

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

Church Office: 610-966-3601

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Web page: www.oldzionsucc.org

Rev. Lori Esslinger

Pastor

Rev. Robin Roman

Assisting Pastor

David Carlson

Organist

March 29, 2024

7:30 p.m.

**those who are able may stand*

Good Friday

Tenebrae: Service of Shadows and Stations of the Cross

The Prelude: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

Bach

Welcome

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship

One: The people stood yelling,

All: "Crucify!"

One: and it breaks our hearts every time. For Jesus' death occurs every time someone is ignored, mistreated, oppressed.

All: "Crucify!"

One: Tears away at God's Beloved.

First of the Shadows

John 18:1-12 Jesus is Arrested

Extinguish the first candle

Second of the Shadows

John 18:13-18; 25-27 Peter denies Jesus

Extinguish the second candle

*Hymn: "The Old Rugged Cross"

p.327

A Prayer of Reconciliation for Good Friday

One: Ever-present God, on this Good Friday night, our whole world is engulfed in shadows as we remember the story of Jesus' death. We confess that we

want to push the fast-forward button on this familiar story because it hurts so much. It hurts to think of the betrayal and arrest of Jesus. It hurts to imagine Jesus abandoned and suffering on the cross with only a faithful few watching him breathe his last breath. It hurts to watch your light overtaken by the shadows of the world.

All: But we must find our place in this crucifixion story and feel the pain that is there: The pain of the world, of faithless decisions; of betrayal; of injustice. Jesus entered that pain out of faithfulness to you and to us, to witness to the Truth that is Justice, Wholeness and Love. We confess, we are afraid to enter this pain with Jesus. Strengthen us with your courage; offer glimpses of hope in the shadows of death; let us know you are present with us here in this moment of pain; now as always.

Assurance of Blessing

Beloved followers of Jesus, it is okay to feel hurt and uncomfortable as you enter into this story and imagine your place in it. Know that God meets you in the story, with comfort as well as challenge; with courage as well as love. Amen.

Third of the Shadows

John 18:28-38 Trial of Jesus before Pilate

Extinguish the third candle

Read the First Station of the Cross

Fourth of the Shadows

John 18:38-19:16a Jesus is Condemned to Death

Extinguish the fourth candle

Read the Second Station of the Cross

The large Cross is carried into the Sanctuary from the back door to the front steps and laid down on the altar steps.

Read the Third Station of the Cross

Read the Fourth Station of the Cross

Read the Fifth Station of the Cross

*Hymn: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

p.320

Read the Sixth Station of the Cross

Read the Seventh Station of the Cross

Read the Eighth Station of the Cross

Read the Ninth Station of the Cross

Fifth of the Shadows

John 19:16b-27 From the Cross, Jesus Calls Forth Beloved Community

Extinguish the fifth candle

Read the Tenth Station of the Cross

Read the Eleventh Station of the Cross

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer (unison)

Ever Present God, we are amazed that Jesus, nearing his death, reached out to comfort and empower those dearest to him. At the foot of his cross, he called his mother and his beloved disciple into a new community. Give us the grace and courage to join them there, welcoming all who struggle and grieve into this new covenant of love and grace. Amen.

Read the Twelfth Station of the Cross

Sixth of the Shadows

John 19:28-30 Jesus Dies

Extinguish the sixth candle

Three loud knocks come from the back of the Sanctuary to represent the death of Jesus

*Hymn: "Were You There?" (verses 1 & 2 only) p.315

Jesus is dead....It is finished.

Extinguish the seventh candle.

Read the Thirteenth Station of the Cross

Seventh of the Shadows

John 19:38-42 Jesus is Laid in the Tomb

Read the Fourteenth Station of the Cross

*Hymn: "Were You There?" (verse 3 only) p.315

Benediction by David Carlson

Prayerful Recess

Jesus is laid in the tomb, and his followers leave him to God, in the silence and rest of Sabbath. (The minister will lead the congregation out of the sanctuary in silence.)

You are invited to leave into the shadows of this night.

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**Tenebrae: Service of Shadows, Prayers for Good Friday** was written by the Rev. Dr. Ginny Brown Daniel, Conference Minister for Missouri Mid-South, UCC.

**TONIGHT'S GREETER** is Ruth Stansfield.

**TONIGHT'S LITURGIST** is Jan Strobel.

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.

Join us **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 – 22, 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