

**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

July 16, 2023

9:30 a.m.

*\*those who are able may stand*

**Seventh Sunday After Pentecost**  
**“The Word”**

Prelude:        “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

Lemmel

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship

One: The Word is a lamp and a light. The word illuminates our life.

**Many: We welcome The Word with praise and thanksgiving.**

One: The Word comes from the mouth of God and accomplishes its purpose.

**Many: We hear The Word that loves and embraces, challenges and convicts, renews and restores.**

One: The Word is life, offers a future with hope, and creates peace in the midst of the storm.

**Many: We receive The Word among us with rejoicing. We worship The Word in spirit and in truth!**

Invocation (unison)

**Creator, your presence among us illuminates our lives. Make us fertile soil, receptive to the seeds planted by your word. Nourish us with Living Water and grow us through the energy of your empowered and healing rays of sunshine. Let us encounter you afresh as we gather in community. May our worship show our love for you and each other. Make your presence known to us and through us for your glory. Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn:        “Sweet Hour of Prayer”

p.640

Prayer for Transformation and New Life (unison)

**God our Redeemer, the words of our mouths often lead to hurt and harm. We tear down when we could build up. We speak of death and destruction when the power of life resides in our tongues. We say**

**what is unnecessary and unhelpful while hesitating to offer encouragement and hope. Transform our speech as you write your word into our hearts. Stir us to speak life, joy, and love in all things. Amen.**

#### Words of Grace

Romans 8:1 tells us, "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." God does not shame or condemnation; rather, the One who is holy makes us holy, restored, and whole. Receive the grace of God as it is freely given. Be empowered by the one who observes you and declares your good. Know that you are loved, forgiven, and transformed in Jesus Christ. Amen.

\*Hymn: "Thy Word"

p.184

Scriptures: Genesis 25:19-34

**19** These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, **20** and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. **21** Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife because she was barren, and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. **22** The children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. **23** And the Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other; the elder shall serve the younger." **24** When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. **25** The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle, so they named him Esau. **26** Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel, so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. **27** When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. **28** Isaac loved Esau because he was fond of game, but Rebekah loved Jacob. **29** Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. **30** Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) **31** Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." **32** Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" **33** Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob. **34** Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

#### Reflection

Special Presentation: A report from General Synod by Kathy and Dan Latshaw

## Invitation to Generosity

We submit that all things came into being through The Word. All our gifts, resources, and blessings come from the Generous God, our Creator. May we return a portion of these gifts in grateful generosity for the ministry of the kindom.

Offertory: "Follow, I Will Follow Thee"

Brown

\*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)

**Holy One, we thank you for revealing yourself to us and through us with abundance and flourishing. Give us generous hearts. May our offerings offer a testimony honoring your provision and giving glory to your name. Receive these gifts and magnify them for the needs of your creation. 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, Speak to Me"

p.667

\*Benediction

One: Let us go from this time of word and worship to word and witness.

**Many: May the moments, movement, and ministry of our lives reveal the God we know and love to a world we know and love. May our voices echo the rhythm and message of good news to a world in need of encouragement, community, and hope.**

One: Go in peace...go as peace fortified and nurtured by The Word. Amen.

\*Extinguishing of the Candles

\*Postlude: "Onward, Christian Soldiers"

Sullivan



**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS** are sponsored by Chester Yeakel in memory of his wife, Martha.

**TODAY'S BULLETINS** are in memory of Jackie Puschock from Pat Sajkowicz.

**TODAY'S GREETER** is Millie Kohler.

**TODAY'S LITURGIST** is Ruth Stansfield.

RESTROOMS ARE AVAILABLE on the main floor of the Church and downstairs. Bulletin MAGNIFIER SHEETS can be found on the sound system.



Our church is equipped with an Assistive Listening System. You provide your own headphones which can be connected to the transmitter which will allow you to more clearly hear the Worship Service or any program being offered in the Sanctuary. See anyone at the sound booth to inquire.

We will have a **Joyful Noise Offering** today for Lancaster Theological Seminary.

**All loose offering in today's offering plates will go into our Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Thank you.**

**Brunch** after Worship today at Mercantile Club, 427 Railroad Street, Emmaus. This is a cash only venue.

**Pretzel Sale** next Sunday, July 23!! Pretzels will be sold after Worship for \$2.00 each.

**Youth Group** will meet on Friday, July 28 from 6-8 p.m. in our downstairs social hall.

**Confirmation Class Serves the Lord!** Fellowship fun after church on Sunday, July 30. Instead of the car wash originally scheduled, we will have hot dogs, baked goods/desserts and soft pretzels for sale plus breakfast casserole, coffee and Bingo. We will meet downstairs in the air-conditioned social hall to raise money for the general fund.

**Calling** all bakers/dessert makers – Could you please make something for the confirmation sale after Worship on Sunday, July 30? Bring to Worship and plan to stay to see what others have made.

**Zionsville Area Food Pantry** is in need of boxes of Macaroni and Cheese and canned pasta meals, any variety. Thank You.

Kids, get ready for **Vacation Bible School**, coming **July 31—August 4 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**. at Grace Lutheran Church in Macungie! Pirates will be running around as we learn and play with our "Shipwrecked" theme. It will all happen on a deserted island where we learn that Jesus takes care of us wherever we are. Parents and guardians - pick up registration forms at church, or go to their website [gracemacungie.org](http://gracemacungie.org) and click on "classes and interest groups", you will see the link for VBS. Turn completed forms into the church office, or drop them in the mail. Get ready to have a good time with some old and new friends at Shipwrecked!

### **Week of July 16-July 22, 2023:**

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

Other times by appointment.

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

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

Scouts – Monday @ 6pm

Consistory – Tuesday @ 7pm

**Next Sunday** – 9:30am Worship, Pretzel Sale

### **Total Offerings from July 9, 2023:**

General Offerings: \$1,794.00

Windows Fund: \$85.00

Mission: \$35.00

Communion: \$5.00

Electric: \$25.00

Parking Lot Maintenance: \$0

Cemetery: \$10.00

Attendance: 44