

**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

September 18, 2022

10:15 a.m.

*\*those who are able may stand*

**“No Balm in Gilead”**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call to Worship

One: Divine Parent, you feel what we feel.

**Many: Our joys and our pains are yours too.**

One: Divine Healer, you delight in our wholeness.

**Many: You are the balm for our heavy-laden hearts and souls.**

One: Giver of life, you are able to renew us

**Many: We open ourselves to you, have your way within us.**

Prayer of Invocation (unison)

**Divine Nurturer, we are thankful that we can come to you any time.**

**You have made it possible for us to come, as we are however, we are.**

**We rejoice in knowing that you walk with us whether the road is rough or smooth. You are steadfast. Help us to nurture our relationship with you, ourselves, and each other so that we may be a balm when none can be found. Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn: “Rock of Ages” (verses 1 & 2)

p.342

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: Source of Wholeness, we confess that sometimes our goals don't align with yours, and we get lost. At times, we have pursued power, knowledge, and wealth instead of you, who are the source of all.

**Many: We know that you are the balm we need, and we turn ourselves towards you. You are steadfast in your love and justice. Help us to be the same, help us to be a balm to others as you are to us. Amen.**

## Words of Grace

The Divine one is steadfast in love, justice, and righteousness. Know that we are called and empowered to do the same. In a chaotic world, we can know peace, and in a chaotic world, we can be at peace. May God's grace be a balm for us, and may we be a balm to and for others. Amen.

\*Hymn: "There Is a Balm in Gilead"

Sometimes I feel discouraged And think my work's in vain,  
But then the Holy Spirit Revives my soul again.

There is a balm in Gilead to Make the wounded whole,  
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul.

If you cannot preach like Peter, If you cannot pray like Paul,  
You can tell the love of Jesus, And say, "He died for all!"

There is a balm in Gilead to Make the wounded whole,  
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul.

Don't ever feel discouraged, For Jesus is your friend;  
And if you lack for knowledge He'll never refuse to lend.

There is a balm in Gilead to Make the wounded whole,  
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul.

Scripture Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, **2** for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. **3** This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, **4** who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. **5** For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, **6** who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. **7** For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

Reflection

Choir Anthem

\*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

God's love is steadfast and abundant. We are blessed to give from hearts of love that others might experience abundance. May the gifts we bring be used to supply whatever balm is needed, wherever it is needed. May these resources be used to facilitate the wholeness of all. Amen.

\*Presentation of the 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)

**Steadfast One, receive our gifts in the gladness we give them. Thank you that we have an abundance of resources to share so that every need is met. May we always give from wide open hearts, and may what we give, be used to bring a balm of justice. Amen.**

\*Closing Hymn: "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" (verses 1& 2) p.564

\*Benediction

As you enter into everyday life again, let the balm you received be the balm that you gladly share with others. Go forth in the wholeness of God's steadfast love. Amen.

\*Extinguishing of the Candles

\*Postlude



**No Balm in Gilead: Service Prayers for the Fifth Sunday after Pentecost** were written by Rev. Teña T. Nock, Associate Pastor of Digital Ministry, First United Church of Tampa, United Church of Christ.

**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS** are in honor of our church's children sponsored by Millie Kohler.

**TODAY'S BULLETINS** are sponsored by Chester Yeakel in memory of his wife, Martha and brothers, Charles and Howard, parents and grandparents.

**TODAY'S LITURGIST** is Millie Kohler.

**TODAY'S GREETERS** are Les and Deb Schoenberger.

RESTROOMS ARE AVAILABLE on the main floor of the Church and downstairs.  
Bulletin MAGNIFIER SHEETS can be found on the sound system.  
All LOOSE OFFERING today will go toward our Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

**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.

**Windows to the Future** - The final phase of the windows restoration is underway and so is the 2022 Matching Gift Challenge. This year's challenge will benefit the restoration of the nativity stained glass window. The challenge is currently \$3,000 and all donations during September, October and November will help to reach this goal. Thank you for your continued support.

**Sunday Brunchers** will meet at the Mercantile Club, 427 Railroad Street in Emmaus next Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at noon. Please RSVP to Mark or Linda by tomorrow.

Join us on **Saturday, October 1** at the **Upper Milford Community Day** from 12 noon to 3 p.m. at the Upper Milford Township building. Our booth will have a coin toss! Do you have any extra dishes or odd pieces of glassware that you want to share for this cause? Extra plates or bowls? Old vases that you don't need? Please bring them to church and mark them coin toss. We will earn a little money for the church and help you clean out your cabinets. A win-win for all! Confirmation students, mark your calendars. This activity will count as extra credit!

**Special Congregation Meeting – October 2, 2022** after Worship to vote on By-Law changes. Copies of changes in September Newsletter and in back of Church on the sound system.

**Come to Supper Club** – Supper Club will be meeting Friday, October 7, 6:00 p.m. at Bally Hotel, 660 Main Street, Bally. Please let Linda or Mark Weaver know by Monday, October 3 if you will be attending. This is open to all church members.

**GriefShare** sessions are being held in our lower social hall on **Thursdays** from **1:00-3:00 p.m.** each week. We will meet until Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. You may join in at any time. Please register with Pastor Lori, call or text at 610-393-3522. This group is open to all!

**Week of September 18-24, 2022:**

Boy Scouts – Monday @ 6pm  
IT – Monday @ 7pm  
Consistory – Tuesday @ 7pm  
Grief Share – Thursday, 1-3pm  
Choir – Thursday @ 7:30pm

**Next Sunday** – 9:00am Sunday School & Confirmation  
10:15am Worship  
12:00pm Brunch at Mercantile Club

**Total Offerings from September 11:**

General Offerings: \$3,210.00

Mission: \$30.00

Windows to the Future: \$70.00

Communion: \$26.00

Building Repair & Maintenance: \$85.00

Food Pantry: \$30.00

Pastor's Discretionary Fund: \$25.00

Parking Lot Maintenance: \$10.00

Cemetery: \$12.00

Attendance: 52