

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

March 12, 2023

10:15 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

Third Sunday in Lent
“Give Us Water”

Prelude: “My Redeemer”

McGranahan

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call to Worship

One: God of sea and sky, you keep the earth flourishing.

Many: We come before you weary from traveling through barren lands.

One: Holy One, you give water that sustains body and spirit.

Many: You hydrate us when we need, how we need.

One: Miracle Worker, you caused a rock to crack and bring forth water.

Many: Crack our hearts open and let your love flow from them like a spring.

Prayer of Invocation (unison)

Holy One, we are thankful for who you are and all that you are. Your presence is desired here. We take joy in knowing that you are as close to us as our next breath. We thirst for you. May we be filled to overflowing with your love. Amen

*Opening Hymn: “We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer” (all vs.) p.68

Prayer for Transformation and New Life (unison)

Enduring Presence, we confess that sometimes we question if you are among us or not. Sometimes we quarrel with you when we are tested. These are the moments when our outlook needs transformation. You are gracious in looking beyond our faults to see our needs and meet them. Thank you for your immeasurable grace. Amen.

Words of Grace

New mercies are granted daily and every day we have an opportunity to be changed forever and for good. Amen.

*Hymn: "Just as I Am" (all vs.) p.488

Scripture: John 4:5-42

5 So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. **6** Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. **7** A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." **8** (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) **9** The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) **10** Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." **11** The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" **12** Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" **13** Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, **14** but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." **15** The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." **16** Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." **17** The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' **18** for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" **19** The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. **20** Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." **21** Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. **22** You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. **23** But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. **24** God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." **25** The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." **26** Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." **27** Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" **28** Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,

29 "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" **30** They left the city and were on their way to him. **31** Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." **32** But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." **33** So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" **34** Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. **35** Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. **36** The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. **37** For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' **38** I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." **39** Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." **40** So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. **41** And many more believed because of his word. **42** They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

Reflection

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Music by Caleb Buck

Invitation to Generosity

God gives of Godself freely, so let us give freely to God. Let us bring gifts that sustain the life of the kin-dom. May these resources be more than enough. Amen.

Offertory: "O Divine Redeemer"

Gounod

* 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)
Fount of Blessing, receive our gifts in the joy that we give them. Be it time, tithe, or talent, it all comes from you. Thank you for blessing us to be a blessing to you and each other. Amen.

Choir Anthem: "Lord, Here Am I" Beck

*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: "Be Thou My Vision" (all vs.) p.562

*Benediction
As you depart this space, remember that the God who caused water to flow from a rock is the same God who walks with you. Go forth with the assurance that in the midst of a chaotic world something good can happen and something good will happen. Amen.

Extinguishing of the Candles
Postlude: "Fugue in G Minor" Bach

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**Give Us Water: Service Prayers for the Third Sunday of Lent** were written by Rev. Teña T. Nock, Associate Pastor of Digital Ministry, First United Church of Tampa, United Church of Christ.

**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS** are in memory of Howard Lilly from Paula Lilly.  
**TODAY'S BULLETINS** are in memory of Paul J. Christman from Paula Lilly.  
**TODAY'S GREETER** is Peter Yeakel.  
**TODAY'S ACOLYTE** is Owen Trexler.  
**TODAY'S LITURGIST** is Jane Bedell.

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.

**Bunch** at the Merc will be next Sunday after Worship. The next **Lunch Bunch** will be on **Friday, March 24, 12 noon** at Chino's Place, 7567 Chestnut Street, Zionsville. Please RSVP no later than Tuesday, March 21st. Linda or Mark Weaver.

**Windows to the Future - Enjoy loaded stuffed baked potatoes?** The Windows Committee will host a baked potato bar fund raiser after worship on March 26. At our **Baked Potato Luncheon**, you get a baked "spud" and a whole fixin's bar including: broccoli, cheese, chili, sour cream, steak sauce and so much more!, drinks and desserts! Suggested donation for Adults is \$10.00 and \$5.00 for children under 7. Proceeds benefit Windows to the Future. Mark your calendar and join in the fun!



**GriefShare** – is meeting 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](mailto:momandpastortoo@yahoo.com) or call/text to 610-393-3522. This group is open to all!

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



The Upper Milford Mennonite, Salem United Methodist, Old Zionsville United Church of Christ, and The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Zionsville will be using ***Drawn to the Cross*** by Henri Nouwen as daily devotional books during Lent. You can get a copy at our church.

All churches also will be including the Wilderness Prayer in every Sunday Service as a connecting feature of our Lenten Experience together.

If you are interested, Jenny Fujita, the Mennonite Pastor, will be leading **Adult Bible Study** at the **Upper Milford Mennonite Church every Wednesday during Lent from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.** You can participate in person or through Zoom. Let me know if you need the link for Zoom.

