

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

May 10, 2026

10:15 a.m.

**those who are able may stand*

Sixth Sunday of Easter Year A
"Coming to You"

Prelude: "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

Glyncannon

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship (inspired by Psalm 66)

One: Bless the Holy One, O peoples; let the sound of God's praise be heard.

Many: For God who claims us, tests us, and sustains us comes and invites us to come to them.

One: Bless the Holy One, O peoples; let the sound of God's praise be heard.

Many: Blessed be God, who has not rejected our prayer or removed their steadfast love from us.

One: Bless the Holy One, O peoples; let the sound of God's praise be heard.

Many: Come as we proclaim, witness, and testify to all God has done. Bless the Holy One!

Invocation (unison)

Holy and Present God, hear the sound of praise as we share this space and time gathered among you. May our hearts be opened and our minds engaged. Let the Spirit of Truth live in our songs of adoration, prayers of intercession, and words of pondering. In your name, glory and honor. Amen.

***Hymn: "In the Bulb There is a Flower"**

See insert

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Gracious and Eternal One, we proclaim that you breathe life into us and know us fully. Yet, sometimes, you remain unknown to us. Sometimes we search for you and sometimes we fumble about for you.

Many: We rest in the assurance that when we seek you, we will find you. But, there are times when we refuse to seek, refuse to search, refuse to fumble. There are times when we would rather keep you in compartments so that you will not fully impact our lives. There are moments when we close ourselves off from your revealing word, guiding hand, and nudging Spirit. Forgive us, O God, for not coming to you as you come to us—fully, persistently, and constantly—and give us strength to fumble and reach toward you in all seasons and at all times. Amen.

Words of Grace

Beloved, you are known by God and received as you are—wonderfully and beautifully, but not perfectly made. Draw near to God who knows your limitations and loves you. Seek the Holy One who recognizes your faults and finds the good in you. Search for the Spirit who discovers you on wayward paths and redirects you. Receive the God who comes to you with peace, grace, mercy, and joy. Come to the One who will not reject or rebuff you but will renew and restore you in hope and love. Amen

***Hymn: “Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”** (verse 1 only)

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Scripture: John 14: 15- 21

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Reflection

***Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.**

Amen.

Invitation to Generosity

As we gather in the presence of God, let us acknowledge and act upon the

blessings we receive and the gifts bestowed upon us. Let us give generously, as we are able, to fund the ministry of this gathered body and the work of Christ's church in the world.

Offertory: "When There's Love at Home"

McNaughton

***Presentation of our Gifts and "We Give Thee but Thine Own"** page 667

**We give thee but thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from thee.**

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving (unison)

Righteous God, receive these gifts we offer from our hearts and hands that they and we might be of service in your kindom and for your glory. Amen.

Choir Anthem

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (spoken/seated)

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

***Hymn: "Love Divine All Loves Excelling"**

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***Benediction**

Go forth from this time and place but never from God's presence.

Go forth to witness and minister in the world.

Go forth knowing that as you go...the Holy One comes to you

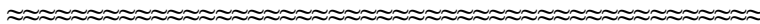
With strength and courage for the journey.

Go, in peace to love and to serve the Holy One and God's good creation.

*Extinguishing of the Candles

*Postlude: "Plenty of Room in the Family"

Gaither



Coming to You: Service Prayers for the Sixth Sunday in Easter Year A was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Dreas in honor of family.

TODAY'S BULLETINS are given by Mr. & Mrs. Paul Yoder in honor of their 38th Wedding Anniversary and in celebration of Austin & Christie, Nate & Jen and Baby Nora.

TODAY'S LITURGIST is Nancy Weitzel.

TODAY'S GREETER is Peter Yeakel.

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.

