

**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

November 12, 2023

10:15 a.m.

*\*those who are able may stand*

**Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost**

**“Wisdom”**

Prelude: “Meditation”

Blake

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship (Inspired by Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16)

One: Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her.

**Many: We hear your Still Speaking voice. We come to you, Wisdom, seeking knowledge and understanding.**

One: Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her.

**Many: We remember your marvelous acts and faithful instruction. We come to you, Wisdom, as you have been near to us!**

One: Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her.

**Many: We trust in your guidance and place our hope in you through feast and famine. We come to you, Wisdom, to worship and to serve.**

Invocation (unison)

**Wisdom, your presence illuminates our path. Shine your light into dim spaces so that we do not stray from your teaching. Help us discern what you are calling us, your church, to do and be in this moment in time. Give us urgency to be good news in the world and for our neighbors. Let your glory reign among us and your Spirit lead us into truth, justice, and love. For your name and in your name, we pray. Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn: “God, Our Father, We Adore Thee”

p.93

## Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: Wise God, we often seek counsel from so many sources while ignoring your guidance.

**Many: Help us to navigate the tough choices we must make and to discern the circumstances of our world and our lives through your perspective. Your way is life and embodies care, compassion, and concern for all creation. May we follow your model for the flourishing of our human siblings and our home, the Earth. Amen.**

## Words of Grace

Beloved, God gives good instruction and the grace to begin anew. You are empowered by God to choose the path of life everlasting and nudged by God when your journey strays. Know that every movement toward God is received with gladness and the full and welcoming embrace of the Holy One.

\*Hymn: "Seek Ye First" insert

Scripture: Matthew 25:1-13 p.860

## Reflection

## Invitation to Generosity

As the people of ancient days said to Joshua, let us proclaim that we will serve the Holy One. Let us choose this day to serve with all the gifts and resources we have been given to the glory of God and in generous hope for the world.

Offertory: "Love Medley" Leatherman

\* 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)

**Discerning God, receive our offerings and gifts for your kindom. Let them be a blessing to those in need of encouragement, material goods, and evidence of your presence among us. Magnify them beyond our imagining and grant us insight into the possibilities before us for ministry and witness. We are grateful to give. Amen.**

Choir Anthem: "The Apostle's Creed" Carlson

## 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 heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.**

**Lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\*Closing Hymn: "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart"

p.390

\*Benediction

May Wisdom give you knowledge and peace beyond understanding.  
May Wisdom reveal the way to reach the unreachable. May Wisdom  
pour her love upon you with generous abandon and inspire and  
empower you to do the same as you go in the world.

\*Extinguishing of the Candles

\*Postlude: "Postlude in G"

Peterson



**Wisdom: Service Prayers for the Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost** were written by  
The Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology, United Church of Christ.

**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Dolly Kichline in memory of Robert  
Kichline on their 47<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

**TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS** are in memory of Charmin Walbert from the  
Walbert Family.

**TODAY'S GREETERS** are Randy and Sharon Trexler.

**TODAY'S LITURGIST** is Pat Sajkowicz.

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.



**ATF Room** thanks all those for staying after Worship today to help set up  
for the Christmas Giveaway on Monday, November 13 from 4-6 p.m. and on  
Saturday, November 18 from 10am-12pm. Help is also needed for those days.  
Thank you. For those helping today, pizza will be served for lunch!  
ATF could use gift tags and tape. They always need **NEW** items for men and  
boys. They are still looking for a sturdy clothing rack. Thank you! If you know  
anyone that could use a Wedding Gown, ATF has a very pretty one, brand new  
with tags still on, size 14. See Millie.

**ATF is asking to please hold any donations till after Thanksgiving.  
Thank You.**

**Window Fund** Challenge – There are just 3 weeks to go in the challenge but we are very close to our goal. We appreciate your continued support.

The final quilt will be raffled off at the November 11th Bazaar and Basket Auction. The quilt will be on display in the Upper Social Hall, so stop by to purchase your tickets at \$5 each or three for \$10. Good luck!

Cumberland has had to reschedule installation of the nativity window to Thanksgiving week. Although we will have to wait a few weeks longer than we originally thought, the beautiful window will be returned in time for the holiday season.

The Outlook Committee is selling **Fruit/Nut Rolls** to help with parking lot repairs. Order forms can be found at the entrances and they need to be returned by **NEXT** Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. You may place your completed order form in the Offering plate, give to Brenda Shoemaker or Bobby Schmeltzle, or call/email the church office with your order. Thank you!

November's **Youth Group Meeting** will be on Friday, November 17 from 6-8 p.m. We have games, snacks, Bible discussion and more games. All youth welcome! Speak with Alyson Miller or Pastor Lori for more information.

**Next Sunday, November 19** is special in many ways. In Worship we will update our **Covenant** with the Penn Northeast Conference, plus we will receive **New Members** and after Worship we will **Burn Our Sins and Misgivings** from the past year. All in an hour. Join us!

The next **Brunch** will be on Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at the Merc after Worship. **Lunch Bunch** will be Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 12 noon at East Penn Diner. These events are open to anyone wishing to join us for good food and conversation! **Don't forget** Old Zionsville UCC **Family Christmas Party** will be Saturday, December 9, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. at the Superior Restaurant, 102 Main Street, Emmaus in their downstairs Banquet Hall (Handicap Accessible). Please let Linda or Mark Weaver know if you are planning on attending or sign up while at Church.

**Poinsettia** orders are now being accepted for our Christmas season. You may choose red, pink or white and they are \$7.00 for a 6" pot. Order forms can be found on our Sound System and must be received by November 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Announcing: Advent Bible Study** - 9 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. each Sunday morning in Advent, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, and Epiphany lesson on Jan. 7! Bring your Bible. We will meet in the Lower Social Hall. All Welcome. No previous Bible Study experience necessary!

**Angel Tree Project** - This year you can choose an ornament from the Angel Tree, purchase the item and return it to the Church by Sunday, December 3 **OR** you can go to the website [Kindnessprojectlv.org](http://Kindnessprojectlv.org) and purchase an item listed on one of the ornaments, or whatever else you choose. To purchase on the website, click on "To donate click here" and then click on "Amazon wish list-Lehigh Valley wishlist" -- purchase an item of your choice and when checking out select The Kindness Project address for shipping. Thanks for your participation!

**Week of November 12-18, 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)

ATF Christmas Giveaway – Monday @ 4-6pm

Scouts – Monday @ 6pm

GriefShare – Tuesday @ 1pm

Cub Scouts – Tuesday @ 7pm

Finance – Wednesday @ 7pm

Choir Practice – Thursday @ 7:30pm

Youth Group – Friday @ 6-8pm

ATF Christmas Giveaway – Saturday @ 10am-12pm

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

9:45am Third Sunday Treats

10:15am Worship, Burn Sins

New Members Received

**Fruit & Nut Roll Orders Due**

Brunch at the Merc

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

General Offerings: \$2,524.00

Window Fund: \$1,807.00

Mission: \$35.00

Communion: \$54.00

Parking Lot: \$25.00

Cemetery: \$0

Attendance: 48