**Every Sunday morning during Lent**, you can participate in **Adult Sunday School at the Upper Milford Mennonite Church, at 9 a.m.**

**Maundy Thursday** Worship at our Church with communion beginning at 7:30 p.m.

**Cross Walk for Good Friday** – At 2:00 p.m. we will meet at Upper Milford Mennonite Church to "carry the cross" to Old Zionsville UCC where we will have a brief worship service until 3 p.m. If you just wish to join us for the Worship Service at OZUCC, plan to arrive at our church around 2:20 p.m. This event happens rain or shine, so dress accordingly. A car will follow us in case you want to begin the walk and can't complete

the journey. This is a confirmation activity and we will be joined by the students at Zions Evangelical Lutheran Church too. For more information please speak with Lori Esslinger.

**7:30 p.m. Good Friday** Service of Darkness Worship at our Church.

**On Easter Sunday**, The whole Ministerium is invited to celebrate with us at the **7:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Worship Service at Old Zionsville UCC** which includes communion for all. **Continental Breakfast** in the Lower Social Hall will start around **8:30 a.m.** when we conclude worship. Sunday School and Confirmation will start at 9 a.m. on Easter Sunday. **Egg Hunt** on Easter morning will start at **9:30 a.m.** in the lower social hall. **All Children are Welcome** for the Egg Hunt which is for infants through 5th grade. We will have two age groups hunting separately so all can enjoy the hunting. Come to church that morning for this festive tradition and meet up with other parents enjoying this holiday at the church.

We welcome these opportunities to worship together, break bread together and explore God's Holy Word together. Check it out!

**On Friday, March 31** join the **Confirmation Class** as they visit our Jewish Brothers and Sisters at worship at Temple Beth El, 1305 Springhouse Rd, Allentown, PA 18104 Our evening starts there at 7 p.m. with a time to chat with the Rabbi, service follows at 7:30 p.m. and then we share in desserts at 8:30 p.m. while chatting with our hosts. Please let Pastor Lori know if you are planning to attend so we can arrange carpooling plus to alert Temple Beth El how many folks will be with us. Dress code: **no jeans please**, no holes in pants, appropriate shirts. Men will be provided with yarmulkes as proper head covering during worship. We should be back at OZ UCC around 10:15 p.m.



**Friends & Family Spring Fling**, Saturday, April 15 with a catered buffet dinner at 5:00 p.m. Dinner will be followed by Marian & Friends, Ventriloquist. Fun for all ages!! Make your reservations today! See Jan Strobel after Worship. Adults - \$20.00; Children ages 6-12 - \$10.00; Children ages 2-5 - \$5.00; Children under 2 are free.

**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!



**OGHS** – This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Wider Church Ministries. Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women’s empowerment. Because the

UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place. Envelopes can be found at the end of your pew and at the entrance to the Church for those wishing to give.

The United Church of Christ is always responsive to disasters both here and globally. If you wish to donate money to the Earthquake recovery efforts in Turkey and Syria, 100% of your donation will go to aid relief. Make your check payable to Old Zionsville UCC and clearly mark it for **Disaster Relief**. Thank you.

**Bus Trip to the Museum of the Bible** in Washington, D.C. is being put together by Hosensack Church. It will be on Saturday, May 6, 2023. Cost of transportation and museum admission will be about \$70.00 per person with meals on your own. There are two cafeteria-type restaurants in the museum, so you would not have to leave the building. Please let Lori know if you are interested in going.



**Week of March 12 – March 18, 2023:**

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

Other times by appointment

Church Secretary: Monday-Thursday from 10am-3pm  
(please call before coming)

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

ATF – Giveaway Monday from 4-6pm

Scouts – Monday @ 6pm

GriefShare – Tuesday @ 1pm

FUN Group – Tuesday @ 7pm

Cub Scouts – Tuesday @ 7pm

Finance – Wednesday @ 7pm

Choir – Thursday @ 7:30pm

ATF – Giveaway Saturday from 10am-12pm

Scout Banquet – Saturday @ 5pm

**Next Sunday** – 9:00am Sunday School and Confirmation

9:45am Third Sunday Treats

10:15am Worship, Pastor’s Discretionary Fund

12:00pm Brunch at the Merc

**Total Offerings from March 5, 2023:**

General Offerings: \$1,595.00

Mission: \$30.00

Disaster Relief: \$50.00

OGHS: \$10.00

Heat: \$25.00

Windows to the Future: \$250.00

Parking Lot Maintenance: \$35.00

Cemetery: \$0

Attendance: 71