

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

April 21, 2024

10:15 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

Peace Be With You

Prelude: "The Lord of Beulah"

Bradbury

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship

Leader: With grace flowing, the poet sings the opening lines of the famous prayer, "The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want."

All: We hear the Psalmist's contentment and wonder about our own.

Leader: Settled on the ground, with grass tickling their toes, the psalmist rests, "God makes me lie down in green pastures. She leads me beside still waters. She restores my soul."

All: We hear their deep need for rest and wonder about our own.

Leader: With a deep sigh, the psalmist declares, "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me. You prepare a table before me. You anoint me. My cup overflows.

All: We recognize their bold courage and wonder about our own.

Leader: Remembering God's faithfulness, the psalmist finds words to carry with them, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long."

All: We hear their faithful trust and wonder about our own.

Leader: Holy Spirit of Rest and Renewal, in this time of worship inspire us with words both ancient and new so that we may find the words that connect us to You.

All: Amen and amen.

*Opening Hymn: "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"

p.688

Prayer for Pardon

Leader: Holy One, we hear the comforting ancient poetry of the psalmist but wonder, is it true?

All: Will you really provide for what we need? Will you bring us to a place of rest? Will you protect us from enemies, even when they share our dinner table? We confess that rather than being only filled with holy wonder, we are also filled with skepticism at the ancient words. We can quickly tally up the times we didn't feel provided for or protected from danger. We count the times we could not catch a break when we desperately needed it. So Holy One, shepherd our busy minds back to the here and now, help our spirits forgive the grudges we hold, and invite us to experience You as truly present. In these moments of quiet, offer us rest for a moment. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Beloved People of God, there is wisdom in our questions, but God is steadfast. God's presence is unwavering and will accompany us through every terrifying valley. God's spirit is unshakeable and will sit with us even in the presence of formidable foes. God's love is relentless and will offer us goodness and mercy all the days of our life. Amen and Amen.

*Hymn: "Surely Goodness and Mercy" p.691

Scripture: John 10:11-18 p.933

1 John 4:7-21 p.1067

Reflection.....The Rev. David Schnaars

*Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

Invitation to the Offering

Like a shepherd tending to those in their care, God has offered us rest and renewal, protection and mercy, love and nourishment. In response, we are invited to give a portion of our time, energy, gifts, and prayers so that others in this world may experience the same.

Offertory: "Rejoice, the Lord Is King" Darwall

* 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.**

*Prayer of Dedication (unison)
**Loving God, bless these gifts and all the ways in which we give.
May each of our gifts be a part of co-creating and tending to the
love, safety, belonging, and dignity You envision for the world.
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: "O How He Loves You and Me" p.349

*Benediction
As you depart from this place, go with courage and go with trust that the
God who created you is also the One who will sustain you and the One who
will show you the way. Until we meet again, may you be filled with curiosity,
wonder, and openness to God's tender leading. Amen and Amen.

*Extinguishing of the Candles

*Postlude: "All People That on Earth Do Dwell" Bourgeois

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**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS** are sponsored by Henry and MaryAnn Heil in  
Honor of their daughter, Marianne Alliston's Birthday.

**TODAY'S BULLETINS** are sponsored by Robert and Annie Souder in memory  
of loved ones.

**TODAY'S GREETERS** are Lee and Susan Hoch.

**TODAY'S LITURGIST** is Les Schoenberger.

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.

**A Big Thank You to Rev. David Schnaars** for leading our Worship today in the absence of Pastor Lori. Pastor Lori will return tomorrow. If you have a Pastoral Emergency please call the church office, Kathy Latshaw, 610-754-7701 or SharonTrexler, 484-357-4908. They will contact the Pastor on call.

**All loose offering today will go towards our Pastor's Discretionary Fund.**

The **All Things Free Room** (ATF) next Sort and Store will be tomorrow, Monday, April 22 at 10:00am. Thank you for your help with this giving ministry. Please remember to not block the chair path when leaving donations in the stairway. Please call Millie with any questions.

**Sunday Brunchers** will meet at the Mercantile Club (cash only) after Worship **TODAY** at 12 noon. **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.

**Philly Soft Pretzels** will be sold next Sunday, April 28th after worship. Thanks for your support!

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

**Wooden Crosses** – We are still selling wooden crosses for the Cemetery, in your garden at home 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.

The FUN Group is collecting **FULL & TRAVEL SIZE size toiletries** for The Lehigh Conference of Churches Project Toiletry until May 12. The full size toiletries help individuals and families throughout Pathways housing services. Travel size toiletries are used by the people that utilize showers at the drop-in center. A collection box is located on the bench in front of Pastor Lori's office. **Listings of toiletries needed can be found in both entrances of the Church.**

Social and Aid Committee will be offering **Beef Pies** along with **Ham and Cheese Sandwiches** for the month of May. Orders must be received by Sunday, May 5. Pick up will be on Thursday, May 23 between 3-5:30 p.m. in the downstairs social room. Order forms can be found at the entrances to the church. Thank you for your continued support.



**GriefShare** will be offered at Old Zionsville United Church of Christ starting on Wednesday evening, May 1, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

This nationally acclaimed course consists of 13 weeks of meetings for support offered to people who have lost loved ones. Each session includes a video to offer thoughts and ideas to learn about. There is a workbook which is helpful for each participant to have to follow along, take notes of the video, and then do some homework before the next session. There is also time to share and support each other through grief. There is no cost for the sessions, but the fee for the workbook is \$15 or whatever you can afford. We meet in the handicap accessible, air conditioned lower social hall at OZ UCC which is found at the intersection of Fountain Road and Kings Highway in Old Zionsville.

To register for these sessions, or ask questions, you can contact The Rev. Lori Esslinger at [MomAndPastorToo@yahoo.com](mailto:MomAndPastorToo@yahoo.com) or by calling the church office at 610-966-3601. The course concludes July 24, 2024.

Celebrate history at the **Dillingersville Schoolhouse** located at 7226 Schoolhouse Lane, Zionsville. Informal worship begins at **10:30 a.m. on June 30, 2024** under a big tent on the grounds, rain or shine. This service is open to all and especially those who enjoy the outdoors and being in nature. Tours of the schoolhouse are available. We are engaging the Heidelberg Brass Band to offer their Polka Service during our Worship Service. Invite your friends and family to join us for a lively morning worship with extra music after the service to lead us into our home-made lunch and bake sale offered for donation. This is a great day to learn about local history, the beginnings of education in this area, and to spend some time in the outdoors. Parking is available on site. Questions? Call 610-966-3601.

## **Week of April 21, 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

Dillingersville Board Meeting – Monday @ 7pm

Cub Scouts – Tuesday @ 7pm

Music & Worship – Tuesday @ 7pm

Choir – Thursday @ 7:30pm

Lunch Bunch – Friday @ 12 noon @ Ritz Barbecue

Youth Group – Friday from 6:00-8:00pm

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

10:15am Worship, Pretzel Sale after Worship

## **Total Offerings from April 14:**

General Offerings: \$1,210.00

Window Fund: \$102.00

Mission: \$5.00

Food Pantry: \$10.00

Parking Lot Maintenance: \$30.00

Cemetery: \$20.00

Attendance: 39