

WELCOME TO
Old Zionsville United Church of Christ
5981 Fountain Road, P.O. Box 215
Old Zionsville, PA 18068

Email: ozuccoffice@ptd.net Web page: www.oldzionsucc.org

Church Office: 610-966-3601

Pastor: 610-393-3522 or 610-966-3436

Rev. Lori Esslinger

Pastor

David Carlson

Organist

July 10, 2022

9:30 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

“A Plumb Line”

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call to Worship

One: God of salvation, we lift our souls to you.

All: The paths of the Holy One are steadfast love and faithfulness.

One: In trust, we wait on you to speak, to reveal, to send.

All: The paths of the Holy One are steadfast love and faithfulness.

One: Lead us in your truth with mercy and righteousness.

All: The paths of the Holy One are steadfast love and faithfulness.

Prayer of Invocation (unison)

Divine Builder, you set our standards and foundation. Make your presence known to us as we gather before you. Let this community reflect your body and your vision. Fortify us with all truth and strengthen us with your abundant love. Enliven our senses and stir our being as we worship you as the people you have crafted to build alongside you. Amen

*Opening Hymn: “We Would Be Building” (all verses)

- 1) We would be building; temples still undone
Over crumbling walls their crosses scarcely lift,
Waiting till love can raise the broken stone,
And hearts creative bridge the human rift;
We would be building;
Master, let Thy plan reveal the life that God would give to man.

- 2) Teach us to build; upon the solid rock
We set the dream that hardens into deed,
Ribbed with the steel that time and change doth mock,
Th' unfailing purpose of our noblest creed;
Teach us to build;
O Master, lend us sight to see the towers gleaming in the light.
- 3) O keep us building, Master; may our hands
Never falter when the dream is in our hearts,
When to our ears there come divine commands
And all the pride of sinful will departs;
We build with Thee;
O grant enduring worth until the heavenly Kingdom comes on earth.
Amen.

Prayer Transformation and New Life

One: Everlasting God, you build up and tear down. We confess that we have erected idols that need to be demolished in our time. We embrace complacency and comfort over following your vision of beloved community and liberation.

All: We measure ourselves not against your precepts but by the standards of this world. We close our ears to voices we do not want to hear and our eyes to sights too painful to see. Tear down the fear of discomfort within us and rebuild us with the pillars of holy love, compassionate care, and Spirit-led action. In your mercy, make us new. Amen.

Words of Grace

The Righteous One remains near to you and delights in prospering the fruit of your bodies, your soul, and your acts. The way of God is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away.

*Hymn: "Be Strong in the Lord" (vs. 1 only) p.734

Scripture Reading: Amos 7:7-17

7 This is what he showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. **8** And the Lord said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said, "See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will spare them no longer; **9** the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword." **10** Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. **11** 'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.'" **12** And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land

of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there, **13** but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom." **14** Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet nor a prophet's son, but I am a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore trees, **15** and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.' **16** "Now therefore hear the word of the Lord. You say, 'Do not prophesy against Israel, and do not preach against the house of Isaac.' **17** Therefore thus says the Lord: Your wife shall become a prostitute in the city, and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword, and your land shall be parceled out by line; you yourself shall die in an unclean land, and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land."

Reflection

Special Music

*The Pastoral Prayer...The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

*Invitation to Generosity

The plumb line is a device used to ensure alignment in construction. Generosity aligns the use of resources in excess. We bring our gifts out of the abundance we have received to benefit our neighbor and bless the world.

*The Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving (unison)

Architect of our faith, use these humble offerings to construct your plan of peace, hope, and love for life abundantly. Amen.

*Closing Hymn: "Rise Up, O Church of God" (vs. 1 & 4) p.433

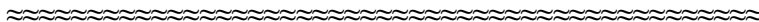
*Benediction

One: Be filled with all spiritual wisdom and understanding. Bear fruit in every good work as you grow in the knowledge of God.

All: Be strong in God's Love and give thanks to the One who has given you a share in the kingdom, the power, and the glory. Amen.

*Extinguishing of the Candles

*Postlude



A Plumb Line: Service Prayers for the Fifth Sunday after Pentecost were written by Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology, United Church of Christ.

