

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

November 9, 2025

10:15am

**those who are able may stand*

Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude: "Love Medley"

Leatherman

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship (Inspired by Psalm 17)

One: Guard me as the apple of your eye, O God.

Many: You wondrously show us your steadfast peace

One: Hide me in the shadow of your wings, Divine Spirit.

Many: You wondrously show us your steadfast strength.

One: I behold your face in righteousness, Christ of Hope.

Many: You wondrously show us your steadfast love.

Invocation (unison)

God of Love, Divine Traveler,

We see only a fraction of your presence, God. We know you only in part, as we experience this world with our senses, our experiences, and what is tangibly in front of us. How does the sacredness of each earthly breath draw us closer to your presence on this side of Heaven? May we grasp the beauty of this world, even on the gloomy days. May we cherish our relationships here on earth even when times are challenging. May we know that God is forever present with us and will care for us as we arrive at our eternal home on the other side of Heaven. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

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Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: God of the Heavenly Winds and Earthy Air,

Many: So often, we concern ourselves about the afterlife. We wonder who will be there, what we need to believe, and more. Yet,

on this side of heaven, in your earthly Realm, there are many still hurting from the pains accumulated in this life. From illnesses to poverty, and from the lack of kindness to the overwhelming injustices, we overlook the needs of our siblings. Open our hearts to the gaps happening in our world. Allow us to be more compassionate and less judgmental about our neighbors who need additional help. Help us to set aside our worries about the afterlife as we know you will care for us there and then. Amen.

Words of Grace

One: Even when we are overwhelmed by our thoughts of life after death, God shares hope. May God's grace transform us here in this world as we build the Realm of God here on earth. Amen.

*Hymn: "God Will Make a Way"

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Scriptures: Luke 20:27-38

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The Reflection

Invitation to Generosity

We have our minds set to our time after this life. Yet God is calling us to care for our communities and churches here on this side of Heaven. May we name the ways we can create Heaven on earth for our neighbors. By using our talents, treasures, and time, may we seek to build safety and sanctuary for all of God's children.

Offertory: "His Name Medley"

Leatherman

*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)

**God of Infinite Love,
Through our gifts, we create glimmers here on this side of Heaven.
Through our treasures, time, and talents, we nurture your Realm.
We provide for our neighbors who lack basic necessities and who look for inclusion of their souls. May Heaven be a place that we can experience throughout our lives as we breathe the invigorating air of your Spirit. With gratitude, we celebrate our gifts from you and dedicate our gifts to bring peace to this earth. Amen.**

Choir Anthem

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, forever. Amen

*Closing Hymn: "I'll Fly Away"

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*Benediction

As we abide together on this side of Heaven,
May the Christ of Hope lead us to righteousness and justice,
May the Spirit of Strength fill our hearts with courage,
May God, our Joyful Creator, graciously settle our hearts with peace.
May we find ourselves on journeys seeking glimmers of paradise and the presence of the Divine among us. Amen.

*Extinguishing of the Candles

*Postlude: "Hold Strong the Flags of Freedom"

Hughes

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*God of the Living: Service Prayers for the Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost* was written by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian, an ordained UCC minister in Belleville, Illinois.

**If any of you are able to stay and help move boxes from the ATF room (downstairs) to the lower social hall and begin the setup process for the ATF Giveaway, please plan to join us for the set up and lunch. We appreciate your help.**

**TODAY'S GREETER** is Larry Stahler.

**TODAY'S LITURGIST** is Les Schoenberger.

**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS** are sponsored by Craig & Linda Schell in memory of Carl Schell.

**TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS** are sponsored by Shirley Walbert in memory of Charmin Walbert from the Walbert Family.

**TODAY'S Bulletin** is sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Donald Ritter in honor of our children.

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.

**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. **Setup for the Giveaway** will be today, November 9 immediately after the worship service. For more info, please contact Millie Kohler.

