

**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 19, 2023

10:15 a.m.

*\*those who are able may stand*

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
**"Come Peaceably"**

Prelude: "In the Shadow of the Cross"

Glyncannon

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call to Worship

One: Kindred of God, a new vision of leadership is called forth and God calls upon the least likely, the unheard of, and the humble of heart to assemble to receive anointing.

**All: In peace, we anoint the forgotten, the youngest, smallest, and unlikeliest of siblings whom God has raised up to serve.**

One: Though the call may involve risk and danger, we are called to listen, obey, and live a love unwavering.

**All: In peace, we anoint the disinherited and dismissed.**

One: God's call does not depend on our outward appearance or our earthly achievements.

**All: In peace, we anoint neighbor and kin alike, knowing God looks upon the heart. Let us open our hearts to God this day. Amen.**

Prayer of Invocation (unison)

**Anointed One, your love comes peaceably into our lives if we will but let it. We are so fixated on the gold standard, the familiar, and the safe choice that we often lose sight of what you are raising up right in our very midst. Enliven us with your Spirit this day so that we might get a glimpse of your peace. Take what we might imagine as too small for your kindom and use it to open the world to your overflowing abundance and provision for all that you have created. In the name of Jesus the Christ we pray. Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn: "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" (all vs.) p.682

## Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: God of surprises, we know that we do not often perceive the world as you do. We look to the flashy fame, the grand gestures, optimal achievements, and unreachable standards.

**All: Yet, in spite of our misguided reach towards perfection, you give us glimpses of your grandeur and grace. Surprise us yet again this day, O God, that in our complacency which allows us to drift towards the same old ways of faith that we may be transformed anew. Provide us with a new cup of oil that we may be anointed by your love so that we may set out into your world to bless and anoint others. In the name of the One whose love and peace make all things new we pray. Amen.**

## Words of Grace/Assurance of God's Love

One: Friends, receive the anointing of God's tender love and forgiveness this day. For God's care and compassion for you abides in your heart today and always.

**All: We rise and set out restored and renewed. Amen.**

\*Hymn: "He Giveth More Grace" (both vs.) p.707

Scripture: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

**16** The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." **2** Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.'" **3** Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." **4** Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" **5** He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. **6** When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the Lord." **7** But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." **8** Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." **9** Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." **10** Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." **11** Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the

sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." **12** He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." **13** Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

## 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

One: It is not the outward appearance or size of the gifts we have to share that matters to God. It is the loving generosity of our hearts that is closest to the heart of God. We are invited to give this day out of the abundance of our lives, from our heart, knowing that no matter the size of the gift that God knows our hearts.

**All: We give this day from our hearts and may it be pleasing to God. Amen.**

Offertory: "At the Cross"

Hudson

\* 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)

**Generous God, you remind us that you "anoint our heads with oil" and that our "cup overflows" with your abundance. We do not take for granted all that you provide. Take these gifts and use them for the healing and tender care of your hurting world. May your cup of love overflow and abide with the hurting and heartbroken, forgotten and despised, so that we may all be made whole. Amen.**

Choir Anthem: "The Suffering Servant"

Schram

\*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: "We Are an Offering" (all vs.)

p.678

\*Benediction

One: Kindred, set out from this place not to anoint power, prestige, and the outer appearances of grandiosity. Rather, set out from this place to anoint healing, renewal, and raise up those unexpected places and people that God has set apart for the transformation of the world.

**All: We open ourselves to the surprising and unexpected movements of the Holy Spirit, for around the corner of every assumption we carry and every community we live in, is a small shepherd among us waiting to lead with God's help.**

One: Go forth in peace to lead, to love, and be renewed by God.

**All: Amen and Amen!**

Extinguishing of the Candles

Postlude: "Here Yet Awhile"

Bach



**Come Peaceably: Service Prayers for the Fourth Sunday in Lent** were written by Rev. Dr. Chad Abbott, Conference Minister for the Indiana Kentucky Conference of the United Church of Christ and resides in Indianapolis, Indiana.

**TODAY'S GREETER** is Gisela Thiel.

**TODAY'S ACOLYTE** is McGwire Martucci.

**TODAY'S LITURGIST** is Kathy Latshaw.

RESTROOMS ARE AVAILABLE on the main floor of the Church and downstairs.

Bulletin MAGNIFIER SHEETS can be found on the sound system.

Today's LOOSE OFFERING will go into our Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

**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** at the Merc **today** 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 21<sup>st</sup> to 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 next Sunday, 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! **Reservation deadline is April 2!!!!** See Jan Strobel after Worship today. Adults - \$20.00; Children ages 6-12 - \$10.00; Children ages 2-5 - \$5.00; Children under 2 are free. See flyer on bulletin board in the church entrance.

**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 19 – March 25, 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)

Scouts – Monday @ 6pm

GriefShare – Tuesday @ 1pm

Consistory – Tuesday @ 7pm

Cemetery – Wednesday @ 7pm

Choir – Thursday @ 7:30pm

Lunch Bunch – Friday @ 12pm at Chino's Place

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

10:15am Worship

Baked Potato Luncheon

**Total Offerings from March 12, 2023:**

General Offerings: \$2,147.00

Mission: \$20.00

Communion: \$35.00

Food Pantry: \$30.00

OGHS: \$10.00

Heat: \$25.00

Windows to the Future: \$245.00

Parking Lot Maintenance: \$20.00

Cemetery: \$20.00

Attendance: 67