

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

March 2, 2025

10:15 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

Transfiguration Sunday
“On the Mountain to Pray”

Prelude: “O Jesus, I Have Promised”

Mann

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship

One: The call of the Holy One has brought us together.

Many: We have been called to pray and to praise.

One: We are called to worship and to holy wonder.

Many: May the light of Love burn brightly in us.

One: May it transfigure and transform our hearts and minds.

Many: May it become a beacon of hope for others.

Invocation (unison)

God of mountaintops and valleys and everywhere in between, we thank you for meeting us where we are. We thank you also for leading us to this place of prayer and renewal. Enlighten our minds, radiate our hearts, and ready us for Your alive Word of Love. Let it shine in and through us, lighting a path of grace, hope, and joy. May the same transfiguring power, shown forth in Jesus Christ, also shine in us for the good of the world. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: “Praise Him! Praise Him!”

p.12

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: Holy God, it has been easy to live with our eyes veiled.

All: Too often, we have hidden from the hard realities within us and around us. We have shielded Your light of Love, instead of sharing it. Something deep within has often hardened our hearts, leading

to inertia and unfreedom. But there is a deeper longing within. We hunger for the forgiveness and renewal You revealed in Jesus Christ. Forgive us, Holy One, and unveil our eyes and our hearts. With Your shining love, light a path of forgiveness for us that we may share it with others. By this, we may know the freedom of new life you revealed in Jesus Christ. Amen and Amen.

Words of Grace

Hear the good news! Do not lose heart! God is merciful. Bit by bit, we are being transformed into the image of God's glory made known in Jesus Christ. In our turning, God has forgiven us and unveiled our lives. God has also called us to listen to Jesus Christ, the Beloved, who calls us by the same name. Beloved, may the forgiving light of God's love shine through us, and bear the hope of a new beginning to others. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Hymn: "Change My Heart, O God" p.654

Scripture: Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a) p.900

Reflection

Invitation to Generosity

On the Mount of Transfiguration, the law of love and the prophecy of holy peace joined each other in Jesus as he prayed. God's generous love bore a radiant flash, kissing earth with heavenly light. So, the heart of God was revealed in Jesus, and a call was extended. It was the call to listen to Jesus and love generously like him. So we are invited to taste heavenly joy as we generously share the gifts we have received from the One who has born us into life. In this spirit, may we bring our gifts to the one who transfigures everything with love.

Offertory: "Blessed Be the Name" Hudson

* 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)

O Spirit of Life, shine on us again and again that we may become the blessing you intend. Keep awakening us to Your holy mystery and Your sacred call. Bless these gifts we bring so that Your energy of love may be shared with others and offer the light of a new beginning. By this, and more than we can name, continue to transfigure us and 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: "Blessed Assurance" p.572

*Benediction

One: May the Holy radiance of transfiguration continually light the wick of your life.

All: May it be a light that bears joy and hope and love.

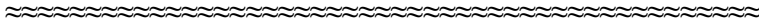
One: May the voice of Jesus enter not only your ears but also your heart.

All: And may that voice shape your voice for the good of the world.

One: Blessings on you all! Amen and Amen.

*Extinguishing of the Candles

*Postlude: "Break Forth Into Joy" Bach



On the Mountain to Pray: Service Prayers for Transfiguration Sunday Year C was written by the Rev. Dr. David Long-Higgins, Conference Minister of the Heartland Conference of the United Church of Christ.

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are in memory of our son, Todd M. Dreas with love from Mom & Dad, Jeff, Cheryl and Family and Jan, Steve and Family.

TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS are from Judy and Len Hoch in memory of Colby Hoch.

TODAY'S BULLETINS are in memory of Colby Hoch from Uncle Lee, Aunt Susie and Cousins Lance and Sarah.

TODAY'S GREETER is Diane Berger.

TODAY'S LITURGIST is Robin Yoder.

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.

Imagine the difference we can make – the light we can be in the world – when we join together with other people of faith who are giving to the same cause.

OGHS

We will receive **One Great Hour of Sharing** offerings until March 30 at which time we will dedicate them and send them on to make a difference in the world. For more information, see the flyers and pick up an envelope at the entrances to the Church. Thanks in advance for your support. Please make checks payable to Old Zionsville UCC.

