

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 20, 2022

10:15 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

“Gathered”

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call to Worship

One: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Many: We gather to celebrate another day that God has kept us.

One: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change.

Many: We gather to bear witness to all that God has done for us.

One: Come, behold the works of God!

Many: We gather to worship our God who loves and protects us.

Prayer of Invocation (unison)

Though many forces have scattered us in various ways, we invite you to bring us together within ourselves and all around us. Prepare our hearts, minds, and spirits, Gathering God, to be present and ready to receive exactly what we need from this time of worship. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: “Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee” (all verses) p.89

Prayer of Transformation and Words of Grace (unison)

It’s so easy for us to get caught up in our human-made divisions. Whether survival instincts or capitalistic drive, we separate ourselves from those who don’t look, think, or act like us. We unintentionally allow our differences to stain the beauty of your diversity. Our many different households, family structures, belief systems, and various identities become tools of divisiveness rather than gifts of the divine. Even when we cling to the things that unnecessarily separate us, God unscatters us. No matter who we are or what has brought us to this very moment, God chooses to love us back to wholeness, individually and communally. Hallelujah and Amen!

Scripture Reading: Colossians 1:11-20

11 May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully **12** giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. **13** He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, **14** in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. **15** He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, **16** for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. **17** He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. **18** He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. **19** For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, **20** and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

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

Just as God spoke to those in Jeremiah's day, we're faced with an opportunity to participate in God's restorative action in the world. Where others have scattered, God is gathering. Let us be empowered to share our gifts fruitfully and allow God to multiply them for the good of all.

*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)

We're grateful for your invitation to move and give faithfully and abundantly, God. We ask that you would extend your blessings over these gifts that we now offer so that they can be multiplied in service to you and the missions of this congregation. May it be so!

*Closing Hymn: "Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know" (vs 1, 2 & 4) p.535

*Benediction

May you experience God's goodness in your coming, going, and staying. May you witness God's activity in your work, play, and world at large. May you feel God's presence in your life, relationships, and self. May you know God's love now and forever more. Amen.

Extinguishing of the Candles

*Postlude



Gathered: Service Prayers for the Reign of Christ Sunday were written by The Rev. Phiwa Langeni is the Ambassador for Innovation & Engagement for the UCC's CARDD, and the Founder and former Director of Salus Center in Lansing, MI.

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are from Dolly Kichline in memory of Robert Kichline on their 46th Wedding Anniversary.

TODAY'S BULLETINS are sponsored by Len and Judy Hoch.

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.

All LOOSE CHANGE in the offering plate 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 - As of November 13, \$3,586 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.



Sunday Brunchers will meet after Worship, **TODAY** 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.

Our Community **Thanksgiving Worship** will be this **TUESDAY** night, **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. 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.

Don't forget to check out the **Angel Tree** before leaving today. This year the angels don't have specific items to purchase. Instead, they have information where you can purchase items needed by The Kindness Project, which assists foster families. You can go on The Kindness Project website and purchase an item through Amazon Smile, or if you prefer, you can donate money to FUN Group, and we will purchase items on the Amazon list.



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. We thank Diane and Mike Berger for delivering these gifts to Bethany this year.

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 20-26, 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

Cub Scouts – Tuesday @ 7pm

Thanksgiving Service – Tuesday, 7pm, Salem United Methodist Church

Cemetery – Wednesday @ 7pm

Next Sunday – 9:00am Sunday School & Confirmation

10:15am Worship, First Sunday of Advent, guest organist

Total Offerings from November 13:

General Offerings: \$1,520.00

Mission: \$40.00

Communion: \$10.00

ATF: \$10.00

Windows to the Future: \$150.00

Zionsville Area Food Pantry: \$30.00

Parking Lot Maintenance: \$0

Cemetery: \$0

Attendance: 55



Bright Hope Pregnancy Support Centers provide pregnancy support and life skills education to the women, men, and youth in the Lehigh Valley. Their goal is to maintain services and resources for women choosing life for their unborn child and to support families in need. Their incentive program provides current, insightful and practical pregnancy, parenting, healthy relationship, and life skills education to their clients AND provides them life sustaining baby items.

This year for the Church Christmas Party, attendees are asked to bring a donation of baby items for Bright Hope's Baby Boutiques. Below is a list of items that are most helpful.

Diapers & Pull-Ups - Immediate need: Diapers, sizes 3, 6 & 7.

Other needs: Diapers, sizes preemie and 2; Pull-Ups, sizes 2T-3T

Formula – Immediate need: Burt's Bees Organic Baby Formula

Other needs: Enfamil NeuroPro (regular or Gentlease), Enfamil Nutramigen, Similac Sensitive, Similac Pro-sensitive

Wipes – Sensitive wipes (Pampers & Huggies are favorites)

Baby Care Items – Baby Towels/Washcloths, Baby Lotion, Diaper rash cream, Baby Wash

Winter Baby Clothing (New) – Boys, 12 months; Boys & Girls, 18-24 months

Larger Items (Only a few of each are needed at any time) – Toddler car seat (new in box), High Chairs (new in box), Bathtubs (new), Pack 'n Plays (new in box), Strollers-single or double (new in box), Diaper Bags