

**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 14, 2024

10:15 a.m.

*\*those who are able may stand*

**Christ Among Us**  
**Service Prayers for the Third Sunday of Easter**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship

One: Christ is Risen, and greets us with peace.

**All: The peace of Christ is among us, indeed.**

One: We are witnesses of God's glory and steadfast love.

**All: The transforming love of Christ is among us, indeed!**

One: Come, let us worship.

Invocation

One: God of love and light, we come as witnesses of your glory and faithfulness, amazed to discover your transformative love. God, we desire for you to abide within us, and for your grace to be revealed anew daily.

**All: Be with us and awaken within us the call to love one another, in the way it was made real through Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn: "The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done"

insert

Prayer of Confession

One: Ever-present God, forgive us when we stand in disbelief, and comfort us when our fears outweigh your peace. God, forgive us when we become too busy to pray. Help us when we fail to see our neighbors in need.

Abiding God, forgive us when we are overwhelmed with bad news, and shut down completely.

**All: In these times, remind us that we are called to be your love-lived, your faithful witnesses, and your humble servants. Help us to wake up to the work of love, and to your renewing strength each day, we pray. Amen.**

#### Assurance of Grace

O God, hear our prayers of repentance and forgiveness, and awaken us from doubt, disbelief, and distress by transforming us into your resurrection joy! God, we desire for your loving spirit to be among us, to comfort us in our fears, and to renew our faith. Amen.

\*Hymn: "Jesus I Live to Thee" insert  
Scripture: 1 John 3:1-7 p.1066  
Luke 24:36-48 p.920

Reflection.....The Rev. Homer E. Royer

#### Invitation to the Offering

Today, we are reminded of the joy surrounding the witnesses to Jesus' resurrection! We remember that before their resurrection joy, these witnesses experienced grief at the cross. Witnessing the Risen Christ in their midst challenges the disciples to turn their disbelief into joyful belief. Witnessing the Risen Christ challenges the disciples to turn their fear into a courageous proclamation of God's glory. God calls forth a transformative love that marks a change in the ways of repentance and forgiveness, by witnessing the Good News of salvation for everyone, everywhere. So, let us give thanks for God's steadfast love by being witnesses to those who are hungry for food, encouragement, and relationship. Let us also witness to those who are poor in spirit, by allowing God's Spirit to loosen our grip on belongings and possessions, in order to awaken every troubled heart. And lastly, let us offer ourselves in gratitude and with generosity, as witnesses to God's goodness by our joyful giving.

#### Offertory

\* Presentation of the 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 Dedication (unison)

**God of abundant love, we offer a portion of our time, spiritual gifts, and resources as a sign of our love for you and the world. O God,**

**we give you our thanks for all that we have and ask a special blessing on these offerings. And God, we ask that our collective offering be an expression of healing, that brings hope to a hurting world. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. 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: "Because He Lives" p.358

\*Benediction

Let us go forth having had laid down our burdens. Let us go forth rich in spirit, knowing God has a plan for our lives. And, let us go forth as witnesses to God's hope of justice, peace, grace, and love. Believing fully that Christ is among all humanity, now and always. Amen.

\*Extinguishing of the Candles

\*Postlude



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

**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS** are in memory of Dolly Kichline's Mother, Marie Bonner's Birthday from Dolly, Chad and Samuel.

**TODAY'S BULLETINS** are sponsored by Charles and Carol Brown in honor of their 38<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

**TODAY'S GREETER** is Peter Yeakel.

**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.

**A Big Thank You to Rev. Homer Royer** for leading our Worship today.

**Philly Soft Pretzels** will be sold after worship **TODAY and on April 28th** 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!



The next Sort and Store for our **All Things Free Room (ATF)** will be tomorrow, Monday, April 14 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.

**Soup and Sandwich Orders pick up on Thursday between 3-5:30pm in the downstairs social room.**

Please join us in Worship next Sunday with The Rev. David Schnaars.

If you have a Pastoral Emergency now through April 22, please call the church office, Kathy Latshaw, or Sharon Trexler. They will contact the Pastor on call.

**Sunday Brunchers** will meet at the Mercantile Club (cash only) after Worship next Sunday, April 21 at 12 noon. Please RSVP by Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> to Mark or Linda. **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.

