

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

Church Office: 610-966-3601

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

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Web page: www.oldzionsucc.org

Rev. Lori Esslinger

Pastor

David Carlson

Organist

March 28, 2024

7:30p.m.

*\*those who are able may stand*

**“We Receive and Hand On”**

**Prayers for Maundy Thursday**

Prelude: “At the Midnight Hour”

Higgins

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call to Worship

One: The Israelites cried out to God in their oppression.

**All: Their voices still echo around the globe: in India, Sudan, Mexico, and in American cities.**

One: God hears the cries of the suffering, and delivers those who wait on God.

**All: All who suffer, who die, who are alienated are precious to God;  
Let us love the Lord who restores liberty, and gives us hope for peace.**

One: Today we remember the One who gave himself for us, Jesus the Christ.

**All: Let us worship God!**

Invocation (unison)

**Jesus, Lamb of God, we bless you today, remembering what you have done for us. You poured out your life to show us the love of God. Today we celebrate your gift of life as we somberly recall your death and exult in your resurrection. Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn: “God of Grace and God of Glory”

p.435

Prayer of Confession (unison)

**Giver of Life, from time immemorial you call us to yourself. In ways too numerous to mention, we fail to respond. Forgive us, we pray. Our limited understanding of culture gets in the way of fellowship with those different from ourselves. Our limited vision of community gets in the**

**way of your call to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to seek justice and peace for all. Replace our arrogance, Merciful One, with the humility and caring service Jesus modeled, for truly we are not greater than our Teacher and Savior. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

God gives us grace and more grace. Be assured of this truth, that in Christ you are forgiven!

\*Hymn: "Jesus Paid It All" p.305

The Offering: "Prayer at Gethsemane" Peterson

\* Presentation of the Offering 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.**

**Listening for God in the Stories of our Tradition**

**Recalling the Passover**

Reading: Exodus 12:1-14 page 55

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

**A New Commandment from Jesus: Servant Leadership**

Reading: John 13:1-17, 31b-35 page 937

\*Hymn: "More Love to Thee" p.634

**Community and Communion: God in Our Midst**

Reading: 1Corinthians 11:23-26 page 998

\*Hymn: "Break Thou the Bread of Life" p.413

This commemorative act, central to our tradition, comes alive for us each time we gather at the Communion Table. In re-enacting this event, what is it that we receive from the Lord and pass on to future generations? At this table, and especially on this night, we stand remembering our past, faithful in our present and hoping in God's future, proclaiming the Lord's death until he comes again. (1 Cor 11: 26) Certainly we remember Christ's death when we gather here, but what does a future rich in grace and hope look like, when Christ will come again? What does this moment feel like, entwining memory, faith, and hope? Do you welcome Christ when you sit down to break bread with friends? Whom does Christ call you to invite to join you at the Lord's table?

## Sharing the Meal

(the ushers will direct you to take your turn at the table. If you wish us to bring communion to you, please let the ushers know and we will bring it to you after all have been served at table.)

The Communion Table presents an opportunity for reconciliation in the community; to give and to receive forgiveness and service; to hear anew our beloved story and to re-tell it for this moment; to enter the new covenant through the Lifeblood of Christ.

Sing these Hymns during communion at the table.

"In Remembrance" p.461

"Come, Share the Lord" p.462

The Lord's Prayer (sung)

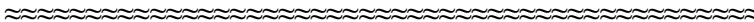
**Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

\*Benediction

Go out into the night, contemplating what Jesus faced on that fateful Friday. Make note of what you experienced this evening. May you be continually transformed into the image of Christ. Just as Jesus honored God by placing God's will above his own, may God be glorified through our lives. Be of good courage! Trust in God in whom we have salvation and hope. Amen and Amen.

\*Extinguishing of the Candles

\*Postlude



**We Receive and Hand On: Prayers for Maundy Thursday** was written by the Rev. Dr. Renee C. Jackson, Minister for Ministerial Formation, MESA Team

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**TONIGHT'S GREETER** is Cheryl Martucci.

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.

Services at Old Zionsville UCC for **Holy Week** will be as follows:

March 29 – Good Friday, 7:30 p.m. Worship will be based on the Stations of the Cross and a Service of Darkness with the stripping of the altar. The Church will remain dark until Easter morning at 7:30 a.m. when we bring the light of Christ into the Sanctuary to celebrate the Resurrection!

March 31 – Easter Sunday, 7:30 a.m. Easter Worship will bring in the light of Christ as we restore the fittings of the altar, the choir, and celebrate Holy Communion

9:00 a.m. or immediately following the early service, we will have coffee, drinks and doughnuts in the lower social hall

9:30 a.m. Egg Hunt is open to all children up to 12 years old. We will have two groups hunting at separate times so families can enjoy all children hunting!

10:15 a.m. Easter will be Resurrection Worship with choir and Holy Communion, Sunday School children will be singing

If you have a Pastoral Emergency from April 1 until April 22, 2024, please call the church office, Kathy Latshaw, or Sharon Trexler. They will contact the Pastor on call.

Join us in Worship on the following Sundays with:

The Rev. David Schnaars – April 7 and April 21

The Rev. Homer Royer – April 14