Copyright 2022 Faith INFO Ministry Team, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100. Permission granted to reproduce or adapt this material for use in services of worship or church education. All publishing rights reserved.

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Kunkel in honor of their 14th Wedding Anniversary.

TODAY'S BULLETINS are in memory of Ezra Hoch from Lee and Susan Hoch and Family.

TODAY'S LITURGIST is Nancy Weitzel.

TODAY'S GREETERS is Robin Yoder.

RESTROOMS ARE AVAILABLE on the main floor of the Church and downstairs. Bulletin MAGNIFIER SHEETS can be found on the sound system.

Mask Wearing - Consistory has agreed that individuals can make their own decision as to the wearing of masks during church services. If you find yourself testing positive for COVID, **please contact the church office** so we can alert others who may have been in contact with you during time spent at church. Thank you.

Want to share a **gift or talent** during worship this summer while our choir gets a break? Please speak with Pastor Lori 610-393-3522 or Carolyn Rhoads 610-737-0904. Sing, play an instrument, dance, read poetry, tell a story...Know a child who might like to share their talent in front of our congregation? - anything that gives thanks to God!

The Windows Committee is planning another Matching Gift Challenge in the fall to benefit Phase 3 of the restoration. Anonymous "challengers" are needed to make this a success. Please see or call Beth Massa (610-554-6368) or Ruth Stansfield (267-313-4348) to participate or for more information. Also, have you seen the three beautiful hand-made quilts that are on display in the upper social hall? They are available for purchase on a first come, first served basis. Prices range from \$300 to \$500 and all proceeds will benefit the windows restoration. See Beth or Ruth for more details.

We would like to introduce our newest foodie group for the OZUCC Family, **"The Sunday Brunchers"**. Something we want to try out for the summer, since we have early church, and the possibilities are for more of a "Brunch" type meal after church. Our first gathering will be on Sunday July 24th, after church, at The Mercantile Club located at 427 Railroad St, Emmaus, PA 18049 (FYI – they are a cash only facility). Please RSVP to Linda or Mark Weaver no later than Wednesday, July 20th. Hope to see as many as possible with fine food and fellowship.

We are looking for **Mentors for the Confirmation Program** which will begin in September 2022. Mentors need to be members of the church who are willing to give their time to a student one Sunday a month after worship until 2 p.m. October 2022 to September 2023. Dates will be provided and negotiated. This includes lunch. The mentor may NOT be a family member of the student. This is a very rewarding experience as you deepen your faith and share with a student who is shaping their own faith. All materials provided. No experience necessary. You bring yourself to this program and the Lord provides the rest. Speak with Pastor Lori if you are interested. Thanks!

Week of July 10-16, 2022:

Pastor Lori will have office hours on Wednesday from 10am-3pm. Other times by appointment

ATF Give Away – Monday from 3-6pm in Lower Social Hall

Boy Scouts – Monday @ 6pm

Cub Scouts – Tuesday @ 7pm

FUN Group – Tuesday @ 7pm

Finance – Wednesday @ 7pm

ATF Give Away – Saturday from 10am-12pm in Lower Social Hall

Next Sunday – 9:30am Worship

Total Offerings from July 3:

General Offerings: \$3,080.00

Mission: \$10.00

Communion: \$105.00

Windows to the Future: \$375.00

Parking Lot Maintenance: \$45.00

Cemetery: \$140.00

Attendance: 48

YOU'RE INVITED



Mark your calendars for **Sunday August 21** from **12 noon to 8 p.m.** for the **70th Annual Vera Cruz Homecoming** at Mystic Chain Park. They will have music and food. I also heard there will be a cake walk!

We've been invited to set up a table or two to share info about our church or provide any other fun we would like. I've asked our leadership to come up with some ideas.

I'm wondering if you would be willing to be there to help "staff the table" for an hour?

We have lots of church plates. Maybe we'll have a penny toss and a penny landing on a plate gets to take it home!

Maybe we can give away some books?

Or we can raffle off some items that I have been saving for just such a thing.

Speak with Pastor Lori if you have ideas and check your calendars to take an hour for fun and fresh air! Thanks!