

**WELCOME TO**  
**Old Zionsville United Church of Christ**  
**5981 Fountain Road, P.O. Box 215**  
**Old Zionsville, PA 18068**

Email: [ozuccoffice@ptd.net](mailto:ozuccoffice@ptd.net) Web page: [www.oldzionsucc.org](http://www.oldzionsucc.org)

Church Office: 610-966-3601

Pastor: 610-393-3522 or 610-966-3436

Rev. Lori Esslinger

Pastor

David Carlson

Organist

April 6, 2025

10:15 a.m.

*\*those who are able may stand*

**Fifth Sunday in Lent**  
**"Bread for Community"**

Prelude: "My Redeemer"

McGranahan

Welcome and Announcements

Video of our Four PA Conference Ministers explaining the Keystone  
Conference

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship

One: Come down from the tree, Zacchaeus and friends. Come and worship  
together!

**All: The bread of life satisfies our hunger and thirst.**

One: You are witnessed, worthy, and welcomed today by Jesus, the bread  
of life.

**All: The bread of life loves us and knows our needs.**

One: Let us feast at the table of love and justice, where no one dines alone.

**All: The bread of life has come to sustain us. Believing this promise,  
let us worship together!**

Opening Prayer (unison)

**Gracious God, as we gather in this season of reflection and  
repentance, you call us from our hiding places and invite us to  
the table of grace. You see us in our brokenness and meet us  
with mercy. You offer us the bread of life that nourishes our souls,  
heals our wounds, and strengthens us for the journey of faith. In  
this time of worship, open our hearts to your transforming love  
and lead us to greater humility and justice. May this sacred time  
draw us nearer to you and to one another. Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn: "All Praise to Our Redeeming Lord"

p.221

### Call and Prayer of Confession

One: Often, as human beings, we withhold honor and prestige from people in the margins. Let us confess the ways we have missed opportunities to honor our neighbors.

**All: God of righteousness and justice, you know our hearts and minds. While we center and glorify people who are talented, famous, conventionally beautiful, or wealthy, you see beauty in places we tend to ignore or neglect. We confess we have judged people by their ability to fit into social norms, win awards, accumulate wealth, and perform with power. We miss the Zacchaeuses of our times because we have overlooked the value of those who don't fit our standards, who struggle to be seen, or who are dismissed by society. We have neglected to honor the dignity of those unlike us or displaced from their homelands and have allowed our biases to shape our actions and choices. Forgive us, God, for the times we have failed to reflect your inclusive love and justice. Open our eyes to see the worth of every person, and teach us to honor all your creation with the respect it deserves. Amen.**

### Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear this good news: God's love and compassion are infinite. We receive them not because we've earned a certain status but because we are part of the family of God. Through Christ, we are forgiven and made whole. Know you are forgiven and go in peace, ready to honor and love your neighbor as Christ has loved you. Amen.

\*Hymn: "His Strength Is Perfect"

p.573

### Prayer for Illumination

God, may the scriptures we read today become living bread. May your Spirit empower them to shape us in Jesus' likeness. Give us wisdom as we interpret these words of scripture; may they nourish our minds and souls. Amen.

Scripture: Luke 19:1-10

p.912

### Reflection

Song: "Bread of Life" (sing with video)

Vs 1: If you're hungry, come  
Tired and undone  
There's a place for you  
A place for you at the table.

Vs 2: Bring your weary mind  
Every tear you've cried  
There is peace for you  
Peace for you at the table

If you're lonely, come  
Fill your empty cup  
There's a drink for you  
A drink for you at the table

Lay your burdens down  
Hope is all around  
You are welcome here  
Welcome here at the table

Chorus: Bread of life  
Jesus with us  
Healing our hearts with love  
Bread of life  
Broken for you  
Share with another too  
There is enough  
Oh there will always be  
So take this bread with me

Bridge 1: Freely given to us  
So we might give  
Freely to others  
Freely given to us  
So let us give freely to others  
Freely given to us  
So we might give  
Freely to others  
Freely given to us  
So let us give freely to others

Sacrament of Holy Baptism (see insert)

Call to the Offering

Offertory: "O Divine Redeemer"

Gounod

\* 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 for the Offering (unison)

**Gracious God, we offer these gifts as a sign of our gratitude for the bread of life that sustains us. May these offerings be used to feed the hungry, welcome our neighbors, and spread your love and justice throughout the world. Bless both the giver and the gift, that they may bear fruit for your kin(g)dom. Amen.**

Choir Anthem

The Prayers of the People

One: Holy One and bread of life, we come to you hungry and seeking sustenance for our bodies, hearts, and souls. Satisfy us with your love. May we share it with all who hunger.

