

**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

August 14, 2022

9:30 a.m.

*\*those who are able may stand*

**“Song for the Vineyard”**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call to Worship

One: In a world uprooted at every turn, come beloved of God for replanting.

**All: Our hope and weariness are mixed together, yet we come, trusting ancient promises.**

One: The Holy One who led the people out of Egypt, yearns to lead us, too.

**All: God will not rest until all are rerooted, restored, and renewed for rejoicing.**

One: Let us be joined to God’s song of justice, bearing beauty into the life of the world.

**All: May our lives be formed for faithfulness by the One who is always faithful.**

Prayer of Invocation (unison)

**Loving and Gracious God, form a new song of soul within us. Take every fragment of our lives and fashion a new creation. Plant us deep in the soil of Your love, that your living water might rise in us, forming a fruit of possibility unimaginable on our own. Grant us grace to trust your promised presence already meeting us here, now, and always. By this, gift us with a new strength of heart for whatever Your love demands. Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn:    “In the Garden”    (vs. 1 & 2)

p.635

Prayer Transformation and New Life

One: Gardener God, You plant us in a gifted place, but often we return sour grapes. In the midst of Your abundance, we complain of not having enough

or being enough. Your call “to give justice to the weak and the orphan; to maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute” is easily overlooked or ignored.

**All: We are uprooted by our own inaction, selfishness, and fear. Re-root our hearts, our minds, and our lives in the soil of Your forgiving love. Bear up in us a boldness to sing a song strange to the world but known by You. Let it be the song of shalom, the chorus of Christ-love, a hallelujah rising as the world is mended by our consent to You. Yes, plant this anew in us today.**

#### Words of Grace

Hear this good word. God can never cease to be love. God has no joy in plants uprooted or journeys detoured by distraction. The ancient promise of God proclaimed again and again throughout history still rings true. Nothing can separate us from the love of God, made known to us in Christ Jesus. God forgives you and is already planting you anew. This is the good news and you can trust it with your life. Thanks be to God!

\*Hymn: “He Touched Me” (both verses) p.505

#### Scripture Reading: Luke 12:49-56

**49** “I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! **50** I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! **51** Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! **52** From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; **53** they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.” **54** He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens. **55** And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. **56** You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

#### Reflection

#### Special Music

#### \*Invitation to Generosity

We live in a more than enough world, created by a God who lavishes abundance. Today, we are privileged to join God’s motion of generosity. When we add our gifts, God multiplies them for good, and joy mysteriously rises. This is God’s will and way. May we be joined to it.

\*Presentation of Gifts.....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 Thanksgiving (unison)

**We thank you, Loving God, that sourness gives way to sweetness  
when we answer Your call to be generous. Multiply these gifts and  
Your spirit in us, that the world may know your life-giving will and  
Way.**

\*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.**

\*Closing Hymn: "This Is My Father's World" (vs. 1 & 3) p.143

\*Benediction

May you remember, God has planted Your life and given you a song to sing  
into the world. May it be a song of healing and hope, of justice and joy. And  
may you discover yourself blessed again and again as you find yourself joined  
on the journey with Jesus. Blessings on you, beloved of God.

\*Extinguishing of the Candles

\*Postlude



Song for the Vineyard: Service Prayers for the 10th Sunday after Pentecost – Proper 15 were written by Rev.  
Dr. Dave Long-Higgins, Conference Minister of the Heartland Conference, United Church of Christ.

**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Paula Lilly in memory of Troy.

**TODAY'S BULLETINS** are sponsored by Paula Lilly in memory of her parents.

**TODAY'S LITURGIST** is Kathy Latshaw.

**TODAY'S GREETER** is Chris Schell.

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.

## **Join us in the lower level Social Hall after Worship today for a Brunch and Learn Session with Jess Noll, a Missionary to the Philippines!**

**Next Sunday August 21** we will have a stand at the **Vera Cruz Homecoming!** Who can 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, music, cake walk, family fun!

**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 to purchase. Prices range from \$300-\$500 and will benefit the windows restoration.

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.

Our next **Sunday Brunchers** gathering will be on August 28<sup>th</sup>, 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 Linda or Mark Weaver no later than Wednesday August 24<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see even more of you for the fine food and fellowship...

**Membership and Evangelism Committee** says "Thanks to all who signed up for the upcoming shows at the Pines Dinner and State Theatres. Tickets have been purchased and we look forward to some great fellowship at these upcoming events."

**Week of August 14-20, 2022:** Boy Scouts – Monday @ 6pm  
IT and Sound – Monday @ 7pm  
Consistory – Tuesday @ 7pm

**Next Sunday** – 9:30am Worship, Loose Offering to Pastor's Discretionary Fund  
12-8pm Vera Cruz Homecoming

### **Total Offerings from August 7:**

General Offerings: \$2,075.00

Mission: \$30.00

Windows to the Future: \$260.00

Communion: \$50.00

Parking Lot Maintenance: \$25.00

Cemetery: \$0

Attendance: 54