All Things Free Room (ATF) next Sort and Store will be tomorrow, Monday, March 3 at 10:00am. Thank you for your help with this giving ministry. If you can help or have any questions, please call or text Millie Kohler.

Ash Wednesday Communion Service will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 5, 2025.



Windows to the Future - Many thanks to those who faithfully empty pockets and wallets of loose change (and sometimes bills) and contribute it to the Change for the Windows Jar. Another \$66 has been raised for the windows, bringing the total raised close to \$1,500 since the jar first appeared in 2020. Great Job!

The next **Supper Club** will be on Wednesday, March 12 at Hunan Springs. Please let Linda or Mark Weaver know if you are planning to attend. **Sunday Brunchers** will meet at the Merc after church on March 16. Please RVSP to Linda or Mark.

Church Fundraisers – Our Social and Aid Committee will be making **Corn Pies** with local grown potatoes for the month of March. These will sell for \$8.00 each along with our monthly **Ham and Cheese Sandwiches** at \$5.00 each. Orders must be received by next Sunday, March 9. Order forms can be found at the entrances to the Church.

Our Outlook Committee is selling various flavors of **Fruit and Nut Rolls**. They are \$18.00 each and orders must be received by Sunday, March 23. They will be here in time for Easter. Order forms can be found at the entrances to the Church.

The Chosen, Season 3, will be shown in our lower social hall on Wednesdays at 1 p.m. starting on March 12 and concluding on April 30. All welcome to share in viewing this very moving series on the Life of Jesus.

PNEC will be having Zoom Town Halls for **Keystone Constitution and Bylaws Discussions**. Dates will be March 18 at 6:30pm, March 19 at 1:30pm, April 1 at 6:30pm or April 2 at 2pm. For more information and to get the zoom link please contact PNEC at 610-826-3113 or go to their website at www.pnec.org.

Lenten Services – Register for Pennsylvania UCC Weekly Lenten Prayer Time Join us at noon every Thursday in Lent beginning March 6 for a short time of prayer led by Conference Staff from the Pennsylvania Conferences. To register and receive a Zoom link call the PNEC office at 610-826-3113.

Picnic Patio tickets have been purchased for an **Iron Pigs Game** scheduled on Saturday, June 21, 2025 with first pitch at 6:35 p.m. We will be seated in the Picnic Pavilion and have the buffet dinner (included in price). This is also a Fireworks show after the game. Tickets are \$28.00 per person. **Signup by Sunday, March 30** along with your payment to Linda or Mark Weaver.

The next round of **Grief Care** is scheduled to start on Wednesday, May 28 and run till July 23. There are nine sessions and will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6-8 pm. Please speak to Pastor Lori with any questions. This group is open to all and is Free.

Church Closed? In case of bad weather we will again be posting any cancelations with Channel 69 – WFMZ-TV under their Storm Center Updates. We will announce on WFMZ but always use your own judgment and stay safe.

Easter Flowers – please find an order form in your bulletin today for ordering Lilies or Tulips to beautify our church during the Easter Season. Orders with payment must be into the office by Tuesday, April 1st. Thank you.

Holy Week Schedule:

Maundy Thursday, April 17 – 7:30 p.m. Communion Worship

Good Friday, April 18 – **7:00 p.m.** Worship

Easter Sunday, April 20 – 7:30 a.m. Communion Worship

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

9:30 a.m. Egg Hunt for Children up to 6th Grade

10:15 a.m. Communion Worship,

(Donuts and Coffee will be served between the Services)

Week of March 2 – March 8, 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

Ash Wednesday – Wednesday @ 7:30pm

Choir – Thursday @ 7:30pm

Set Up for ATF Giveaway – Saturday @ 10am

(Set clocks ahead)

Next Sunday – 9:00am Sunday School
9:45am Second Sunday Treats
10:15am Communion Worship
Corn Pie and Sandwich Orders Due

Total Offerings from February 23, 2025:

General Offerings: \$1,216.00

Window Fund: \$145.00

Mission: \$155.00

OGHS: \$8.00

Communion: \$10.00

Parking Lot: \$20.00

Cemetery: \$30.00

Attendance: 55