

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 31, 2025

9:30 a.m

**those who are able may stand*

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude: "God Leads His Dear Children Along"

Young

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles:

Call to Worship

One: Welcome to the banquet of hope,
the open bar of prayer,
the "anonymous" circle of acceptance.

All: We come because we are invited.

One: Welcome to a fiesta of joy
or a mercy meal of tenderness,
where every seat is a place of honor.

All: We come because we are invited.

One: Welcome to a party for God's love-reveal,
where all seating is a circle,
and karaoke is never necessary
because we sing our own stories.

**All: We come because we have an invitation,
not on paper, simply our names.**

Prayer of Invocation (unison)

**God, we come this gathering of community where there are no
barriers, and all our abilities are celebrated as gifts. We come to
receive your hospitality of caring for each one of us and to learn
from you how to offer such a celebration to stranger, friend, chosen
family, those whose faces are unfamiliar to us, and the face who
meets us in the mirror. Amen.**

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: God, sometimes we say, "I'm too busy," to invitations to kindness, friendship, or activism, or pretend to be "too busy," and avoid being indebted, pitied, or rubbing elbows with those who make us uncomfortable.

All: Sometimes we accept an invitation to be involved, celebrate with someone, or just have coffee, but back out or "no-show."

Forgive us when we skip your parties.

God, sometimes we are "imperfect guests," wanting to be the center of attention, and other times we insist on always being host, giver, one in control, receiver of praise and gratefulness.

Forgive us when we fail in gratitude or generosity. Amen.

Words of Grace

God loves, invites, nudges, embraces us in all our resistance to simply hold a balloon of joy and clap at the candles of another's cake. We are forgiven; a plate is set for us. Amen.

*Hymn: "My Tribute" (sing through 2 times)

pg. 54

Scriptures: John 12:4-8, Matthew 26:20-25, Luke 22:47, 48

pages 936, 861, 917

Reflection: The Apostle Judas Iscariot

Special Music: Celebration of the Conclusion of our Windows to the Future Project
- Take a look back....

Invitation to Generosity

We are invited to offer our resources, our time, our abilities, our compassion, on days when our lives are full and days when our lives feel empty. We are invited to offer what we have and accept what we need. Our practice of giving from our hearts is a profound "yes" to the invitation of God.

Offertory: "The Church Triumphant"

Gaither

*Presentation of our Gifts 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 and Thanksgiving (unison)

God, we bring these gifts, our response to your invitation. In this giving, we find ourselves not lessened, but newly joyful, truly honored, and deeply fed by your blessing. Amen.

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, forever. Amen

*Closing Hymn: "Spirit Song"

pg. 384

*Benediction

May you be blessed when you sit at fine tables of welcome
and when you spread the picnic blanket of peace.

May you be blessed in giving and receiving,
not repaid, but your hearts repaired.

*Extinguishing of the Candles

*Postlude: "He's Everything to Me."

Carmichael

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**Receive the Invitation:** Service Prayers for the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost were written by Maren C. Tirabassi, a UCC pastor, author of fiction and non-fiction, and also lover of summer, the company of dogs, mystery novels and science fiction conventions.

**TODAY'S GREETER** is Kathy Latshaw.

**TODAY'S LITURGIST** is Jane Bedell.

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.

**All Things Free Room (ATF)** Sort and Store will not be meeting on September 1<sup>st</sup>.  
Setup for **ATF Giveaway** is Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am.

**All Things Free (ATF) Giveaway** Monday, September 8, 4:00-6:00pm and Saturday, September 13, 10:00am-12:00pm. Help is always needed. Please stop in.

**A Message from ATF:** We continually look for new and/or regifting items throughout the year that can be used as gifts at our November giveaway when food pantry clients shop for Christmas gifts for their family (all ages). Please consider helping us accumulate a variety of items. If you prefer not to shop but are willing to support us with a monetary donation, we will gladly do bargain shopping for you. Thanks in advance for helping any way you can!

**Choir begins:** Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm

**Supper Club** will meet on Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm @ Capo. & Co. in Emmaus. Please RSVP to Mark or Linda by Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Sunday Brunchers** will meet at the Merc after worship, September 21<sup>st</sup>.

**September Sandwich.** Order forms are found in the bulletin. Orders must be received by Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. The Pickup date is Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-5:30 pm.

**The Chosen**, season 4, will begin to be shown again, one episode each week in the lower social hall on Wednesdays starting at 1 p.m. with snacks on Sept. 10 and concluding on Oct. 29. All Welcome! You do not need to have seen previous episodes but if you wish to see them, we can make arrangements.

***Worship is at 10:15 a.m. beginning September 7<sup>th</sup>***

**Week of August 31 through September 6, 2025:**

Pastor Lori will have office hours on Wednesday from 10am-3pm.  
Other times by appointment

Church Secretary Hours: Tuesday 11:30am-1:30pm, Wed & Thursday 10am-2pm  
(please call before coming to make sure she is in the office)

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

**Next Sunday**—10:15 am worship 9:00 am Sunday School

**Total Offerings from August 24<sup>th</sup> , 2025:**

General Offerings: \$2368.00

Mission: \$165.00

Heat and Electric: \$30.00

Attendance – 36