

**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 29, 2023

10:15 a.m.

*\*those who are able may stand*

**Reign of Christ Sunday**

"Care"

Prelude: "Strengthen for Service, Lord"

Bach

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship (Inspired by Psalm 100)

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord! Worship with gladness and singing!

**Many: God is Creator, Sustainer, Keeper, and Shepherd. Bless God's name.**

One: Enjoy the presence of God! Give thanks and praise!

**Many: God is Sovereign and Holy. Bless God's name.**

One: Know that God reigns! God's kindom comes!

**Many: God is Healer, Redeemer, Restorer, and Friend. Bless God's name!**

Invocation (unison)

**God who cares. We flourish in your compassion. You search for us and find us. You, Holy One, surround us with the power of your abundant love and utmost care. Be present among us as we praise your name, bring our burdens, and give thanks for all that you are and all that you do. Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn: "Rejoice, the Lord Is King"

p.370

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: Sovereign God, transform us in your image. Your reign is just and righteous.

**Many: We go our own way and live according to our own will. Make us ambassadors of your kindom. Let us represent you**

**through words and actions. May we release our need for anything that creates a barrier to loving you and our neighbor. May we know and bear witness that we are all neighbors. Amen.**

Words of Grace (Assurance of Pardon)

Beloved, you are loved unconditionally by the Everlasting One. The kingdom is yours to embrace and enter with full citizenship. Know that every move toward God transforms you. Every confession of God's sovereignty fortifies. Every moment in the presence of God restores you.

\*Hymn: "In Thanksgiving, Let Us Praise Him" p.796

Scripture: Matthew 25:31-46 p.861

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

In Ephesians 1:18, the Apostle Paul prays that, "You may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints." God's gifts cannot be limited to the material although they include the material. God's riches exceed our hopes and expectations when we recognize the glory of the kingdom. Let us acknowledge the reign of God as we share the abundance of this glorious inheritance and return a portion to support the ministry of Christ's church in the world and among the community of believers.

Offertory: "All People That on Earth Do Dwell" Bourgeois

\* 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)

**Gracious God, thank you for the gifts we have and the blessing of sharing. Use our gifts for your glory and to meet the needs and hopes of your kindom. Amen.**

Choir Anthem

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: "Our God Reigns"

p.372

\*Benediction

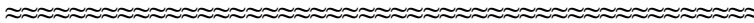
As you go, may you recognize God in the stranger. May you extend hospitality and care to your neighbor. And may you trust in the reign of God forever. Amen.

\*Three Fold Amen

\*Extinguishing of the Candles

\*Postlude: "We Plow the Fields and Scatter"

Mansfield



**Care: Service Prayers for the Reign of Christ Sunday** was written by The Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology, United Church of Christ.

**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS** are in memory of Lee and Jean Latshaw and Theodore and Edna Eck given by Dan and Kathy Latshaw.

**TODAY'S BULLETINS** are in memory of Dorothy Scholl sponsored by Linda Benner.

**TODAY'S GREETER** is Nancy Weitzel.

**TODAY'S LITURGIST** is Chris Schell.

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.



**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 Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>.

**AFT** is 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 or call her.

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

December Soup is **Ground Beef Vegetable** and will be sold by the quart along with **Ham and Cheese Sandwiches**. Orders forms can be found at the entrances to the Church or in your pew and must be received by Sunday, December 3, 2023. Orders may be placed in the Offering Plate, call Annie or the Church office, or email the church office. Pick up will be on Thursday, December 14 in our downstairs social hall between 4:00-6:00 p.m. Sandwiches would be great to sell at work for Friday lunch. For those wishing to take orders at work you will find sign-up sheets on the Sound System you can take.

**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!

**White Gifts** will be collected for the young adults (ages 10-21) at Bethany Ministries on **Sunday, December 10 at our 10:15 a.m.** Worship Service. Please wrap your gift in white tissue paper only or not at all. Bethany can only use NEW items to give to the students living there. This has always been a very meaningful and wonderful part of our Advent celebration. See your newsletter for their Wish List.

**Week of November 26-December 2, 2023:**

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

Other times by appointment.

Church Secretary Hours: Monday- 10am-3pm

(please call before coming)

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

Scouts – Monday @ 6pm

Elders Meeting – Tuesday @ 7pm

Cemetery – Wednesday @ 7pm

Lunch Bunch – Friday @ 12 noon @ East Penn Diner

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

9:00am Bible Study in Lower Social Hall

10:15am Communion Worship, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

Annual Cemetery and Congregation Meeting

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

General Offerings: \$1,935.00

Mission: \$358.00

Food Pantry: \$20.00

Utilities: \$20.00

Windows to the Future: \$182.00

Parking Lot: \$100.00

Cemetery: \$60.00

Attendance 48