

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

February 12, 2023

10:15 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

“Be Reconciled”

Prelude: “My Heart Is Filled with Jesus’ Love”

Akers

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call to Worship (inspired by Sirach 15:15-20)

One: Great is the wisdom of the Holy One, powerful and knowing.

Many: God gives us the choice to follow and to be faithful.

One: Great is the wisdom of the Holy One, powerful and knowing.

Many: God offers fire to warm us and water to quench our thirst.

One: Great is the wisdom of the Holy One, powerful and knowing.

Many: God considers us with care and knows our ways.

Prayer of Invocation (unison)

Righteous God, in you we find life and liberty, compassion and care, redemption and reconciliation. You make your ways known to us, and you recognize your people as we are—fully human and made in your image. You come to us, and we come to you. Let us meet in this time and place. Let us bring our hope and our fears, our joys and our sorrows, our successes and our disappointments—the fullness of this glorious and maddening life toward you assured that you meet us here. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: “I Sing the Mighty Power of God” (all vs.)

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Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: Holy God, your fire warms our hearts when they grow cold to the pain of the world,

Many: shines brightly to illuminate the shadows where we hide from you, and provides fuel to energize us when we grow weary of the work. Revive us again, O God, revive us. Amen.

Words of Grace

God with Us knows the feeling of fatigue, the despair of doing hard things, and the frustration of a world that has turned from the Holy One. God is faithful to refresh us, renew us, and revive us. Amen.

*Hymn: "Great Is the Lord" (all verses)

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Scripture: Matthew 5:21-26

21 "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder,' and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' **22** But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment, and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council, and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. **23** So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, **24** leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. **25** Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. **26** Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

Reflection

The Sacrament of Baptism (see insert)

Invitation to Generosity

One: 1 Corinthians 3:8-9 reminds us that, "The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each.

Many: For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building." What a privilege to be God's vessel and participant in kingdom nurture and care.

One: Let us give generously knowing we have been given gifts to be used for the building.

Offertory: "Springs of Living Water"

Peterson

* 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)

**God who gives the increase, receive these gifts and magnify them for your kingdom. Continually grow generosity in us and be glorified.
Amen.**

Choir Anthem: "We Have Come This Far by Faith"

Martin

*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 Faith Looks Up to Thee" (all vs.)

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*Benediction

May you move forward from this gathering with the good news written on your heart, faithfulness embedded in your spirit, and God's wisdom leading your path. In righteousness, grace, and hope, be reconciled.

Extinguishing of the Candles

Postlude: "He's Everything to Me"

Carmichael



Be Reconciled: Service Prayers for the Sixth 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 in loving memory of Bill and Bernie Stahler commemorating their Wedding Anniversary of February 11th given by Larry and Angela Stahler.

TODAY'S BULLETINS are sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Souder in memory of loved ones.

TODAY'S GREETER is Ruth Stansfield.

TODAY'S ACOLYTE is Addison Trexler.

TODAY'S LITURGIST is Cheryl Martucci.

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.

Brunch – Sunday, February 19 after Worship at the Merc in Emmaus. Please RSVP by tomorrow, February 13 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 Lunch Bunch will be February 24, 12 noon at the East Penn Diner.

“Souper” Bowl Covered Dish Social - Come join the FUN Group for our **“Souper” Bowl Sunday** immediately following Church on **Sunday, February 26**. We are looking for a couple of people to volunteer to bring a crockpot of soup. If you can help us, please let a member of FUN Group know by next Sunday, February 12 (including what type of soup you will be bringing). If you aren't bringing soup, please bring a dessert to share. Also, please bring a couple of cans of soup for the Zionsville Area Food Pantry...they distribute hundreds every month!

Beginning FEBRUARY 15 thru April 2, we will be collecting **FULL size toiletries** (*not travel size*) for the Zionsville Area Food Pantry. A collection box will be located on the bench in front of Pastor Lori's office. Please see your newsletter for list of items needed. Thank you!

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.

Windows to the Future - Since the Change for Windows Jar first appeared during the summer of 2020, you have faithfully donated your pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters (and some bills too!) to the windows restoration project. Another \$85 was recently hauled to the bank, bringing the total raised to \$870. Keep up the good work. Every penny does count!

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!

New Member Classes will be held on Sunday, April 30, 9:00-10:00 a.m. during the Sunday School hour and the same time on Sunday, May 7, 2023. We will receive new members on Sunday, May 14 during the 10:15 a.m. Worship Service – The Festival of the Christian Home. Please speak with Pastor Lori (610-393-3522 call or text) ahead of these dates so we can make sure the table is big enough to gather around. We will meet in the Upper Social Room. There is no obligation to join upon completion of the classes. You can certainly just join the classes to learn or refresh your understanding of the United Church of Christ OR meet some of our new people.

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!

Week of February 12 – February 18, 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 @ 6pm

Property – Monday @ 7pm

Cub Scouts – Tuesday @ 7pm

FUN Group – Tuesday @ 7pm

Finance – Wednesday @ 7pm

Choir – Thursday @ 7:30pm

Next Sunday – 9:00am Sunday School and Confirmation

9:45am Third Sunday Treats

10:15am Worship, Loose offering will go into our Pastor's
Discretionary Fund

12:00pm Brunch at the Merc

Total Offerings from February 5, 2023:

General Offerings: \$2,000.00

Mission: \$92.00

Windows to the Future: \$220.00

Heat: \$5.00

Communion: \$80.00

Parking Lot Maintenance: \$100.00

Cemetery: \$50.00

Attendance: 95



One Great Hour of Sharing, as part of Our Church's Wider Mission, is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response. Our **One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)** offering will be collected in Worship on Sundays beginning February 26 and concluding on April 2, Palm Sunday, when it will be dedicated in Worship.

It's Time to Share.....Esmerelda Robles lives in rural Honduras. She and her neighbors participate in a "pass chain" program. A family receives a pregnant pig, sheep or cow; families are taught how to feed and care for the animals. When the next piglet, lamb or calf is born, it is passed on to another family, which in turn will do the same. "A dream we have as a family is to have a micro-business for the production and sale of meat," Esmerelda says. Families now envision a future not possible before. This is just one part of a program to improve food security. This program and its components are made possible because of your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing.

In Galatians, the Apostle Paul encourages followers of Jesus to generously help and care for others. Though there is great need in the world and we can grow weary because we do not know how to help, God's Spirit energizes and re-energizes us in every season.

We can make a difference. We do make a difference. Your generosity makes all the difference. Your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing provide immediate aid and long-term support to people experiencing hunger, thirst, disaster, or crisis around the world.

The need has never been greater. The opportunity is now. It's time to share.

Insert: Sacrament of Baptism

OLD ZIONSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

5981 Fountain Road, P.O. Box 215

Old Zionsville, PA 18068

Phone: 610-966-3601 Email: ozuccoffice@ptd.net

Baptism of Bryce Walker Trexler

Sunday, February 12, 2023

Order of Baptism

We baptize into the Universal Church today

Bryce Walker Trexler

Son of Samantha and Ryan Trexler
and brother to Addison and Owen.

Grandson of Carol and James McHugh,
John and Karen Miller, Sharon and Randy Trexler

Godparents are Megan and Kyle French.

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 he 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 he 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 Bryce. If you are looking for a church home, we hope that you might consider worshipping with us again.