

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

March 31, 2024

7:30 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

Give Thanks for What God Has Done:
Service Prayers with Holy Communion

Easter Sunday

Prelude: "Easter Morn"

Higgins

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship

One: Christ is Risen!

All: Christ is risen, indeed!

One: Hope is alive!

All: Hope is alive, indeed!

One: God's love is eternal!

All: Hallelujah! Let us give thanks for what God has done.

Invocation (unison)

God of grace and power, we come rejoicing in Christ's empty tomb. We come trusting in the good news that tells us Christ is with us. For the Risen Christ is living proof that You care about our lives, O God. The Risen Christ offers to us glimpses of hope, even in our tears. As the tomb is not quiet. It speaks. It proclaims! It is a promise of eternal life! Thank you, gracious and almighty God. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: "Morning Has Broken"

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Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of resurrection grace, help us in our pain, despair and fear so that we are not prone to follow the path of hopelessness. Help us, to instead, be like the Risen Christ, and rise up, as a brave and

holy people, living beyond our pain, despair and fear by remaining hopeful in your steadfast love. Help us, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

One: God hears our prayers of grace and mercy, and raises our countenance from despair, into resurrection joy! God meets us in our human suffering, comforts us in our tears, and offers to us new hope,

All: Hallelujah!

*Hymn: "Christ Arose" p.357

Scripture: John 20:1-18 p.944

Reflection

Invitation to Offering

On this day, we remember that Mary Magdalene arrives at the tomb with the intent to anoint the crucified body of Jesus; and astonished, she finds an empty tomb where Jesus once laid. Now what? God's angels and the Risen Christ meet Mary Magdalene in her sorrow, and speak hope into her heart. For the Resurrection narrative reveals that love is alive and moves among us! The Risen Christ helps us to remember that despair is not the end of our journey. The Risen Christ also speaks of God's ever-present love, and gives the church resurrection hope. In that, as an Easter people, we manifest God's never-ending love in the world by the giving of our time, talents, and financial resources. For it is with Christ's limitless and restorative love, that we humbly and graciously offer back to God a portion of what God has given us.

Offertory: "Welcome, Happy Morning" Havergal

* Presentation of our Offerings 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 Thanksgiving and Dedication (unison)
God of love, We offer our gifts of time, spiritual gifts, and financial gifts as a sign of our love for you and the world. We ask a special blessing on these gifts where you meet us in our suffering, and raise us up, so that all may come to know of your abiding love. O God, we give these gifts as you have given them unto us. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Choir Anthem

The Service of Holy Communion

One: Christ is Risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed!

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit; Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love: We praise you for Jesus Christ, who reminds us that even in fear-filled days, cloaked with the powers of death, your eternal love arises, and never leaves us. For we rejoice with all your people and with the angels, because life is stronger than death! As we proclaim the glory of your name:

All: Holy is Jesus, God Incarnate, the Risen Christ, whose mercy gathers us together in community, whose grace meets us in our brokenness, and whose loving faithfulness gives us renewed hope.

Story of the Meal

One: In this meal, we remember Jesus, his promises, and the price he paid for who he was, what he said, and what he did; for our benefit. On the night before Jesus died, He took a loaf of bread, Gave thanks, broke it, and said, "Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this, in remembrance of me." After supper, Jesus took the cup and poured, saying, "This is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me." In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith:

All: We remember Christ's life of love, and friendship, and teaching, we remember Christ's dying, and rising to life again.

Prayer

One: Bless this bread and this cup, the wheat and the grape, the farmer and the harvest, the seed and the sower. These simple elements are shared in community, so that we may taste and see your goodness and become one body in Christ.

All: For it is through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, that all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forevermore. Amen.

*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

Distribution: Breaking the Bread, Pouring the Cup

One: The body of Christ,

All: the bread of life.

One: The lifeblood of Christ,

All: the cup of blessing.

One: The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

The ushers will distribute the elements. We hold and receive together.

Post-Communion Prayer (unison)

O Christ, we thank you for this feast of life. Fed by your love, and strengthened by your life; we humbly accept your call to go into this world to live with hope, and to share your joy. You commission us to feed as we have been fed, forgive as we have been forgiven, and love as we have been loved. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Closing Hymn: "He Lives"

p.368

*Benediction

One: May God's abiding love and hope give us new life. May God's unmerited grace and mercy keep us hope-filled. And may God's restorative justice bring to us all, perfect peace. For Christ is risen! Praise God!

All: Hallelujah!

