

**WELCOME TO**  
**Old Zionsville United Church of Christ**  
**5981 Fountain Road, P.O. Box 215**  
**Old Zionsville, PA 18068**

Email: [ozuccoffice@ptd.net](mailto:ozuccoffice@ptd.net) Web page: [www.oldzionsucc.org](http://www.oldzionsucc.org)

Church Office: 610-966-3601

Pastor: 610-393-3522 or 610-966-3436

Rev. Lori Esslinger

Pastor

David Carlson

Organist

March 3, 2024

10:15 a.m.

*\*those who are able may stand*

**Third Sunday in Lent**  
**Amistad Sunday**

The Amistad Incident: Important moment in the history of the U.S. and the United Church of Christ. In 1839, 55 Africans who had been captured in the slave trade struck out for their freedom while being transported out of Havana, Cuba, on a schooner called La Amistad. The captives successfully took over the ship and ordered the crew to sail back to Africa, but weeks later the ship ended up far north, at the tip of Long Island, New York. U.S. officials boarded the ship, arrested the captives and jailed them in Connecticut. There they were befriended by Christian abolitionists, many belonging to churches that are now part of the United Church of Christ. The abolitionists hired lawyers, including former President John Quincy Adams, to appeal the case all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, which declared the captives free in 1841. This abolitionist victory helped create momentum for the formation in 1846 of the American Missionary Association. This interracial agency's work in education, discipleship and justice eventually became part of the national mission structure of the UCC which continues to this day.

Prelude: "In the Hour of Trial"

Lane

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Community

One: Our lips sing praise and our whole selves rejoice in the God who makes us free.

**All: We gather, recognizing that not all human beings have known this freedom.**

One: The divine will was made known in Eden and in Egypt; in Gettysburg and in Cape Town.

**All: Born in freedom, redeemed from slavery, our destiny in Christ is liberty.**

## Invocation

One: Thankful are we for all the blessings of this life; love, freedom, bounty and beauty. The joy we know is beyond our words to speak. We can only image the suffering and pain of human slaves, past and present, which yearn from the depths of their souls to know the freedom we enjoy.

**All: We celebrate this day the heritage we have in the cause of human freedom. We celebrate this day our spiritual ancestors who worked for the freedom of the Mendi people on the slave ship, Amistad. May that ship, like the cross, remind us of the ever present possibility of human evil. And may that ship, like the cross, remind us of the power of divine love. May we, through divine love, shed the false, un-neighborly, covetous and dishonorable desires of the lives we sometimes live and keep the commandments and walk in the way that brings life. Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" p.686

## Prayer of Confession (unison)

**In this season of Lent we reflect on those things that lead us away from the life we desire. We focus on whatever we do that oppresses and enslaves others who, like us, are created in the image of the divine. And now we seek the grace that frees us to live in faithfulness to holy love. Amen**

## Assurance of Pardon

The God of who brought the Israelites out of Egypt, is the power that frees us from our sin. Live in the grace of God's love as you walk in the way of Jesus and surely you shall find mercy at the end of that road. Amen.

\*Hymn: "I Will Sing of the Mercies" p.161

Scripture: John 2:13-22 p.923

## Reflection

### \*Affirmation of Faith (unison)

#### The Ten Commandments

**God spoke these words, saying, I am the Holy One your God. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a graven image. You shall not take the name of God in vain. Remember the Sabbath day; keep it holy. Honor your father and your mother. You shall not kill. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet anything that is your neighbor's.**

Offering Invitation

Our tokens offered here are but symbols of our lives of sacrifice lived every day. May we give ourselves to the world as a holy offering acceptable to you, O God, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

Offertory: "Cleansing Fountain"

Mansfield

\* Presentation of 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.**

\*Dedication of the Offering (unison)

**Receive these gifts, Holy One, sanctify them by your Spirit. Drive away any ill motives and accept, we pray, our humble offering. 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 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: "Here I Am, Lord"

p.589

\*Benediction

Go into the world without fear, knowing that the weakness of the Holy is stronger than every human power. Live free! And the God who brought the Israelites out of Egypt, the God who freed the Mendi from slavery, will be your strength and your power. Amen.

\*Extinguishing of the Candles

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

Crouch

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Amistad Sunday: Service Prayers for the Third Sunday in Lent, was written by the Rev. Madison Shockley, Pastor of Pilgrim United Church of Christ in Carlsbad, CA and a member of the board of directors of [ProgressiveChristianity.org](http://ProgressiveChristianity.org)

**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS** are in memory of our son, Todd M. Dreas with love from Mom and Dad, Jeff, Cheryl & Family and Jan & Family.

**TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS** from Judy and Len Hoch in memory of their son, Colby Hoch.

**TODAY'S BULLETINS** are in memory of Colby Hoch from Uncle Lee, Aunt Susie and cousins Lance and Sarah.

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

**TODAY'S LITURGIST** is Robin Yoder.

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.

### **Easter Flower Orders are due Today.**

The **All Things Free Room** (ATF) could use donations of cloth Christmas Tablecloths, especially red and green for future Christmas table displays. Donations of any unwanted Christmas gifts received that we can use as gifts for our clients at next year's Christmas Giveaway are also needed. The next Sort and Store will be tomorrow, Monday, March 4 at 10:00am. The next Giveaway will be Monday, March 11 from 4-6 p.m. and on Saturday, March 16 from 10a.m.-12p.m. Set up for the Giveaway will be on Saturday, March 9 for those able to help. Thank you for your help with this giving ministry. Please call Millie with any questions.

**Supper Club** will be on Friday, March 8 at 6 p.m. at Hometown Breakfast Bar and Grill, 8732 Hamilton Blvd, Breinigsville. Please RSVP to Mark or Linda by Tuesday, March 5. The next **Brunch** will be Sunday, March 17, 12 noon at the Mercantile Club (cash only) in Emmaus. Please let Mark or Linda know if you can make it by Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome!

**Sunday Morning Adult Book Study** during Lent for the Ministerium Churches is being held on Sundays from 9-9:45 a.m. at Upper Milford Mennonite Church or you can join the Lutherans here at Old Zionsville UCC at 9:00 a.m. and participate by zoom. The following is the zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81615791018?pwd=WU9JbkE4RE52b3ZOdmxvT0gva2ZXdz09#success>

Pastor Lori is leading a group discussion on the first season of **THE CHOSEN, Wednesdays** during Lent from 1 - 2 p.m. in the lower social hall. Bring your neighbors and friends. We will watch a segment of the THE CHOSEN from the first season and then discuss it. All Welcome!

The next **Youth Group Meeting** will be on **Friday, March 1** from 6-8 p.m. All ages welcome. Questions? Check with Pastor Lori or Alyson Miller.

**March Soup and Sandwich** sale orders are **due next Sunday, March 10.**

This month's soup is Chicken Corn Pot Pie Noodle Soup, \$8.00/quart; and Ham and Cheese Sandwiches at \$5.00 each. Order forms can be found at the entrances to the Church or in your pews. Pick up will be on Thursday, March 21.



**Fruit/Nut Rolls** – Our Outlook Committee is again selling those **DELICIOUS** Fruit and Nut Rolls to have in time for Easter. Look for order forms at the entrances to the Church or in your pew. Orders are due **Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>** and pick up will be on Tuesday, March 26 between 5-7 p.m. in our downstairs social room. You may order by placing your filled out form in the offering plates any Sunday or by calling or emailing the church office.

**One Great Hour of Sharing** (OGHS) offering will be collected in Worship on March 10. Pick up a Sharing Calendar to get suggestions of ways OGHS helps around the world and right here – plus – find out how we compare and add money to a donation that you can discuss with your family. Thank you for caring.

Are you interested in Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster's production of "**Daniel**"?? Greenawalds UCC will be going on Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. Adult tickets are \$75 and children (age 3-12) are \$42. If interested please speak to Pastor Lori.

**SNOW?** Always be safe and always check with WFMZ to see if we are closed or delayed.

## **Week of March 3-9, 2024:**

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 Sort & Store – Monday @ 10am

Scouts – Monday @ 6pm

Cub Scouts – Tuesday @ 7pm

The Chosen – Wednesday @ 1pm

IT Meeting – Wednesday @ 7pm

Choir – Thursday @ 7:30pm

Supper Club – Friday @ 6pm at Hometown Breakfast Bar & Grill

ATF Set Up – Saturday @ 10am

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

9:00am Adult Book Study with Lutherans  
and Mennonites on Zoom (in our  
lower social hall)

10:15am Worship, OGHS Collection Dedication  
Soup and Sandwich Orders Due

## **Total Offerings from February 25:**

General Offerings: \$1,985.00

Window Fund: \$52.00

Mission: \$30.00

Communion: \$25.00

Utilities: \$35.00

One Great Hour of Sharing: \$50.00

Parking Lot Maintenance: \$30.00

Cemetery: \$45.00

Attendance: 52