

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 31, 2022

9:30 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

“Cords of Love”

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call to Worship

One: Our Loving God gathers us from the east and the west, from the north and from the south.

All: The Holy One is in our midst. Let us say so!

One: We cried out to our God in the time of trouble and eased our distress.

All: The Holy One is in our midst. God leads us on right paths.

One: Our Provider satisfies our thirst and meets our needs.

All: The Holy One is in our midst. Consider God’s steadfast love!

Prayer of Invocation (unison)

Holy Love, we worship you as your people. You tether us to you in righteousness and covenant. Reveal your face to us. Let us see you in our midst, in our neighbors, and in ourselves. Clothe us in love and compassion, and continually fashion us as your people for you are our God. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” (vs. 1 & 4) p.210

Prayer Transformation and New Life

One: Gracious One, you have knit us together wonderfully. You have promised your abiding presence in our lives and have guided us with love.

All: We turn away from you and toward the path to destruction and discord. We judge our neighbor rather than love them and we fail to even honor ourselves as your beloved creation. Amen.

Words of Grace

The God of mercy bends toward their children with love and hope. The Holy One leads us when we wander onto divergent paths and nourishes our hunger for the newness of life. In God, grace abounds freely, abundantly, and extravagantly.

*Hymn: "Surely the Presence (of the Lord Is in This Place)" p.219

Scripture Reading: Colossians 3:1-11

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **2** Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, **3** for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. **4** When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. **5** Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). **6** On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. **7** These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. **8** But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. **9** Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices **10** and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. **11** In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

Reflection - Jane Matsinger

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

Jesus said, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." (Luke 12:15) The promise of life abundantly invites us to trust God's provision and abundance of resources for all. We share our gifts from the abundance given to us.

*Presentation of Our Morning Offering.....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)

Loving God, may we demonstrate our love through these gifts. Bless them and magnify them so that all creation will benefit from your abundance and gift of life and love.

*Closing Hymn: "All Praise to Our Redeeming Lord" (all verses) p.221

*Benediction

As we have been led by cords of human kindness, let us live connected to all creation. As we have been freed, may we pursue liberty for all. As we have known God's gracious love, may we embody God's abundant love. Amen.

*Extinguishing of the Candles

*Postlude



Cords of Love: Service Prayers for the Eighth 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 BULLETINS are in memory of loved ones from Bob and Annie Souder.

TODAY'S LITURGIST is Jan Strobel.

TODAY'S GREETER is Millie Kohler.

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.

We thank Jane Matsinger for leading worship with us today. May God continue to bless you in your path toward ordained ministry.

Pastor Lori is on vacation through Friday, August 5, 2022. If you need Pastoral Care during this time, please call the office at 610-966-3601 (if urgent, do not leave messages after 3:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, or anytime Friday, Saturday and Sunday, this phone will not be monitored from Thursday afternoon through Monday morning). If you have an urgent need during those times please call Kathy Latshaw at 610-754-7701. Thank you for giving me this time away. – Pastor Lori

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 or Ruth Stansfield 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 to purchase on a First come, first served basis. Prices range from \$300-\$500 and all proceeds will benefit the windows restoration. See Beth or Ruth for more details.

Would any of our members care to help with revisions for the "**Facilities Use Guidelines**". If this is something you would be interested in helping with, please contact Pastor Lori or a consistory member. Thank you in advance.

FUN Group is collecting back-to-school supplies. Please bring your contribution to Church by next **Sunday, August 7**. The supplies will be distributed through the Angel Network of East Penn School District to elementary through high school students and the Zionsville Area Food Pantry. **Look for the collection bin outside Pastor's Office.** For a list of supplies needed, please check your July Newsletter.

Brunch and Learn Session - Sunday, August 14 join us in the lower level social hall after Worship for a Brunch and Learn session with a Missionary to the Philippines! She is home on furlough and will be sharing with us her work abroad. We will start around **10:30 a.m.** with food - we'll have brunch items for you and then Jess Noll will speak to us while we are nibbling. Bring your questions for her. This is a great time for us to fellowship and learn in our air conditioned lower social hall.

Sunday August 21 we will have a stand at the **Vera Cruz Homecoming!** Can anyone lend a hand by giving an hour to hang out at our booth and oversee the coin toss game? We will be providing the coins and those whose coin lands in a dish, gets to keep the dish! 12 noon to 8 p.m. at Mystic Chain Park. Food, vendors, activities, music, cake walk, family fun!

Our first **Sunday Brunchers** event was a great success with 19 enjoying fellowship and good food last Sunday. As such, we will do it again in August. Our next gathering will be on **Sunday August 28th**, after church, once again at The Mercantile Club located at 427 Railroad St, Emmaus, PA 18049 (FYI - they are a cash only facility). Please RSVP back to us no later than Wednesday August 24th. Hope to see even more of you for the fine food and fellowship.

Membership and Evangelism Upcoming Fellowship Events: "**Tootsie**" at State Theatre in Easton on Thursday, November 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. "**At the Stroke of Midnight**" (Christmas Show) at Pines Dinner Theatre in Allentown on Saturday, December 17, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. A La Carte dinner available at menu cost (not included in ticket price). "**Rhythm of the Dance**" (Irish Dance and Music) at State Theatre in Easton on Friday, March 10, 2023 at 8:00 p.m. Please contact Linda or Mark Weaver by July 31st for

more information and to RSVP.

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!

The Lehigh Valley Old Time Jammers meet in the Upper Milford Mennonite Church Sunday School area (1st floor) on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays each month. This group of musicians love old time music and play the fiddle, banjo, guitar, and other acoustic instruments. They do not do a formal performance but just come and 'jam' (make music). If you enjoy this music and want to listen (or have an instrument and want to play), join us!

Week of July 31-August 6, 2022:

Boy Scouts – Monday @ 6pm

Cub Scouts – Tuesday @ 7pm

Next Sunday – 9:30am Communion Worship, Baptism

Total Offerings from July 24:

General Offerings: \$1,253.00

Mission: \$15.00

Windows to the Future: \$45.00

Building Repair: \$20.00

Disaster Relief: \$20.00

Parking Lot Maintenance: \$0

Cemetery: \$0

Attendance: 38