

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 29, 2023

10:15 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

“Do Justice, Love, Kindness, Walk Humbly”

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call to Worship (inspired by Psalm 15)

One: Holy One, who may abide in your sanctuary? Who may dwell in your sacred creation?

Many: Those who do justice. Those who confront inequities and uplift the oppressed.

One: Holy One, who may abide in your sanctuary? Who may dwell in your sacred creation?

Many: Those who love kindness. Those who love neighbor, friend and foe.

One: Holy One, who may abide in your sanctuary? Who may dwell in your sacred creation?

Many: Those who walk humbly with you. Those who follow your lead and answer your call.

Prayer of Invocation (unison)

Just and Loving God, we enter into your sacred spaces, in sanctuaries and in homes, in public gatherings and private places. You bridge time and space to forge us as a beloved community. You, O Sovereign, make plain the way of life for us. Encourage us to join your journey, to love your children and creation, and to contribute to your kingdom on earth. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: “All Creatures of Our God and King” (vs. 1-3) p.63

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: Holy Wisdom, you have expressed your hope for us and vision for life abundantly.

Many: Many times we settle for a temporary truce over real peace. We avoid confrontation and accountability that builds up and creates a more just world. We refuse to relentlessly pursue your will when discomfited by the cost of discipleship. Forgive us, O God, we pray.

Words of Grace

Receive the good news that each day presents a new opportunity to follow the way of Jesus—to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. The grace of the Holy One meets us. God embraces and supports us in the turning and will be faithful to strengthen us on the path of righteousness. Amen.

*Hymn: "Holy Ground" (sing through twice) p.138

Scriptures: Micah 6:8

8 He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

1Corinthians 1:18-31

18 For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. **19** For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." **20** Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? **21** For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. **22** For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, **23** but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, **24** but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. **25** For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. **26** Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. **27** But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; **28** God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, **29** so that no one might boast in the presence of God. **30** In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, **31** in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Reflection

Installation of Consistory (see [insert 1](#))

Choir Anthem

Sacrament of Baptism (see [insert 2](#))

Invitation to Generosity

A generous life counters the societal norms that depend on scarcity. Our Loving God creates in abundance so that all may live a full and flourishing life. When we give from our abundance, we proclaim our trust in God's provision and our love of neighbor.

*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)

Just God, we share our humble offering in hope and trust that, through these gifts, your kingdom comes and your will is done. 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: "Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing" (both vs.) p. 237

*Benediction

As you go in the world, hold the blessings of peace. Be the good news to a world shrouded in brokenness, pain, and despair. Show the world the kingdom that lives in you. Do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

*Extinguishing of the Candles

*Postlude



***Do Justice. Love Kindness. Walk Humbly.:* Service Prayers for the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany** was written by The Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology, United Church of Christ.

TODAY'S GREETERS are John and Nancy Civitts.

TODAY'S LITURGIST is Sherri Farrell.

TODAY'S ACOLYTE is Jacob French.

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.

Supper Club – Friday, February 10, 2023, 6pm at Capo & Co., 1375 Chestnut Street in Emmaus. Please RSVP by Monday, February 6 by signing up today or contacting Linda or Mark Weaver at catofpa@ptd.net or weavermj@ptd.net or calling them at 215-679-7599. The next Brunch is scheduled for February 19 after Worship at the Merc in Emmaus and the next Lunch Bunch will be February 24, 12 noon at the East Penn Diner.

Easter Flowers – Orders for Tulips and Lilies are being taken to beautify our Sanctuary during Easter. Forms may be found at the entrance to the Church. They are due back by Wednesday, March 8, 2023. Thank you.

GriefShare – On Tuesday, March 7th we will begin our 5th round of GriefShare sessions at Old Zionsville UCC. We will meet from 1-3 p.m. Tuesdays until May 30, 2023 in our downstairs social room. There is a cost of \$15.00 for the workbook but scholarship money is available. The lessons are taught through interesting videos and can help us all as we grow in Christ. Please register with Pastor Lori at momandpastortoo@yahoo.com or call/text to 610-393-3522. This group is open to all!

Have you checked out our Facebook page recently? On January 1, we started a new series aimed at reading through the Bible in one year. We are providing a chronological reading plan, which lays out the readings in the order in which events happened. We hope you find this series a meaningful way to move through the year. Connect with us at <https://www.facebook.com/OldZionsvilleUCC/>; be sure to “like” our page so you get our posts on your newsfeed!

Total Offerings from January 22, 2023:

General Offerings: \$1,772.00
Mission: \$140.00
Windows to the Future: \$115.00
Building Repair Fund: \$20.00
Parking Lot Maintenance: \$20.00
Memorial Fund: \$50.00
Cemetery: \$3.00
Attendance: 62

Week of January 29-February 4, 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)

Scouts – Monday @ 6:00pm

Facilities Use Committee – Monday @ 7:15pm

Cub Scouts – Tuesday @ 7pm

Sound Team – Wednesday @ 7pm

Choir – Thursday @ 7:30pm

Trip to State Theatre – Friday to see “Menopause the Musical” @ 7:30pm

Next Sunday – 9:00am Sunday School and Confirmation

10:15am Worship, Communion

11:30am-2:00pm Confirmands and Mentors

The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12, New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition)

1 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. **2** And he began to speak and taught them, saying: **3** “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **4** “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. **5** “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. **6** “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. **7** “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. **8** “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. **9** “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. **10** “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **11** “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. **12** Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Insert 1: INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

January 29, 2023

GREETING

L Grace, mercy, and peace to you from Jesus Christ, the head of the church in heaven and on earth.