**Youth Group** will meet 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.**



**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 14, 2024:**

Church Secretary Hours: Tuesday-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

Soup & Sandwich Pick Up – Thursday between 3 and 5:30pm

Choir – Thursday @ 7:30pm

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

9:45 am Third Sunday Treats

10:15am Worship with The Rev. David Schnaars

Loose offering will go to our Pastor's Discretionary Fund

**Brunch after Worship at the Merc**

# \* Alleluia! The Strife Is O'er

Latin: 17th century  
Tr. Francis Pott, 1859

VICTORY 8.8.8. with Alleluias  
Arr. from G. P. Sante da Palestrina, 1591  
William H. Monk, 1861

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

1. The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; Now is the  
2. Death's might-iest pow'rs have done their worst, And Je - sus  
3. On the third morn, he rose a - gain Glo - rious in  
4. Lord, by the stripes that wound - ed thee From death's dread

vic - tor's tri - umph won; Now be the song of  
has his foes dis - persed; Let shouts of praise and  
maj - es - ty to reign; O let us swell the  
sting thy ser - vants free, That we may live and

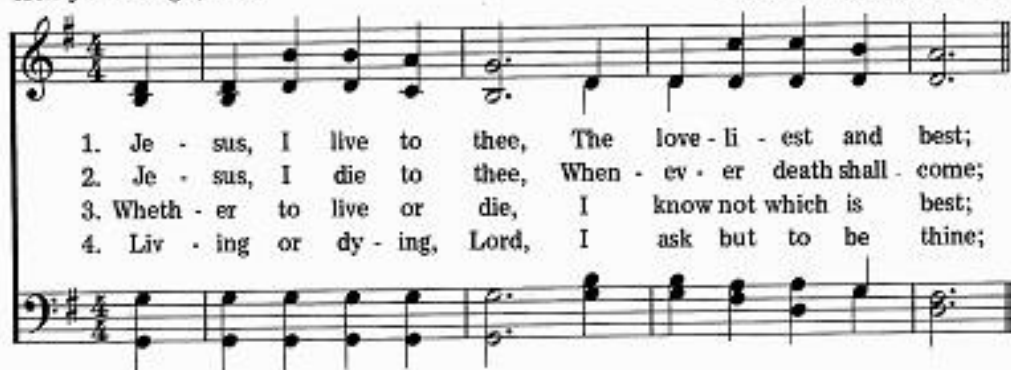
praise be - gun:  
joy out - burst:  
joy - ful strain: Al - le - lu - ia!  
sing to thee:

D.S.

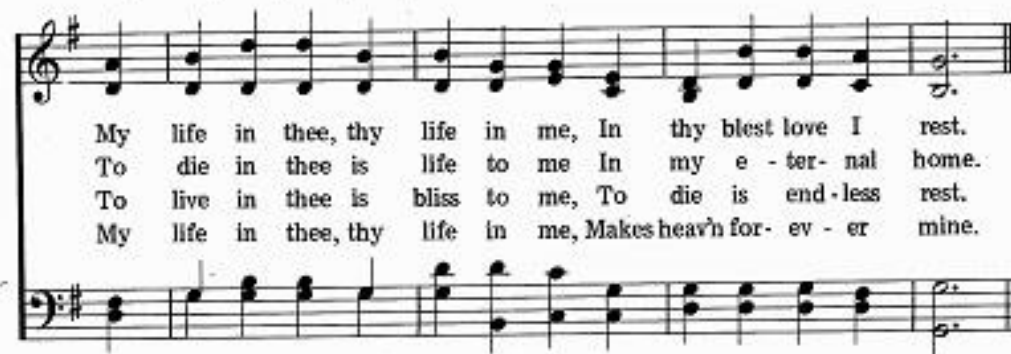
## Jesus, I Live to Thee

Rom. 14:8  
Henry Harbaugh, 1850

LAKE ENON S.M.  
Isaac B. Woodbury, 1856



1. Je - sus, I live to thee, The love - li - est and best;  
2. Je - sus, I die to thee, When - ev - er death shall - come;  
3. Wheth - er to live or die, I know not which is best;  
4. Liv - ing or dy - ing, Lord, I ask but to be thine;



My life in thee, thy life in me, In thy blest love I rest.  
To die in thee is life to me In my e - ter - nal home.  
To live in thee is bliss to me, To die is end - less rest.  
My life in thee, thy life in me, Makes heav'n for - ev - er mine.