

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

December 25, 2022

10:15 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

Christmas Day
"Beauty"

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Lighting of the Advent Wreath and the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

One: Sing a new song to the Holy One! Emmanuel reigns!!

All: Mighty God, we gather to consider your marvelous works.

One: Sing a new song to the Holy One! Emmanuel reigns!!

All: Wonderful Counselor, we gather to delight in your revelation.

One: Sing a new song to the Holy One! Emmanuel reigns!!

All: Prince of Peace, we gather to become messengers of your good news.

Prayer of Invocation (unison)

God with us, we open our hearts and souls to the beauty of your kindom. We seek to hear the precious news once again that we might be continually renewed, transformed, and awed by your abundant love, everlasting peace, miraculous hope, and quenchless joy. May our praise and prayers be pleasing to you. May our lives reflect the beauty you have birthed in us. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: "The First Noel" (vs. 1-4)

p.265

Scripture: Isaiah 52:7-10

7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." **8** Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices; together they shout for joy, for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. **9** Break forth; shout together for joy, you ruins of Jerusalem, for

the Lord has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. **10** The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Reflection

Special Music: "Good Christian Men Rejoice" by Caleb-Hunter Buck
(hymn can be found in the blue hymnal, page 273)

*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

On this day that has become synonymous with gift giving, let us reflect on the gifts of love, hope, joy, and peace. Let us respond to the generosity of the Giver of all things beautiful. Let us give generously to share God's beauty in our community.

*Presentation of Our Gifts 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 (unison)

Generous God, we give thanks for all the beautiful resources you have given to us. Let these gifts bring glory and honor to you and beauty and peace to your creation. Amen.

*Closing Hymn: "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" (all vs.) p.267

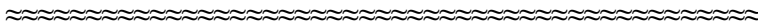
*Benediction

"The Work of Christmas" by Howard Thurman

When the song of the angels is stilled, When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home, When the shepherds are back with
their flock, The work of Christmas begins: To find the lost, To heal the
broken, To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner, To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among others, To make music in the heart. Go in hope,
peace, joy, and love...to spread the beauty of Christmas.

Extinguishing of the Candles

Postlude



Beauty: Service Prayers for Christmas Eve/Day was written by The Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology, United Church of Christ.

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are from the Richards-Brown Family in memory of Dorothy and Ronald Richards.

TODAY'S BULLETINS are sponsored by Paula Lilly in honor of her Children and Grandchildren.

TODAY'S GREETERS are our Consistory members.

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 - The 2022 Matching Gift Challenge was a success, raising over \$8,000 for the Windows Fund. The year ends with a fund balance that allows us to begin Phase 3 of the project, beginning with restoration of the nativity window stained glass. Work on the twin windows and protective glass on the three windows will be on hold until additional funds are raised. Please keep the continued success of the project in your prayers.

Week of December 25-31, 2022:

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

Other times by appointment

Church Secretary: Brenda Seitz will be in the office Tues-Thurs. 10am-3pm

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

Next Sunday – 9:00am Sunday School and Confirmation
10:15am Communion Worship