

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

July 6th, 2025

9:30 a.m

**those who are able may stand*

Apostle Study: James, The Great

Go Deeper: General Synod 35 Companion Liturgy

Prelude: "Meditation"

Blake

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship

One: We come to worship this day, knowing deeply what it means to struggle.

**Many: We remember times in our lives when we've felt
hopeless, yearning for someone to care for us.**

One: In this divided climate that might tempt us to ignore the
neighbors in our midst, we need only tap into our own
humanity.

**Many: Because we know what it means to struggle, we are
challenged each day to show radical love to our neighbors.**

One: Even those who aren't like us.

Many: Especially those who aren't like us.

One: May our worship today help us remember times we have been
helped...

**Many: ...and how we can become the helpers, and the
hope-bearers, in this world.**

Invocation (unison)

Christ, who shows us how to be in community together, thank you for gathering us into community together, onsite and online. We give you thanks for the ways we have been held in love in this community of faith. We are comforted by memories of mercy shown to us in difficult times, both by our friends in this space, and by your gracious presence in our lives. Empower us to be Good Samaritans in our own ways. Embolden us to seek out those who are hopeless and in need, not out of pity, but out of a deep understanding of difficulty in our own lives. Guided by your example. may we lead with radical love and brave compassion. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: "Glorify Thy Name"

pg. 9

Prayer for Transformation and New Life (Unison)

God of the oppressed, we confess that it's sometimes easier to ignore those in need than it is to help them. We confess that we sometimes ask ourselves, "what will it cost us?" "what will others think?"—rather than remembering your call to care for our neighbors, whether we think they "deserve it" or not. Forgive us. Help us repent of our embarrassment at those in need, and turn instead toward empathy and compassion. We pray this in the name of your son, who teaches us how to love all of our neighbors. Amen.

Words of Grace

One: Friends, take comfort. None of us get this right all the time. We are utterly human—fallible people in need of redirection and second chances. This is the good news: we believe in a God who gives us a chance to start again. We are forgiven. May we respond to this grace with grateful hearts attuned to the pursuit of justice, mercy, and hope for all.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Hymn: "How Majestic Is Your Name"

pg. 121

(Sing through twice)

Scriptures: Matthew 20: 20-28

Pg. 854

Acts 12: 1-5

Pg. 958

Acts 12: 20-23

Pg. 959

Reflection: James, The Great

Invitation of Generosity:

The Good Samaritan helped a needy stranger at great cost. This revolutionary act of love was life-saving. How will your gifts of time, talent, treasure, or prayer provide hope to this community, and this world?

Offertory: "Prayer"

Schirrmann

*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 of Thanksgiving and Dedication (unison)

**God of love, we give these gifts back to you with humility,
remembering time we've needed help in our own lives. Help
us use the gifts we give to love others as we have been
loved. Amen.**

Special Music

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: "As The Deer"

pg. 548

*Benediction

Christ reminds us that being a neighbor to others calls us to show mercy to those in need. So may you go from this place and do likewise. Comfort others because you know what it means to cry. Love others because you know what it means to be left behind. Even when it isn't easy. Especially when it isn't easy. As you go, may you go with courage, knowing that the God who created you, the Christ

who guides you, and the Spirit who moves in and through you, goes forth with you. Amen.

*Extinguishing of the Candles

*Postlude: "Recessional"

Hughes



The One Who Showed Mercy: Service Prayers for the Fifth Sunday after Pentecost was written by the Rev. Jacob Nault, Pastor of Union-Congregational Church (UCC), of Waupun, WI. and member of on the United Church of Christ's Disabilities Ministries Board. As a musician and disability justice advocate, he shares original music, liturgy, and devotionals which help congregations and communities grow in their justice work. For more information on Jacob's music and ministry, you can visit www.jacobnault.com.

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Kunkel in honor of their 17th Wedding Anniversary on July 19th

TODAY'S BULLETINS are in memory of Ezra Hoch from Lee and Susan Hoch and family.

TODAY'S GREETERS are Les and Deb Schoenberger

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.

Sandwich orders are due Today– Sunday, July 13th

All Things Free Room (ATF) has a giveaway on Monday, July 14th from 4-6pm and Saturday, July 19th from 10am-12pm. All help is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions please call or text Millie Kohler.

ATF will now be meeting at 9am on sorting Mondays to help beat the heat!

A Message from ATF: Although it is only July, we are looking ahead to our November 10th and 15th Christmas giveaways, where three of our food pantry clients shop for family Christmas gifts. We appreciate any and all new or re-gifted items you might consider donating to us for their shopping. We are looking for items for all ages; infants thru adults. Our volunteers will happily shop for those of you that prefer donating money towards our mission. Thank you in advance for your help.

Sunday Brunchers will be held on Sunday July 20th, 2025 at 10:45am at The Merch Please RSVP for these events with Mark or Linda Weaver. **All are Welcome!**

Grief Care meets on Wednesday evenings from 6-8 pm. Each week includes a video, discussion and a snack. We meet in the lower social hall which is air conditioned and comfortable for all. We also have a zoom link if you cannot make it in person. Please speak to Pastor Lori with any questions. This group is open to all and is Free.

Worship for the summer is at 9:30 a.m.

Prayer List

Audrey, Krista, Denise, Eva, Bonnie, Shirley, David, Allen, Phil, Barbara, Paige and Taylor, Carrie, Dean, Francis and Terri, Sandy and Bob, Hazel, the Miller Family, the Hemphill Family, the Yothers Family, victims and their families of the summer camp flooding in Kerr County, Texas

Week of July 6-12, 2025:

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

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

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

ATF Giveaway– Monday from 4-6pm

Consistory– Tuesday @7pm

Grief Care– Wednesday from 6-8pm

ATF giveaway– Saturday from 10am-12pm

Next Sunday—9:30 am worship- Loose offering to Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Sunday Brunchers @ 10:45am

Total Offerings from June 22, 2025:

General Offerings: \$2,140

Communion: \$86.00

Mission: \$90.00

Pastor's Discretionary Fund: \$40.00

Building Repair: \$40.00

Attendance - 55