P To God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

INTRODUCTION

L Affirmation of ministry is the act whereby a local church of the United Church of Christ recognizes the diverse gifts of its members and celebrates the particular ministry of each person in the life of the church or in various settings in the life of the world. There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.

P There are different ways of serving, but the same God is served.

L There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to each of us for our particular service.

P The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all.

L Christ is like a single body, which has many parts.

P It is still one body even though it is made up of different parts.

L If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness.

P All of us are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it.

PRESENTATION

L These people have been called by God to serve in various ministries in God's world. They have accepted their call and desire to witness to that call in the presence of this congregation.

The names of the people and their respective offices or ministries may be read. The duties of each person may be outlined briefly.

COVENANT

L Sisters and brothers in Christ, it is an honor to be entrusted with responsibility for particular service in the ministry of the church, whether gathered or scattered. Having prayerfully considered the duties and responsibilities

of your ministry, are you prepared to serve with the help of God in Christ's name and for the glory of God?

INDIVIDUALS I am.

L Do you promise to exercise your ministry diligently and faithfully, showing forth the love of Christ?

INDIVIDUALS I do, relying on God's grace.

L (addressing the congregation) Members of this household of faith, you have heard the promises of our brothers and sisters in Christ who have answered God's call to service. Let us affirm our intention to live in covenant with them. Will those who are able rise and witness to the commitment we now make?

All who are able please stand.

P We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.

The congregation may be seated.

LAYING ON OF HANDS

L The laying on of hands is the symbolic act whereby the church in every age recognizes God's call to ministry in the lives of faithful women and men and asks the Holy Spirit to confer upon them the gifts of ministry. Today, we lay hands upon Gisela Thiel and Roger Miller for the position of deacon (They come forward and kneels/stands at the altar rail).

L May the Holy Spirit strengthen you for the ministry of *deacon* in Christ's church and equip you with everything good to do God's will. Receive authority to execute the office of *deacon* in the name of Christ.

PRAYER

L Let us pray. Eternal God, you have called these people to serve you in this household of faith and in the world, which you have entrusted to our care and keeping. Send your Holy Spirit on them that they may serve among us with honor and faithfulness. Help them to be diligent in their duties that your church may prosper in the mission you place before it. May their example prove worthy for all of us to follow, as we are united in Christ's ministry, to the glory of your name.

P Amen.

DECLARATION

L In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of the people of Old Zionsville of the United Church of Christ, I rejoice to announce: You are recognized and affirmed in your ministry in Old Zionsville UCC.

GREETING OF CHRISTIAN LOVE

L In accordance with the faith and order of this church, I extend to you the hand of Christian love.

P **Thanks be to God.**

Please pray for our 2023 Consistory Leaders

Elders:

Diane Berger
Millie Kohler
Cheryl Martucci
Larry Stahler
Jan Strobel, V. Pres.
Mark Weaver, Secretary
Robin Yoder, Treasurer

Deacons:

Kathy Latshaw, Pres.
Gisela Thiel
Roger Miller
Robert Schmeltzle, Jr.
Ruth Stansfield
Sharon Trexler

We give thanks to Brenda Shoemaker for her many years of service. And to Maynard Schaffer for stepping up when we needed him!

Responsibilities of Deacons:

The responsibilities of a deacon are not clearly listed or outlined; they are assumed to be everything that does not include the duties of an elder or pastor, which is to preach, teach, and exhort. But qualifications for a deacon's character are clearly outlined in Scripture. They are to be blameless, the husband of one wife, a good household manager, respectable, honest, not addicted to alcohol and not greedy (1 Timothy 3:8-12). According to the Word, the office of deacon is an honor and a blessing. "For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus" (1 Timothy 3:13)

Responsibilities of Elders:

- 1) The elders help to settle disputes in the church.
- 2) They pray for the sick.
- 3) They are to watch out for the church in humility.
- 4) They are to watch out for the spiritual life of the flock.
- 5) They are to spend their time in prayer and teaching the word. Simply put, the elders should be peacemakers, prayer warriors, teachers, leaders by example, and decision makers. They are the preaching and teaching leaders of the church. It is a position to be sought but not taken lightly-read this warning: "Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, for you know that we who teach shall be judged with greater strictness" (James 3:1)

Insert 2: Order of Baptism

Baptism of Aaliyah Ann Krzykowski

We baptize into the Universal Church today
Aaliyah Ann Krzykowski,
daughter of Kaitlyn and Anthony Krzykowski
and sister to Trent and Jaxson.

Godparents are Eric Romberger
and Janel Bullard.

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"

The Presentation of the Rose and Candle

Benediction

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