

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

August 18, 2024

9:30 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude: "The Savior Is Waiting"

Carmichael

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (Inspired by Psalm 111)

One: Praise the Holy One! Give thanks to God in the congregation.

Many: God's works delight us, inspire us, challenge us, and uphold us.

One: Praise the Holy One! Give thanks to God in the congregation.

Many: Righteousness endures forever. The covenant is everlasting.

One: Praise the Holy One! Give thanks to God in the congregation.

Many: Honoring God leads to wisdom. Let us praise the Holy One forever!

Invocation (unison)

Holy God, we come together in your presence to offer worship, thanksgiving, and praise. We remember your covenant and acknowledge your abiding presence. Envelop us in your glory, strengthen us to confront the weariness of the world, challenge us to spread the good news, and empower us to be the church you have created us to be. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"

p.2

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: Holy God, we find wisdom in your word, in your presence, and in your way.

All: Help us to follow the path of love, community, and sharing. Open our awareness to the unmet needs in our community and the ways we may meet them. Open our compassion to notice those who too often go without being acknowledged. Open our

schedules to be present to your Spirit, our neighbors, and ourselves. Fill us with wisdom, peace, and hope to move boldly toward new life and the fullness of joy.

Words of Grace

Beloved, God honors our request for wisdom. Individually and, most importantly, collectively, we have the wisdom, discernment, and understanding necessary to meet the challenges of the day, to live a life pleasing to the Holy One, and to participate in the coming of God's kingdom. Amen.

*Hymn: "He Is Exalted" p.36

Scripture: Daniel 3 p.763

Reflection

Invitation to Generosity

Ephesians 5 encourages us to "Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise...giving thanks to God at all times and for everything in the name of Jesus Christ." (vv. 15, 20) We give thanks by trusting God with our resources. We give thanks by using the gifts of God for the kingdom of God. We give thanks by sharing our abundance for the mutual benefit of our community. Give thanks with everything we have.

Offertory: "Prayer" Schirrmann

*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 Thanksgiving and Dedication (unison)

Generous and Wise God, you give freely and we receive freely. Sow in us discernment, understanding, and wisdom to be good stewards of the bounty we receive and the resources we have earned. Let us treat them all as gifts to be shared so that none will be in want or need to live full and abundant lives. Amen

*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: "Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him"

p.82

*Benediction

May you experience the fullness of life. May abundance be your regular portion. May grace, hope, and generosity be your guide. And may the joy of the Holy One sustain all your days. Go in peace to love and serve.

*Postlude: "Fanfare for the King"

Hughes



For Wisdom: Service Prayers for the Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost Year B was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay who serves as Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are sponsored by Richard and Brenda Shoemaker in honor of their Wedding Anniversary.

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

TODAY'S GREETERS are Les and Deb Schoenberger.

TODAY'S LITURGIST 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.

Today's loose offering goes to our Pastor's Discretionary Fund.



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.

Since 2020, four successful **Matching Gift Challenges** raised more than \$34,000 for the restoration of our stained glass windows. The project is close to completion, with about \$20,000 needed to add protective glass to the nativity windows. Plans are underway for a fifth Matching Gift Challenge this fall. Challengers are needed to make this fund raiser a success. Questions? Want to become a challenger? See Ruth Stansfield.

Look for your **Ham and Cheese Sandwich** order form in today's bulletin. September brings back these delicious sandwiches from our Social and Aid Committee. Orders are due on Sunday, September 8th; pick up will be on Thursday, September 19 in our downstairs social room from 3pm until 5:30pm. Thank you for your support.

All Things Free Room (ATF) next Sort and Store will be tomorrow, Monday, August 19th at 10:00am. Thank you for your help with this giving ministry. Please do not block the chair path when leaving donations in the stairway. Any questions, call Millie.

All are welcome to come to **GriefCare** at Old Zionsville UCC. This 9 week course will offer videos to guide our healing, discussion time to allow for growth through your grief, and Bible learning to support all in the program. We will begin meeting on Thursday nights from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. starting Aug. 29 in the air conditioned lower level of Old Zionsville UCC. Enter the building from the small parking lot on Fountain Road and use either the chair lift door or the office entrance door. Go down the stairs. You may park in that lot as well. For the first week, if you don't have time to eat your evening supper, bring it along to nibble as we share together. More information to follow for upcoming weeks. We will conclude our sessions on Thursday, October 24, 2024. Please contact Pastor Lori to register. There is room for all.

Wooden Crosses are available for sale. They are being decorated for Patriotic Holidays. You can also buy the flower/ribbon portion to attach to the cross you have previously purchased. The attachment costs \$15. The whole decorated cross costs \$30. See Richard Yeakel or Lisa Talecki.

Sunday Brunchers TODAY after Worship at the Mercantile in Emmaus. **Supper Club** will be Wednesday, September 4 at 6:00 p.m. at Alburdis Tavern, 106 S. Main St., Alburdis. Please RSVP to Linda or Mark by Friday, August 30. **September Sunday Brunchers** will be after Worship on Sunday, September 15 at the Mercantile Club, 427 Railroad St., Emmaus. Please RSVP to Linda or Mark by Tuesday, September 10. **Lunch Bunch** is planned for Friday, September 27, 12 noon at Perkins, 3400 Lehigh St., Allentown. RSVP to Linda or Mark by Tuesday, September 24. All are welcome!

On Wednesday, September 18 in our lower social hall we will be showing **"The Chosen, Season 2"** beginning at 1:00 p.m. Snacks included! Please join us every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. through Wednesday, October 30.

Mark Your Calendars for:

- September 1 – Last 9:30 a.m. Worship
- September 8 – Back to Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.
Communion Worship at 10:15 a.m.
Orders due for Ham & Cheese Sandwiches
(watch for order forms)
- September 29 – 3:00 p.m. Window Dedication Service

Week of August 18, 2024:

Pastor Lori will have office hours on Wednesday, 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

Consistory – Tuesday @ 7pm

Next Sunday – 9:30 Worship

Total Offerings from August 11:

General Offerings: \$1,028.00

Window Fund: \$62.00

Mission: \$55.00

Communion: \$10.00

Disaster Relief: \$70.00

Utilities: \$30.00

Parking Lot Maintenance: \$25.00

Cemetery: \$0

Attendance: 34