**All: Help us come down from our hiding places and welcome you.**

One: We pray for those who feel unworthy or unnoticed. Like Zacchaeus in the tree, may they know your radical welcome and find reconciliation with you and others. Encourage us to reach out to those who are marginalized by an inhospitable world, inviting them to taste God's grace.

**All: Help us come down from our hiding places and welcome you.**

One: We pray for healing in our relationships where division and hurt have taken root. May the bread of life restore unity and peace where there has been conflict. Grant us the humility to reconcile, the courage to forgive, and the grace to restore what has been broken.

**All: Help us come down from our hiding places and welcome you.**

One: We pray for the church, the body of Christ, called to be a witness of hospitality, justice, and inclusion. Empower us to extend your table of love to all people. Strengthen us to be your hands and feet, offering hope, justice, and reconciliation to a world in need.

**All: Help us come down from our hiding places and welcome you.**

One: We lift up those who struggle with isolation or rejection. May they find comfort in your abiding presence. Be their bread of life, and show us how to be your hands of healing.

**All: Help us come down from our hiding places and welcome you.**

One: We give thanks for the example of Zacchaeus, who was transformed and restored to his community by your love. May we be changed by your grace, eager to make amends and follow your way.

**All: Help us come down from our hiding places and welcome you.**

One: Bread of life, we offer these prayers, trusting in your promise of reconciliation and abundant life.

**All: Amen.**

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: "Rock of Ages" (verses 1 & 2 only) p.342

\*Charge and Benediction

Go now into the world brimming with love for God and others. May you share the bread of life, offering not only what sustains the body but what nourishes the soul. Live your lives serving in the way of Jesus, extending compassion to the weary, hope to the despairing, and bread to the hungry. As you go, may the love of God enfold you, the peace of Christ guide you, and the power of the Holy Spirit sustain you, now and forever. Amen.

\*Extinguishing of the Candles

\*Postlude: "Recessional" Hughes

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**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS** are in memory of Julia and William Yeakel sponsored by James and Patti Mittl.

**TODAY'S BULLETINS** are sponsored by Lee and Susan Hoch in memory of loved one.

**TODAY'S GREETERS** are Roger and Mishelle Miller.

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

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.

Bring your colored pencils to church! During Lent we will have interactive bulletins that you can use during worship to color, complete puzzles and have fun while you are learning about our Lenten Messages this year.

**All Things Free Room** (ATF) Sort and Store will be tomorrow, Monday, April 7 at 10:00am. Thank you for your help with this giving ministry. If you have any questions, please call or text Millie Kohler.

**The Chosen, Season 3**, is being shown in our lower social hall on Wednesdays at 1 p.m. until April 30. All welcome to share in viewing this very moving series on the Life of Jesus.

Social and Aid Committee will be taking orders for **Chili** and **Ham & Cheese Sandwiches** for the month of April. Order forms can be found at the entrances to the Church or in your pew. Orders may be dropped in the offering plate any Sunday or call/email the church office. They are due **Next Sunday, April 13**.

**Lenten Services** – Register for Pennsylvania UCC Weekly Lenten Prayer Time Join us at noon every Thursday in Lent 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.

**Egg Hunt!** An Egg Hunt for all children up to 6th Grade will be held in the Lower Social Hall at 9:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday. Bring your own bag or basket for hunting. Coins in every egg! Share the fun with your church friends.

New Member Classes have started. Want to learn more about our Church? Just join in the discussions on two Sunday mornings on either of two sets of dates: April 6 and 13 or May 4 and 11 at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday in the lower social hall. You are under no obligation to join, but if you wish to join the church, we will receive new members on the Second Sunday of each month (April and May) during our 10:15 a.m. Worship. Please register in advance with Pastor Lori by calling, emailing or texting her at least a week before the first session. Topics for discussion include: What IS the United Church of Christ? What IS Old Zionsville UCC? And How do we work together as a congregation? A tour of the Church building happens on the second Sunday of each month.

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.

Arden Courts of Allentown is **in need of Adult Literature** for their Library. Novels, Magazines, Large Print Wordsearch/Crossword/Sudoku/Puzzle Games are all welcome. You may bring your donations to the Church. 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 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

10:15 a.m. Communion Worship,

(Donuts and Coffee will be served between the Services)

## **Week of April 6 – 12, 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

FUN Group – Tuesday @ 7pm

Cub Scouts – Tuesday @ 7pm

The Chosen – Wednesday @ 1pm

Finance – Wednesday @ 7pm

Choir – Thursday @ 7:30pm

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

9:30am New Member Class

9:45am 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Treats

10:15am Worship

Orders due for Chili and Sandwiches

## **Total Offerings from March 30, 2025:**

General Offerings: \$1,773.00

Mission: \$30.00

OGHS: \$100.00

Communion: \$25.00

Parking Lot: \$150.00

Cemetery: \$40.00

Attendance: 115