

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

October 5, 2025

10:15am

**those who are able may stand*

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

World Communion Sunday

Prelude: "Be Still My Soul, for God is Near"

Joseph

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles:

Call to Worship (Written by Rev. Taisaku OBATA (Minister, Ube Church, United Church of Christ in Japan) Translated by Mr. David McIntosh (Overseas Liaison, United Church of Christ in Japan))

One: In a world that remains divided and in conflict, God is inviting us, to make us one.:

Many: Today we gather around one table, in answer to God's will.

One: What do we find at today's table?

Many: God's love, which endures all things and connects all things.

One: What is not at today's table?

Many: The many powers of the world, which seek to stand over others.

One: Let us repent, and give thanks to God's power to bring salvation to all who believe.

Many: Thanks be to God! Make us witnesses of Your love.

All: Let us worship together the true God, who makes us one.

*Opening Hymn: "O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing"

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Prayer from the Hiroshima Memorial Peace Park (pray silently with the video)

The Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Enjoy this musical selection: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness," Silliman University School of Music, the Philippines

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:12–27

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The Reflection

Call to Offering

Offertory: "O Bread of Life from Heaven"

Isaac

*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 Dedication (unison)

**We give you thanks Creator God for all of the diversity that we find
in the whole world. There are so many gifts we can share and
appreciate. Help us to remember to be willing to look and see our
brothers and sisters globally as your children too so we can be one
in YOU. Amen.**

Choir Anthem

Pastoral Prayer

Communion Liturgy

Today, we join Christians around the world who gather at Christ's table in many languages, cultures, and traditions. On this World Communion Sunday, we remember that though we come from many places, we are one body, sharing one bread and one cup in Christ.

Invitation

One: Like a sower, God scatters, and God will give growth.

Many: God scatters life across the earth.

One: God scatters people in every land and nation.

Many: God scatters disciples far and wide.

One: Like a shepherd, God gathers.

Many: God gathers people into families of faith.

One: God gathers people into communities of love.

Many: God gathers people into the body of Christ.

One: Today, on this World Communion Sunday, God gathers us at one table with disciples of every language, culture, and tradition. From cathedrals and chapels, from huts and houses, from fields and cities, God gathers us in many places and makes us one in Christ. At this table, we remember the cost of discipleship and rejoice in the richness of Christ's gifts poured out for the whole world.

The Communion 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

Sharing the Meal

Prayer of Thanksgiving (together)

We thank you, generous God, for the nourishment of this table and the living presence of Christ among us. We thank you for the gift of growth and grace in this life-renewing feast. We thank you for the company of your great cloud of witnesses, here in this place, in every land, and throughout the generations. Take your gathered people and scatter us again into the world—renewed, invigorated, and committed—that, so nourished, we may take root and bear life-giving fruit to feed, heal, clothe, and comfort, in Jesus' name. Amen.

*Closing Hymn: "O Zion, Haste"

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*Benediction (hear our brother in Christ)

*Sung Benediction

Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of the day. Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true. Know He will guide you in all you do. Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see. God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith and in love. Amen. Amen. Amen.

*Extinguishing of the Candles



Our service today was compiled by Lori Esslinger and Beth Massa from our United Church of Christ website and Global Ministries - Christian Church Disciples of Christ and the United Church of Christ web page.

TODAY'S GREETER is Gisela Thiel.
TODAY'S LITURGIST is Alyson Miller.

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, Monday, October 6 at 10:00am. Thank you for your help with this giving ministry. Please do not block the chair path when leaving donations in the stairway. Any questions, call Millie Kohler.

Help is needed for the next **ATF Giveaway** on Monday, November 10 between 4-6 p.m. and on Saturday, November 15 between 10 a.m.-12 p.m. This will be our Christmas Giveaway. Thanks in advance if you can offer some time to this worthwhile ministry of our church. For more info, please contact Millie Kohler.

Choir Rehearsal. Thursday, October 9, 7:30pm. All welcome!!!

