

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 25, 2022

10:15 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

“In an Earthenware Jar”

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call to Worship

One: Come to this place and time of promise.

All: We are becoming the house of hope, the field of sunflowers, the vineyard of great caring.

One: Come to a shared commitment to abundance possible for all people.

**All: We are an earthenware jar, to keep safe the tomorrow of children.
Our security question is – the word of God, and our password is love.**

Prayer of Invocation (unison)

**God, we give you thanks that you make us redeemers, not just receivers of redemption. You bring us among friends and then ask for each one of our signatures to change your world. We hold the earthenware jar you call the church and fill it with all your promises.
Amen.**

*Opening Hymn: “The Old Rugged Cross” (verses 1, 2 & 4)

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Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: God, I have defaulted to un-hope in my life and I have encouraged un-hoping in others. I have criticized plans before hearing them out and I have turned to family, church, friends, colleagues with my face painted, “we’ve tried that before and it didn’t work.”

All: Together we have laughed at new ideas and circulated only bad news. Plant your promises deep in the field of our lives, and forgive us our presuming to define your future. Amen

Words of Grace

God wipes pessimism from the open heart and sends others to affirm in us even the most fragile possibilities of the future. We are forgiven. Amen.

*Hymn: "Why Should He Love Me So?" (all verses) p.325

Scripture Reading: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

6 Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, **7** for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, **8** but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. **9** But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. **10** For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. **11** But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. **12** Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. **13** In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you **14** to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, **15** which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. **16** It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. **17** As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. **18** They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, **19** thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Reflection

*The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

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

We are invited to offer resources, time, abilities, compassion, in a tangible expression of our hope for the future for ourselves, this community of faith and many others near and far away. Be generous, my friends, with your trust in the future.

*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)

God, we have received hope; we give you time. We have received hope; we give one another the church. We have received hope; we offer these gifts that they may become the change or simply the promise of change among those who need this clear image that they are not abandoned. Amen.

*Closing Hymn: "I Will Serve Thee"

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*Benediction

May you be as blessed as Jeremiah –with a word-of-God whisper when you are waiting, a glimpse of freedom when you are confined, a friend to show you the way forward, an earthenware jar of God's love in which your signature is precious.

*Extinguishing of the Candles

*Postlude



In an Earthenware Jar: Service Prayers for the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost were written by Maren C. Tirabassi is a UCC pastor, author of fiction and non-fiction, and also a hiker in autumn leaves and a lover of fireside moments in the company of dogs, reading poetry and novels and finding myself praying.

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are sponsored by Henry and MaryAnn Heil in memory of MaryAnn's mother, Mary Harry.

TODAY'S BULLETINS are sponsored by Henry and MaryAnn Heil in memory of MaryAnn's father, John Harry.

TODAY'S LITURGIST is Pat Sajkowicz.

TODAY'S GREETERS are John and Nancy Civitts.

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 the Sunday Brunchers for brunch at the Mercantile today. Reservations are for noon. Cash only venue.

We are looking for people who like to **bake or make special treats** for the Sunday School children for a Third Sunday Treat time each month. Everyone is invited to share in this time of fellowship. Please speak with me or email me for further details. Thanks in advance for your help. The children (and adults) look forward to it! Sign up sheet is in the rear of the sanctuary.

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. Donations since September 4th have been \$620.00. Thank you for your continued support.



make light work. AFT Help needed to join in the sorting on Tuesday, Sept. 27 at 10 a.m. in the downstairs social hall. Can arrive up to 12 noon to lend a hand :) No experience necessary. Just a willing heart to help. Thanks in advance.

Our **Sound Team is looking for helpers.** Instruction and training provided. No experience necessary. See Mark Weaver or Dan Latshaw at the sound console any Sunday for more information.

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 mugs you aren't using? Please place your items on pew outside Pastor's office 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 the back of Church on the sound system. Plus we will have our **Church Plates** from 1985 on display in case you would like to have one. A donation is appreciated.

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 17th. 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!

October 23 - 4-6 PM - Light in the Night at the Upper Milford Township Building. More details to follow soon. Any questions please contact Mandy Ritter beachy2125@gmail.com.

Week of September 25-October 1, 2022:

Scouts – Monday @ 6pm
Cub Scouts – Tuesday @ 7pm
Outlook – Tuesday @ 7pm
Cemetery – Wednesday @ 7pm
Grief Share – Thursday, 1-3pm
Choir – Thursday @ 7:30pm

Next Sunday – 9:00am Sunday School & Confirmation
10:15am Worship, World Communion Sunday
Congregation Meeting

Total Offerings from September 18:

General Offerings: \$1,431.00

Mission: \$20.00

Windows to the Future: \$165.00

Building Repair: \$20.00

Pastor's Discretionary Fund: \$47.40

Parking Lot Maintenance: \$0.00

Cemetery: \$0.00