

**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 26, 2023

10:15 a.m.

*\*those who are able may stand*

**Fifth Sunday in Lent**  
**“Prophecy to the Bones”**

Prelude: “I Will Sing of My Redeemer”

Parks

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call to Worship

One: Breath of Life, you animate us.

**Many: We come before you are seeking revival from within.**

One: Holy One, when you speak, great things happen.

**Many: Empower us to make great things happen.**

One: Matchless One, you bring good things to life.

**Many: We desire to bring good things to life too.**

Prayer of Invocation (unison)

**Life Giver, come and revive us again. Indwell us with your spirit and let our souls awake to joy. We come boldly that you might breathe on us. May what we experience with you today change us forever and for the better. Amen**

\*Opening Hymn: “Let’s Just Praise the Lord” (sing through twice) p.18

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: Mender of Hearts, we confess that sometimes in our brokenness, we cause brokenness in others. Sometimes in our woundedness, we wound others.

**Many: In these despairing moments, we need healing and restoration.**

**We give thanks that we are never beyond your reach or grace.**

**Amen.**

## Words of Grace

God's mercy makes wholeness possible and our wholeness is rooted in becoming who we are meant to be—living sanctuaries. Amen.

\*Hymn: "You Are My All in All" (both vs.) p.583

Scripture: John 11:1-45

**11** Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. **2** Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. **3** So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." **4** But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." **5** Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, **6** after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. **7** Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." **8** The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" **9** Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. **10** But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." **11** After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." **12** The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." **13** Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. **14** Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. **15** For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." **16** Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." **17** When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. **18** Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, **19** and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. **20** When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. **21** Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. **22** But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." **23** Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." **24** Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." **25** Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, **26** and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" **27** She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." **28** When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." **29** And

when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. **30** Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. **31** The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. **32** When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." **33** When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. **34** He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." **35** Jesus began to weep. **36** So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" **37** But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" **38** Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. **39** Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." **40** Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" **41** So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. **42** I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." **43** When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" **44** The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." **45** Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

## 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.**

### Invitation to Generosity

God is the source of our supply. Let us give from what we have been supplied. May this supply meet every demand. Amen.

Offertory: "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

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)  
**Divine Sustainer, receive this offering that we gladly give. May it be used to revive and restore those in need. Amen.**

Choir Anthem: "God So Loved the World" Stainer

\*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: "Blessed Assurance" (all vs.) p.572

\*Benediction  
As we go our separate ways, remember that God has placed God's Spirit within in you. Go forth centered in God and let God be centered in you. Amen.

\*Extinguishing of the Candles

\*Postlude: "The Blood Will Never Lose It's Power" Crouch



**Prophecy to the Bones: Service Prayers for the Fifth Sunday of Lent** were written by Rev. Tefia T. Nock, Associate Pastor of Digital Ministry, First United Church of Tampa, United Church of Christ.

**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS** are sponsored by Dan and Jan Strobel in honor of their 38<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

**TODAY'S BULLETINS** are sponsored by Henry and MaryAnn Heil in honor of their grandson, Sylis Alliston's Birthday.

**TODAY'S GREETERS** are Mike and Diane Berger.

**TODAY'S ACOLYTE** is Addison Trexler.

**TODAY'S LITURGIST** is Jan Strobel.

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.



## **Windows to the Future - Enjoy loaded stuffed baked potatoes?**

Join us after Worship **TODAY** for a baked potato bar fund raiser. 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.

**Next Sunday is the last day to bring in FULL size toiletries** (*not travel size*) for the Zionsville Area Food Pantry. 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!

**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. You may join in at any time. This group is open to all!



**On Friday, March 31** join the **Confirmation Class** as they visit our Jewish Brothers and Sisters at worship at Temple Beth El, 1305 Springhouse Road, 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.



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!



**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.

**Supper Club** will be Friday, April 14, 6:00 p.m. at Ruffino's Italian Kitchen & Pizzeria, 5840 Chestnut St, Zionsville. **Please RSVP no later than Sunday, April 9.** Linda or Mark Weaver. The next **Brunch** will be after Worship on Sunday, April 23 at the Merc (Cash Only).



**OGHS** – Your generosity makes all the difference. Your gifts to the United Church of Christ One Great Hour of Sharing offering provide immediate aid and long-term support to people experiencing hunger, thirst, disaster, or crisis around the world. It's time to share! Please find OGHS offering envelopes in your pew and at the entrances to the Church.

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 26 – April 1, 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

Cub Scouts – Tuesday @ 7pm

Choir – Thursday @ 7:30pm

Confirmation Visit to Temple Beth El – Friday @ 7pm  
Meet at Church at 6:15pm

**Next Sunday** – 9:00am Sunday School and Confirmation  
10:15am Worship, dedicate OGHS gifts

**Total Offerings from March 19, 2023:**

General Offerings: \$2,033.00

Mission: \$160.00

Communion: \$5.00

Utilities: \$20.00

Pastor's Discretionary Fund: \$17.00

Windows to the Future: \$95.00

Parking Lot Maintenance: \$20.00

Cemetery: \$25.00

Attendance: 61