Sunday, October 5, 12, 19 - join us at lunchtime after worship for a discussion of the parable of the Prodigal Son based on a book by Henri Nouwen. This study will be led by Tom Dilts, a resident of Chestnut Ridge, friend of Millie Kohler, and excellent discussion leader. Tom has led Henri Nouwen discussion groups from 2001-2014 and has led discussions with several of this author's books.

If you wish to purchase a copy of the book *The Return of the Prodigal Son*, a story of homecoming, see Pastor Lori. The cost is \$10 each.

The book also uses the painting by Rembrandt based on this parable. Nouwen will take us deeper into the journeys of the older and younger sons and the love of the father for both. It is not necessary to read the book, but it would be helpful.

Immediately following worship, we will adjourn to the lower social hall to enjoy a buffet lunch and the study will begin around 12:15 and conclude by 1:45.

With the cooler weather brings Soup. Our Social and Aid Committee is taking orders for Pepper Pot Soup with Homemade Noodles and Ham and Cheese Sandwiches. Order forms can be found at entrances to the Church. **Orders are due Sunday, October 12.** Soup and Sandwich pickup is October 23. Proceeds will be divided between the Cemetery Association and our General Fund. Thank you for helping with this fundraiser.

Supper Club, Wednesday October 8, 2025, 6:00 PM
Carriage House Restaurant & Pub
745 Gravel Pike, PA-29, East Greenville
RSVP by Sunday 10/5/2025

Sunday Brunchers, there will be no Sunday Brunches in October due to the Luncheon and Book Study after church on Sunday 10/19.

Lunch Bunch, Friday October 31, 2025, 12 Noon
Perkins
3400 Lehigh St., Allentown
RSVP by Sunday 10/26/2025

Harvest Home will be displayed during Worship on Sundays, October 19 and October 26. You may bring items for Harvest Home and place on the pew outside of Pastor Lori's office. Mark them Harvest Home please.

All Saints Day is Sunday, October 26 at our 10:15am Worship.

The Chosen, season 4, began showing on Sept. 10 and will conclude on Oct. 29, one episode each week in the lower social hall on Wednesdays starting at 1 p.m. with snacks. All Welcome! You do not need to have seen previous episodes but if you wish to see them, we can make arrangements.

Old Zionsville UCC, 5981 Fountain Road, would like to invite all of our siblings in Christ to participate in a **Combined Choir and Friends Concert to celebrate Thanksgiving on** Sunday, Nov. 23 at 3 p.m. in our sanctuary. The combined choir will rehearse for 3 Thursday evenings before the event in our sanctuary. The dates for rehearsals are as follows: Thursdays, Nov. 6, 13, 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the Old Zionsville UCC Sanctuary. Everyone is welcome to join to sing. We are looking for instrument solos, storytellers, and snacks to share at the reception. Any questions, please contact Lori Esslinger 610-393-3522
There will be instrument solos, hymn singing, storytelling, and the highlight, the combined choir voices to give Thanks to our God. A free will offering will be received to benefit our Ministerium which helps local people in various situations throughout the year. A time of fellowship will follow the event in our lower social

hall. All welcome! Invite your friends and neighbors to join in this special time to give thanks.

Week of October 5 through October 11:

Pastor Lori will have office hours on Wednesday from 10am-3pm.

Other times by appointment

Church Secretary Hours: Wed. & Thurs. 10am-2pm, Fri. 10am-12pm
(please call before coming to make sure she is in the office)

Monday: 10am ATF Sort & Store

6pm Scouts (lower social hall)

Tuesday: 7pm Cub Scouts (lower social hall)

Wednesday: 1pm The Chosen (lower social hall)

6pm Supper Club, Carriage House, East Greenville

Thursday: 7:30pm Choir

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

Next Sunday—9:00 am Sunday School

9:50 am Second Sunday Treats

10:15 am Worship

After Worship: Buffet Lunch (lower social hall)

12:15-1:45pm Prodigal Son Study

Total Offerings from September 28, 2025:

General Offerings: \$1761.00

Mission: \$255.00

Pastor Discretionary Fund: \$80.00

Flowers: \$80.00

Sunday School: \$9.00

Heat/Electric: \$30.00

Attendance – 42