**Beef Vegetable Soup along with Ham and Cheese Sandwiches** is offered to purchase in November by our Social and Aid Committee. Soup will be sold by the quart for \$8.00 each and sandwiches are \$5.00 each. Please make checks payable to Old Zionsville UCC. Order forms may be dropped in the offering plate any Sunday during worship service; call or email the Church office (610-966-3601), ozuccoffice@ptd.net; or Annie Souder to place your orders. Proceeds will be split between the Church and Cemetery Association.

**Orders must be received by today, November 9th, 2025.**

**Pick up will be Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in our downstairs Social Hall between 3:30-5:30 p.m.**

**Next Sunday, November 16**, we will be **burning papers** with our misgivings, our sins, and our regrets in my chiminea outside after worship. You can ponder this ahead and write them down ahead of time on your own paper or paper will be provided for you on Sunday. Let the smoke rise to God and cleanse your spirit.

### **Sunday Brunchers**

When: Sunday November 16, 2025, After Church (Cash Only)

Where: The Mercantile Club

427 Railroad St. Emmaus

RSVP by Tuesday 11/11/2025

### **Lunch Bunch**

When: Friday November 21, 2025, 12 Noon

Where: The New Pennsburg Diner

321 Pottstown Ave, Pennsburg

RSVP by Sunday 11/16/2025

**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. 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.

**Looking forward to Advent this year!** We will be studying the Hymn/Carol: What Child IS This?

To make it very relevant, we are inviting you to bring your Nativity sets to our church to be photographed. During Advent, we will show the pictures during a slide show at the time of the Lighting of the Advent Candles.

Angela Stahler will be taking pictures of your Nativity set(s) for this slide show. Speak with Angela to arrange an appointment time to set up the nativity at church and then have it photographed. We will enjoy seeing the amazing beauty of each individual set.

**We are seeking someone to serve as Chair of the Property Committee.**

After nearly ten years of dedicated service, Beth Massa will be stepping down from this role at the end of December. We are deeply grateful for her faithful leadership and the care she has shown for our church building and grounds. This is an important and meaningful role in the life of our church. If you feel called to serve or would like more information, please contact Beth or Pastor Lori.

**Join the Lehigh Valley Chorale for A Crowded Table,** a heartwarming winter concert inspired by the Highwomen's song. With themes of connection, compassion, and chosen family, this program offers hope, joy, and community through music. The concert features works by Rosephanye Powell, Sara Bareilles, Celine Dion, and more—plus local instrumentalists and guest conductor Liz Olson.

Concert Dates: Thursday, Dec. 12 at 7:30 p.m. and Friday, Dec. 13 at 2:00 p.m.  
Location: First Presbyterian Church, Allentown. Tickets: [eventbrite.com/o/lehigh-valley-chorale-71797870453](https://eventbrite.com/o/lehigh-valley-chorale-71797870453)

**Week of November 9 through November 15:**

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

Church Secretary Hours: Tues 11:30am-1:30pm, Wed. 10am-2pm,  
Thurs. TBD

(please call before coming to make sure she is in the office)

Monday: 4-6pm ATF Giveaway

6pm Scouts

7pm Property

Tuesday: 7pm Cubs

7pm FUN

Wednesday: 7pm Finance

Thursday: 7pm OZUCC Choir Rehearsal

7:30pm Combined Choir Rehearsal

Saturday: 10am-12pm ATF Giveaway

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

**Next Sunday**—9:00am Confirmation Class

9:00 am Sunday School

10:15 am Worship, Burn Sins

After Worship: Sunday Brunchers

**Total Offerings from November 2, 2025:**

General Offerings: \$3200.00

Missions: \$85.00

Flowers: \$40.00

Heat/Electric: \$30.00

Communion: \$61.00

Building: \$10.00

Sunday School: \$12.00

Disaster Relief/Jamaica: \$20.00

Attendance: 54