence.

L: When we look at the heavens, the work of God's fingers,

C: We marvel at the beauty of creation.

L: When we consider the earth and all that fills it,

C: We remember God's goodness and care.

L: From sunrise to sunset, God's glory surrounds us.

C: We come to worship the Creator of all things.

L: Come, let us worship.

C: Let us worship God.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: God of creation, today we give thanks for your presence at Petrified Forest National Park and the stories written across time. As ancient trees, fossils, petroglyphs, and pathways remind us of those who came before, teach us to honor the past with gratitude while remaining open to the new life you are creating today. As we look at the wonder you have created around us, meet us here on holy ground. Shape us by your Spirit, help us trust the future you are unfolding, and open our hearts to join in your work of bringing life, hope, and renewal. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN NCH NO. 436** (black hymnal, see below)

God of Grace and God of Glory

God of Grace and God of Glory

Harry Emerson Fosdick, Joseph M. Martin

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Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

1. God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple pour your power;
2. From the e - vils that sur-round us and as - sail the Sav - ior's ways;
3. Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to your con - trol.
4. Set our feet on loft - y plac - es; gird our lives that they may be
5. Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils we de - plore;

crown your an - cient church - 's sto - ry; bring its bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom,
from the fears that long have bound us, free our hearts for faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom,
Shame our reck - less, self - ish glad - ness, rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom,
ar - mored with all Christlike grac - es, in the fight to set us free. Grant us wis - dom,
let the search for your sal - va - tion be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom,

grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
grant us cour - age, for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
grant us cour - age, make our brok - en spir - its whole, make our bro - ken spir - its whole.
grant us cour - age, in the quest for lib - er - ty, in the quest for lib - er - ty.
grant us cour - age, serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS¹

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

L: In these summer days we rejoice in the gifts of your creation—the beauty of the earth, the playfulness of animals, and the gift of our being—fragile as it may be. Though God’s creation dazzles us with all of its wonder, we have not always done our part to be good stewards of it. Together, let us confess before God the times we have missed the mark when it comes to our own lives as well as caring for creation.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: O God,

C: God, we come to you today acknowledging that things are broken. Creation is broken. Relationships are broken. We are broken. But in the same breath we know that you make all things new. Today we pray that your presence would be felt in our brokenness. We ask that through your grace all of creation would once again be made whole. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

P: Hear the great news today; through his life, death, and resurrection—Christ heals what we have broken. Just as quickly as our sins were offered up, they have been forgiven. This day you are forgiven, we all are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*ACT OF PRAISE NCH NO. 4 (black hymnal, v. 4, see next page)

Joyful Joyful We Adore You

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee Verse 4

Henry van Dyke, 1907

Ludwig von Beethoven, 1824

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$\text{♩} = 80$

Piano

Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began; Boundless love is

reigning o'er us, re-con-cil-ing race and clan. Ev-er singing, move we forward, faith-ful in the

midst of strife, Joy-ful mu-sic leads us on-wards in the tri-umph song of life.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SCRIPTURE READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14 (NRSVUE)

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY (see below)

The Church of Christ in Every Age

The Church of Christ, in Every Age

William Knapp, 1738

John Hatton, 1793

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Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

1. The church of Christ, in ev - ery age be-set by
 2. A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the victims
 3. Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car-ing

change but Spir - it led, Must claim and test its her - i -
 of in - jus - tice cry be For shel - ter and for bread to
 church that longs to be A part - ner in Christ's sac - ri -

tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
 eat and nev - er live be - fore they die.
 fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy 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.

SPECIAL MUSIC (sung by Caitlin Damon)

TIME FOR SHARING¹

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY & DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY

Golden Eagles Soaring

by Combs

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: God,

C: we know that you aren't in need of anything we have to offer. However you desire for us to serve you in every aspect of our life. We pray that this offering was not a meaningless ritual but a true act of worship. Bless these tithes and offerings and guide us as we seek to use them to serve you in all of creation. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN NCH NO. 391** (black hymnal, vs. 1, 3, & 5, see next page)

In the Midst of New Dimensions

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

In the Midst of New Dimensions Verses 1, 3, & 5

Julian Rush, 1985

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♩ = 80

Piano

1. In the midst of new di-mensions, in the face of changing ways,
 3. As we stand a world di-vid-ed by our own self seek-ingschemes,
 5. Should the threats of dire pre-dic-tions cause us to with-draw in pain,

Refrain

Who will lead the pil-grim peoples wandering in their sep-arate ways? God of rain-bow,
 Grant that we, your glob-al vil-lage, might en-vi-sion re-sur-rect the church a-gain.
 fier-y pil-lar, lead-ing where the eag-les soar, We your people, ours the jour-ney now and ev-er,
 now and ev-er, now and ev-er more.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

***BENEDICTION**

P: May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you: wherever he may send you; may he guide you through the wilderness: protect you through the storm; may he bring you home rejoicing: at the wonders he has shown you; may he bring you home rejoicing: once again into our doors.

C: Amen.

***SENDING**

P: Go forth living into the future and sharing God's hope with the world.

C: Thanks be to God! We will!

POSTLUDE

Where He Leads Me

arr. Berry

Service Participants

Welcome Team Members— John & Connie Wolfe

Liturgist— Deb Herlocker

Tech Team— Elaine Bevivino, Jack Herlocker, & Ron Miles

Special Musician—Caitlin Damon

References

¹The Time of Confession and the Offertory Liturgies are written by Drew Gray

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.