

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

November 13, 2022

10:15 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

“Make Up Your Mind”

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call to Worship

One: Steadfast One, there is no wavering in you.

Many: We come boldly, yet uncertain and unsure.

One: Fountain of truth, you reveal what is true and what is not.

Many: You help us to see and hear so we'll know which road to travel.

One: Eternal Wisdom, your mind and heart are stayed on loving us.

Many: We set our hearts and minds to love ourselves and others, the way that you do.

Prayer of Invocation (unison)

Unwavering One, we are thankful for the clarity found in you. You welcome us into your presence, even when we aren't sure of our approach to you. We delight in knowing that even when we come stumbling over ourselves, your love is sure to pick us up and steady us. Because you are love, you give your promises to us. Help us walk unwavering in the love that helps us keep our promises too. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: “Give to Our God Immortal Praise” (vs. 1 & 3) p.112

Prayer for Transformation and New Life (unison)

Source of Grace, we confess that at times we can be indecisive, wavering, and even suspicious concerning you. Yet, you are loving toward us even when we are not. We know that you are trustworthy, so we yield our doubts to you. You are persistent in extending grace toward us because your compassion is ever-expanding. Thank you for this moment of transformation. We give you thanks for wholeness. Amen.

Words of Grace

God is unwavering in mercy, and because we come from God, we know God's grace is sufficient no matter our condition. Grace and mercy are extensions of God's steadfast love and are present for us and in us. Amen.

*Hymn: "Awesome God" (sing 3 times through using repeats) p.179

Scripture Reading: Luke 21:5-19

5 When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, **6** "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down." **7** They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" **8** And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them. **9** "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." **10** Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; **11** there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. **12** "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. **13** This will give you an opportunity to testify. **14** So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, **15** for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. **16** You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. **17** You will be hated by all because of my name. **18** But not a hair of your head will perish. **19** By your endurance you will gain your souls.

Reflection

Choir Anthem

Invitation to Generosity

God is unwavering in giving to us, so let us give to God. Let us choose to bring our gifts with made up minds to foster and build the Beloved Community. Let these resources be used to steady the work of the Kin-dom. Amen.

*Presentation of Our Offerings and 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)

Divine One, receive our gifts in the love we give them. Thank you for blessing us with gifts to share, so the needs of your people can be met. We offer our gifts with made-up minds. May what we give be used to facilitate wholeness for all. Amen.

*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: "My Savior First of All" (vs. 1 & 2) p.768

*Benediction

As you depart this space, keep watch, and pray that the things you find pleasure in, do not distract you from the One who made all things for you to enjoy. Be unwavering in your openness to the promise of God's love. Let the mind of Christ be in you. Amen.

*Extinguishing of the Candles

*Postlude

Please proceed out the main door to add your paper to the chimnea for burning and sending to God.



Make Up Your Mind: Service Prayers for the Twenty-Third 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 from Michael and Jane Bedell in honor of their Wedding Anniversary.

TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS are in memory of Charmin Walbert from the Walbert Family.

TODAY'S LITURGIST is Robin Yoder.

TODAY'S GREETERS are Randy and Sharon Trexler.

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.

Windows to the Future - As of October 31, \$3,436 has been contributed to the \$4,000 Matching Gift Challenge. The challenge continues through November and with your generous support, the goal will be reached.

The remaining two **Quilts** are on display in the upper social hall. The asking price is \$350 each or best offer. The holidays are coming and they would make great gifts for a special family member or friend. They will also be offered for sale during the bazaar and basket auction, so don't wait and miss this wonderful opportunity. All proceeds go to the windows fund. See Pastor Lori, Beth Massa or Ruth Stansfield.

Poinsettia Order Forms can be found at the entrance to the Church. Orders are due before Tuesday, November 29.



Today following worship, we will be burning our papers with sins from the past year written on them in the little chimenea outside of worship. Send your past up in smoke to our God and find cleansing renewal for the upcoming new year.

ATF will be hosting the **Christmas Shoppers Shop** again this year for our food pantry clients. **Help** is needed after Worship **today** to simply unpack boxes or help arrange displays on various themed tables, your choice. Please consider staying and helping. Lunch will be provided. Please remember to keep Maynard and Debbie in your prayers! They have been so faithful to our mission!! May God continue to bless us, our work and our families in need. Thank you.

Lunch Bunch will meet on Friday, November 18 at 12 noon at the New Pennsburg Diner, 321 Pottstown Avenue, Pennsburg.

Sunday Brunchers will meet after Worship, next Sunday, November 20 at 12 noon at the Mercantile Club (cash only). The

next **Supper Club** will be Friday, December 2 at 6:00 p.m. at Mercantile Club in Emmaus.



Join us every third Sunday after Sunday School and before Worship for **"Third Sunday Treats"**. Everyone is invited to share in this time of fellowship! If you would like to bake or make special treats please speak to Pastor Lori. There is also a signup sheet in the rear of the Sanctuary.

Our Community **Thanksgiving Worship** will be the **TUESDAY** night before Thanksgiving, **November 22 at 7 p.m.** at Salem United Methodist Church, 6440 Powder Valley Road, Zionsville. Jenny Fujita from Upper Milford Mennonite

Church will be preaching. **Note this will be happening the TUESDAY before Thanksgiving** this year so you can be home Wednesday night to get your house and dinner fixin's ready! Bring your neighbors and friends.

Our **Annual Congregation Meeting** will be held on Sunday, December 4th immediately following worship. At this time, we will discuss the budget, elect new Consistory members and consider any other business that may come before the congregation.



The Cemetery Association Annual Meeting will be held that same day.

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!



White Gifts will be collected for the young adults (ages 10-21) who live at Bethany Ministries on **Sunday, Dec. 11 at 10:15 a.m.** Their Wish List can be found in the Newsletter. Anyone who would be willing to deliver these gifts to the Bethany Children's Home in Womelsdorf please speak to Pastor Lori.

Christmas Eve Worship – This year we will have a 3:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service and a 7:30 p.m. Candlelight Worship Service. Our 3pm service will be candles and carols in a shortened service.

Week of November 13-19, 2022:

Pastor Lori will have office hours on Wednesday from 10am-3pm.

Other times by appointment

Church Secretary: Brenda Seitz, hours Mon-Thurs 10am-3pm

Sexton: Richard Shoemaker (with Thanks to his wife, Brenda)

Scouts – Monday @ 6pm

Consistory – Tuesday @ 7pm

Grief Share – Thursday, 1-3pm

Choir – Thursday @ 7:30pm

Lunch Bunch – New Pennsburg Dinner @ noon

Next Sunday – 9:00am Sunday School & Confirmation

9:45am Third Sunday Treats

10:15am Worship, Loose change to Pastor's Discretionary Fund

10:30am Confirmation Class and Mentors

Brunch at Mercantile Club (cash only)

Total Offerings from November 6:

General Offerings: \$2,945.00

Mission: \$60.00

Electric: \$25.00

Communion: \$114.00

Building Repair: \$60.00

Windows to the Future: \$870.00

Parking Lot Maintenance: \$0

Cemetery: \$40.00

Attendance: 49