

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

January 5, 2025

10:15 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

Epiphany

Prelude: "Sages from Afar"

Blake

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship (Inspired by Sirach 24)

One: Wisdom praises herself and tells of her glory in the midst of her people.

Many: She brings worlds into being and illuminates the night sky with stars in the heavens.

One: Wisdom declares herself and tells of her might in the midst of her people.

Many: She strengthens her children and grants peace to the peoples.

One: Wisdom praises herself and tells of her glory in the midst of her people.

Many: She bestows grace and redemption and makes mystery known.

Praise Wisdom

Invocation (unison)

Radiant One, your majesty awes us, and your righteousness humbles us. Shine your light amongst us as we worship you in spirit and in truth. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: "We Three Kings"

p.288

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: Holy God, all things came into being through you.

Many: **You enlighten our lives. Yet, we are drawn to shadows and veils.**

We distance ourselves from the conditions of oppression and despair of our neighbors, and we hide from your displeasure and disappointment at our limited allegiance to the kingdom. Ignite a hunger and thirst for righteousness, justice, and truth in us. Spark compassion in our hearts. Make us a righteous branch in the

**vineyard. In the name of Jesus and hope of restoration, we pray.
Amen.**

Words of Grace

Beloved, trust that the grace of God has appeared, bringing new life to all. Receive the gifts of grace and mercy from the Compassion One who recognizes your repentance, comes to you in your weakness, offers strength for transformation, provides encouragement for repair, and grants forgiveness for sin.

*Hymn: "A Communion Hymn for Christmas" (vs. 4& 5 only) p.287
Scripture: John 1:9-18 p.922
Matthew 2:1-12 p.835

Reflection

Invitation to Generosity

Every gift we have comes as part of God's good creation. Let us honor and participate in Creator's vision of true peace, flourishing, and abundance by prioritizing the needs of others over the excesses of self. Let us embrace gift-giving as our love language and commitment. May our generosity be a witness to the world of the Living God among us.

Offertory: "March of the Kings" Simone

*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 Thanksgiving and Dedication (unison)

**Giving God, may these gifts reveal your greatness, generosity,
and glory. We give thanks for the privilege of being in communal
and covenantal care with our neighbors as manifested by the
sharing of resources. Amen.**

Choir Anthem

The Pastoral Prayer...The Lord's Prayer (sung)

**Our Father, which 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, Amen**

The Service of Holy Communion p.19

*Closing Hymn: "As with Gladness Men of Old" (vs. 1 & 3 only) p.290

*Benediction

As you go, remember that you are a righteous branch. Charged to keep watch for the vulnerable and the marginalized. Embodying compassion for those humbled and in despair. May a new life of love be born as we share the warmth of God's love and peace in the world.

*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: "Gladly We Will Go" Schram



Enlightened: Service Prayers for Christmas 2C/Epiphany was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are sponsored by Ben Kohler in memory of his Grandparents, Kenny and Sarah Lorish and Emil and Ginny Kohler.

TODAY'S GREETER is Kathy Latshaw.

TODAY'S LITURGIST is Wendy Yeakel.

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) next Sort and Store will be tomorrow, January 6 at 10:00am. Our next Giveaway will be Monday, January 13 from 4-6pm and Saturday, January 18 from 10am-12pm. If you can help or have any questions, call or text Millie Kohler. Thank you for your help with this giving ministry.

Share the Warmth collection will run through January. Items to warm someone from the inside to support local food programs: Soup, Hot Chocolate, Tea Bags or Coffee (no coffee beans) can be dropped in the box outside of Pastor Lori's office. Thank you.

January Soup is **Beef Vegetable** and will be sold by the quart (\$8) along with **Ham and Cheese Sandwiches** (\$5). Orders forms can be found at the entrances to the Church or in your pew and must be received by next Sunday, January 12. 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, January 23 in our downstairs social hall between 3:00-5:30 p.m.

Sunday Brunch – Sunday, January 19th we will meet at the Merc after Worship for good food and conversation! The next **Supper Club** is scheduled for this Friday, January 10 at the Fairgrounds Hotel, meet at 6pm. And the next **Lunch Bunch** is scheduled for Friday, January 24, 12 noon at the Trivet on Chestnut Street, Emmaus. Please let Linda or Mark Weave know if you are planning to attend any of these events. All are Welcome!

Youth Group will be meeting on Friday, January 24. All ages welcome. 6-8 p.m. in our lower social hall. Questions? Check with Pastor Lori or Alyson Miller.

Week of January 5-11, 2025:

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

Cub Scouts – Tuesday @ 7pm

Outlook – Thursday @ 6:30pm

Choir – Thursday @ 7:30pm

Supper Club – Friday @ 6pm @ Fairgrounds Hotel

ATF Set Up – Saturday @ 10am

Next Sunday – 9:00am Sunday School
9:45am Second Sunday Treats
10:15am Worship
Soup & Sandwich Orders Due

Total Offerings from December 29, 2024:

General Offerings: \$6,668.00

Window Fund: \$282.00

Mission: \$5.00

Communion: \$5.00

Building Repair: \$20.00

Parking Lot: \$0

Cemetery: \$60.00

Attendance: 42