

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

+HYMN **I've Got Peace Like a River** **NCH 478**

+BENEDICTION

+RESPONSE **May the Lord Be Always With You**

+POSTLUDE

Many thanks to Lauralie Axtell, Barb Kley, and Cindy Braun for presenting the messages of peace today

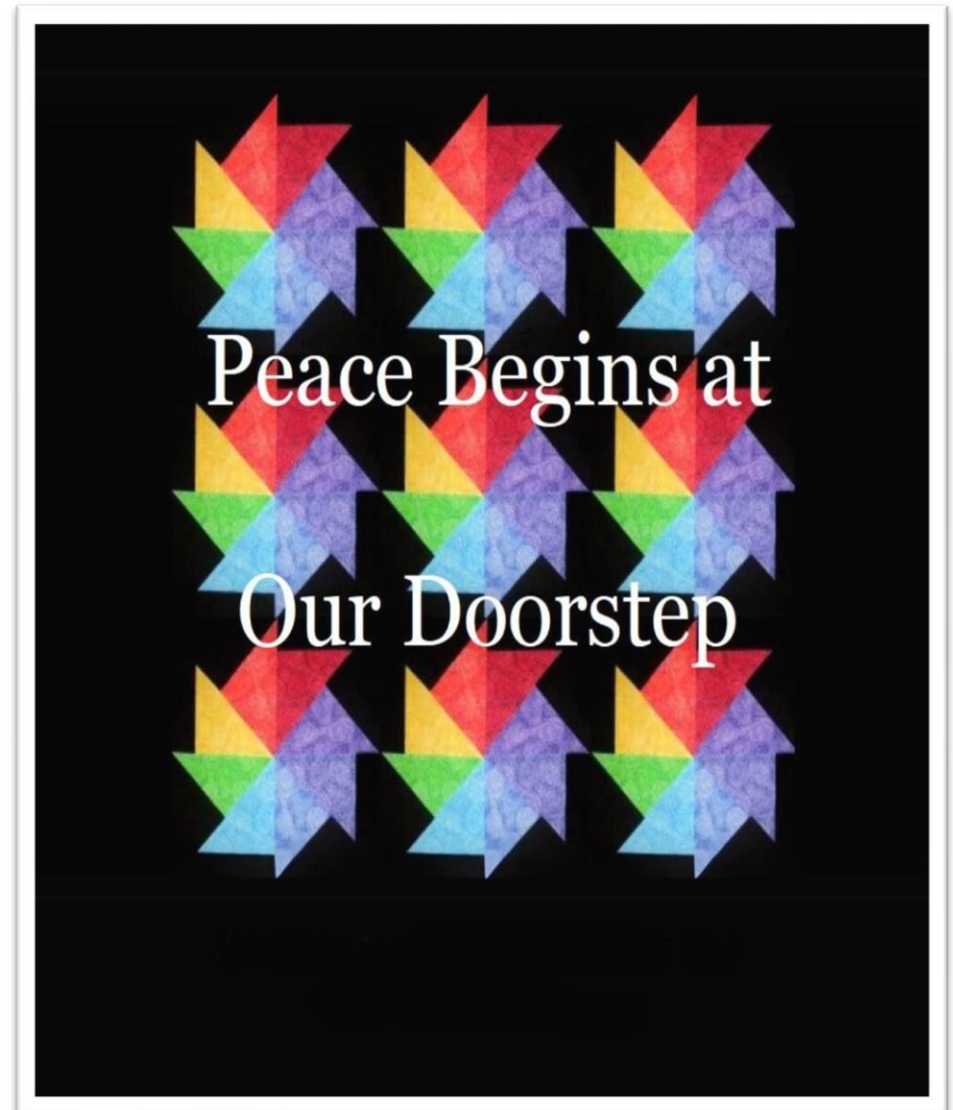
Welcome to Zion United Church of Christ

Whether you are looking for a place of worship or are just passing through, we hope our service has blessed you on your journey as your presence has been a blessing to us. If you are visiting Zion today, please sign the guest card so that we can personally greet you.

The United Church of Christ
God is still speaking.



a just
world
for all
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ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
LE SUEUR, MINNESOTA

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

October 6, 2024

9:00 a.m.

To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the
prisoner was you.

The Rev. Dr. Lewis Smedes, Professor of Ethics

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING REFLECTION *I Believe* Shift Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP

Welcome to this place:

where children and adults pray side by side,
where heaven and earth embrace in peace,
where God has been, is, and always will be.

Welcome to this place, as we gather at Table with all of God's
children:

where we find God's love,
Welcome to this place, where all is made ready by our God:
where we bring our hunger, and find sustenance;
where we bring our brokenness, and find healing;
where we bring our very selves, and find true Life in Christ.

OPENING HYMN **In Christ There Is No East or West** NCH 394

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of peace, **We will not find justice in our apathy;**
we will not find that elusive wholeness with our quarreling;
we will not find our hoped-for unity with only our doctrines;
we will not find our misplaced love with our hating;
we will not find that rest we crave in our overflowing calendars;
we will not find the peace You offer in our well-nursed grudges.
But we will find You in the brokenness of the Bread and in the
breaking of our hearts;
we will find you when we drain the Cup, and refill it with our
gifts, and when we offer it to a little child.
We will find you when we squeeze closer together, making room
at the Table for all Your people. Have mercy on us and help us
to find You, O God. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

RESPONSE **Gloria Patri**

SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always

And also with you.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 5:1-12

THE MESSAGE

Peace Begins at Our Doorstep:
Stories of Forgiveness from American Cultures

THE OFFERING

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We offer these gifts to the work of Your kingdom on earth, O
God, with the hope and trust that they will in some measure
reveal to the world the kingdom of Heaven. Use these gifts and
our very lives to Your glory in our suffering and troubled
world—a world transformed for us by the love of Jesus Christ,
our brother and Lord. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

*Today we will receive communion by coming forward to the Lord's
table at the front of the sanctuary. For those who must remain seated,
communion servers will come to you. Special breads represent three
distinct American cultures: Native American, Jewish and Amish
communities.*

COMMUNION HYMNS

Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands
One Bread, One Body

Insert
Insert