

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

January 8, 2023

10:15 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

First Sunday After Epiphany
“Be Baptized”

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call to Worship (inspired by Psalm 29)

One: Give glory to the Creator and bow in holy splendor!

Many: The voice of the Creator renews and rebirths.

One: Give glory to the Holy One and bow in holy splendor!

Many: The voice of the Holy One redeems and restores.

One: Give glory to the Living Water and bow in holy splendor!

Many: The voice of the Living Water refreshes and revives. Glory to God!

Prayer of Invocation (unison)

Voice, Body, and Spirit, You make your presence among us. We receive your love and affirmation. We cherish your guidance and direction. We follow your path and example. Remind us of our connection to you and your covenantal relationship with us. Wash us in the baptized life for renewal and revitalization. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: “Angels, from the Realms of Glory” (vs. 1-3) p.259

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: Holy One, we confess our need for grace and mercy.

Many: We seek forgiveness for the ways in which we have drawn away from you and our neighbors. We express remorse for our participation in the systems of the world that are actively opposed to your kingdom. Transform us to be carriers and promoters of your good news of new life, liberation, and hope in the world. Amen.

Words of Grace

The God of peace is faithful to offer forgiveness and new life in Christ. Receive the good news of new mercies with each new day and a future with hope.

*Hymn: "Come, Holy Spirit, Dove Divine" (all verses) p.467

Scripture: Matthew 3:13-17

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. **14** John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" **15** But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. **16** And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. **17** And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

The Sacrament of Baptism (see insert)

Reflection: Baptism Renewal

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

Special Music: "The Blessing" by Caleb-Hunter Buck
(English and Hebrew)

Invitation to Generosity

Generosity serves as essential element of the baptized life. We bring forth our resources to meet the needs of our community and the world. Let our giving be a public demonstration of our belonging to the kingdom of God.

*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 and Thanksgiving (unison)

Giver of Gifts, we thank you for providing in abundance and allowing us to participate as co-givers with you. We dedicate our offerings in your many names. Amen.

*Benediction

Go in hope, that the world will hear the Voice and know Love. Go in joy, for the transforming work of the Spirit has made you new. Go in peace, and share the good news of Jesus Christ. Be baptized in the world. Amen.

Extinguishing of the Candles

Postlude



Be Baptized: Service Prayers for the First Sunday after Epiphany was written by The Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology, United Church of Christ.

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are from Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jacobs in honor of their daughters, Charleen and Cheryl.

TODAY'S BULLETINS are sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. John Fisher in memory of Mr. and Mrs. William M.E. Yeakel by daughter, Miriam A. Fisher and Family.

TODAY'S GREETERS are Randy and Sharon Trexler.

TODAY'S LITURGIST is Lee Hoch.

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.

Sunday Brunchers – Sunday, January 15, 2023, Noon (RSVP no later than Monday 1/9) Mercantile Club (Cash Only), 427 Railroad St, Emmaus, PA 18049.

Lunch Bunch – Friday, January 27, 2023, Noon (RSVP no later than Monday 1/23) Trivet, location to be determined at a later date.

Week of January 8-14, 2023:

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

Other times by appointment

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

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

ATF Giveaway – Monday from 4-6pm

Scouts – Monday @ 6pm

Cub Scouts – Tuesday @ 7pm

FUN Group – Tuesday @ 7pm

Finance – Wednesday @ 7pm

Choir – Thursday @ 7:30pm

ATF Giveaway – Saturday from 10am-12noon

Next Sunday – 9:00am Sunday School and Confirmation

9:45am Third Sunday Treats

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

12:00pm Lunch Bunch @ Mercantile

Total Offerings from January 1, 2023:

General Offerings: \$9,734.00

Mission: \$25.00

Heat: \$25.00

Windows to the Future: \$355.00

Parking Lot: \$20.00

Cemetery: \$200.00

Attendance: 52

Insert: Order of Baptism

Invitation

Welcome

Pastor: They were bringing children to Jesus that Jesus might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, Jesus was indignant, and said to them,

People: "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it."

Address

Questions to Parents and Godparents

Pastor: Do you desire to have this child baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Parents and Godparents: We do.

Pastor: Will you encourage this child to renounce the powers of evil and to receive the freedom of new life in Jesus Christ?

Parents and Godparents: We will, with the help of God.

Pastor: Will you teach this child that they may be led to profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Parents and Godparents: We will, with the help of God.

Pastor: Do you promise, by the grace of God to be Christ's disciples, to follow in the way of Our Savior, to resist any evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best as you are able?

Parents and Godparents: We do, with the help of God.

Pastor: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow with this child in the Christian faith, to help this child to be faithful members of the church of Jesus Christ, by celebrating Christ's presence, by furthering Christ's mission in all the world, and by offering the nurture of the Christian church so that they may affirm their baptism?

Parents and Godparents: We do, with the help of God.

Congregational Assent

Pastor: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in Baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to this child about to be baptized, as she lives and grows in Jesus Christ?

People: We promise our love, support, and care.

The Affirmation of Faith

Pastor: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the Triune God. Do you believe in God?

People: I believe in God.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

Act of Baptism

Pastor: Bless by your Holy Spirit, gracious God, this water.

By your Holy Spirit save those who confess the name of Jesus Christ that sin may have no power over them. Create new life in this child baptized this day that she may rise in Christ. Glory to you, eternal God, the One who was, and is, and shall always be, world without end.
Amen.

By what name will your child be called?

Parents: (name their child)

Prayer of Baptized

Pastor: We give thanks, O Holy One, mother and father of all the faithful, for this child and for the grace acknowledged here today in water and the Holy Spirit. Embrace us all as sons and daughters in the one household of your love. Grant us grace to receive, nurture, and befriend this new member of the body of Christ.

All: Give to the newly baptized: strength for life's journey, courage in time of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.

The Baptismal Hymn: "Borning Cry"

I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
I'll be there in case you wandered off
and find where demons dwell.

When you found the wonder of the Word,
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living God,
to whom you now belong.

Should you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk 'till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.

The Presentation of the Rose and Candle

Benediction

Welcome to all of our visitors this morning who are helping to celebrate this morning's baptism. If you are looking for a church home, we hope that you might consider worshiping with us again.