*The Sung Benediction

The Lord Whom we love, Whom we worship and Adore, We will serve throughout this coming week. He it is who binds us Together And He it is who sends us apart. To be God's people, be God's people. Amen.

*Extinguishing of the Candles

*Postlude: "Day of Triumph"

Broughton

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**To Give Thanks for What God has Done, Service prayers with Communion for Easter Sunday Year B,** was written by the Rev .Dr. Sheila Harvey Guillaume, pastor of Union Congregational United Church of Christ in West Palm Beach.

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**TODAY'S BULLETINS** are sponsored by Donald and Phyllis Ritter in honor of their children.

**TODAY'S GREETERS** are our Consistory Members.

**TODAY'S LITURGIST** is Mark Weaver.

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.

Stay for **Drinks and Doughnuts** in our lower social hall immediately following our service. Our **Egg Hunt** will begin at 9:30 a.m. and 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. Worship** will be our Resurrection Worship with choir and Holy Communion, Sunday School children will be singing.

**Ham and String Bean Soup** is being sold by the quart (\$8) along with **Ham and Cheese Sandwiches** (\$5). Order forms can be found in your bulletin or at the entrances to the Church and must be received by **Sunday, April 7, 2024**. 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, April 18, 2024 in our downstairs social hall between 3:00-5:30 p.m. Thank you for your continued support.

If you have a Pastoral Emergency from April 1 until April 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

Thanks to all for helping during my time away.....Pastor Lori

The **All Things Free Room** (ATF) next Sort and Store will be Monday, April 8 at 10:00am. Thank you for your help with this giving ministry. Please remember don't block the chair path when leaving donations in the stairway. Thank you. Please call Millie with any questions.

The next **Supper Club** will be on Tuesday, April 2 at 5:00 p.m. at The Fairgrounds Hotel in Allentown. **Sunday Brunchers** will meet at the Mercantile Club (cash only) after Worship on Sunday, April 21 at 12 noon. Please RSVP by Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> to Mark or Linda. And **Lunch Bunch** will be on Friday, April 26 at 12 noon at Ritz Barbecue, Allentown. RSVP by Tuesday, April 23. All are welcome for good food and company.

**Wooden Crosses** – We are still selling wooden crosses for the Cemetery, in front of your house or to hang on the wall. These are beautifully made and decorated. See samples after Worship or pick one up for Memorial Day. They are selling for \$30.00 each. See Richard Yeakel or Lisa Talecki.

**Philly Soft Pretzels** will be **sold on April 14th** after worship **and on April 28th** after worship in honor of National Pretzel Day, April 26. If you are considering buying more than 4, please let Lisa Talecki or the Church office know so they can make sure to have enough for all. Thanks for your support!

Next **Youth Group Meeting** will be held on Friday, April 26, from 6 - 8 p.m. All Welcome!

### **Week of March 31-April 6, 2024:**

Pastor Lori will be on vacation.

Church Secretary Hours: Monday-Thursday 10am-3pm  
(please call before coming)

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

Scouts – Monday @ 6pm

Supper Club – Tuesday @ 5pm @ Fairgrounds Hotel

Cub Scouts – Tuesday @ 7pm

Outlook Committee – Thursday @ 7pm

Choir – Thursday @ 7:30pm

**Next Sunday** – 9:00am Sunday School  
10:15am Communion Worship with  
The Rev. David Schnaars  
**Soup & Sandwich Orders Due**

### **Total Offerings from March 24:**

General Offerings: \$1,836.00

Window Fund: \$57.00

Mission: \$15.00

Church Lawn: \$25.00

Parking Lot Maintenance: \$25.00

Cemetery: \$50.00

Attendance: 62

# Morning Has Broken

BUNESSAN 5.5.5.4.D.

Gaelic Melody

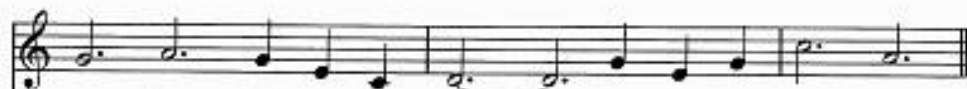
Harm. by David Evans, 1927

Eleanor Farjeon, 1931

Unison



1. Morn - ing has bro - ken Like the first morn - ing, Black - bird has
2. Sweet the rain's new fall Sun - lit from heav - en, Like the first
3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing Born of the



spo - ken Like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing!  
dew - fall On the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness  
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion,



Praise for the morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing Fresh from the Word!  
Of the wet gar - den, Sprung in com - plete - ness Where his feet pass.  
Praise ev - ery morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion Of the new day!