Greeters and Liturgists! Please consider being a Greeter or a Liturgist during Worship. Call or email the office to get your name added to our List. Thank you! And thanks to those who have stepped up and volunteered! **Greeters are needed on 8/30, 10/25, and 12/27.**

May Soup and Sandwich Sale. Chicken Corn Soup with Home-made noodles along with Ham and Cheese Sandwiches will be offered to purchase in May by our Social and Aid Committee. Chicken corn soup with home-made noodles 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 off in the offering plate any Sunday during worship service; call or email the Church office at 610-966-3601, ozuccoffice@ptd.net; or call Annie Souder to place your order. Proceeds will be split between the Church and Cemetery Association. **Orders must be received by TODAY, Sunday, May 10, 2026. Pick-up will be Thursday, May 21, 2026 in our downstairs Social Hall between 3:00-5:00pm.**

Sticky Bun Fundraiser - Our Outlook Committee is selling Sticky Buns as a fundraiser for Church repairs. The Sticky Buns are made by Shady Mountain Market and are approximately 8" round yielding 7 individual pieces. The Sticky Buns are \$8.00 each. Order forms may be found on the table in the Narthex. **Orders are due TODAY, Sunday, May 10 and Pick-up date is Thursday, May 21 from 3pm to 5pm in the lower Social Hall of the Church.** Orders may be placed in the collection plate on Sunday mornings or by calling the church office at 610-966-3601 or by emailing the church at ozuccoffice@ptd.net.

Help is needed for the ATF Giveaway on Monday, May 11 from **4:00-6:00 p.m. and on Saturday, May 16 from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.** If you are able to help or have any questions, please contact Pastor Lori Esslinger at 610-393-3522. Thanks in advance if you can offer some time to this worthwhile ministry of our church.

Confirmation Class Dates: (Classes are on Sundays)
May 31: class from 12 - 2 after worship.
June 21: class Noon to 2 p.m. after worship

Confirmation Sunday will be September 20 at the 10:15am service.

The next round of GriefCare is scheduled to start on Wednesday, June 3 and run until July 29. 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. **We need 5 people to run the group. Currently we have only 2.**

Sunday Brunchers – RSVP by Wednesday 5/13/2026

Sunday May 17, 2026, ~ 12 Noon
Mercantile Club
427 Railroad St., Emmaus
CASH ONLY

Lunch Bunch – RSVP by Sunday 5/24/2026

Friday May 29, 2026, 12 Noon
The New Macungie Family Diner
202 E. Main St., Macungie

50 Days of Easter Food Challenge: A People of the Table Mission Project for Keystone Conference's 1st Annual Meeting

The Challenge: Churches across the Conference are challenged to donate non-perishable food to a local food bank between **Easter (04/05/2026)** and **Pentecost (05/24/2026)** and to report the quantities of their donations. Each church will report its totals (by category) via a web link, and the Conference-wide total will be revealed at the 1st Annual Meeting, June 5–7, 2026. Using categories such as canned fruits and vegetables, cereal, pasta and rice, toiletries, and more will provide an easy-to-visualize picture of the breadth of donations. Having churches donate locally will allow you to serve the communities in which you live, work, and minister. We want to avoid hauling donations across the commonwealth to a single location when we know the need exists everywhere. We are also asking delegates to bring a one-pound bag of rice or beans to the Annual Meeting as a representation of their local donation. These items will be donated to the Lancaster Food Hub. **Old Zionsville UCC will be participating in this mission project.** But we already do, you say? Yes, we do. But now, the **confirmation class will count the items you bring in between Easter and Pentecost** so we can make a tally and participate in the Keystone Conference Challenge! Have fun. Bring as much as you can and all kinds of things count. We thank you in advance as we celebrate the joy of sharing. Questions? Ask Lori Esslinger - 610-393-3522.

Items to bring for our 50 Day Challenge for the food pantry:

- Canned fruit & veggies
- Canned pasta & soup
- Canned meat & fish
- Boxed side dishes
- Pasta & rice
- Pasta sauces
- Breakfast cereals
- Shelf-stable milk
- Baking supplies
- Beverages
- Nut butters & jams
- Condiments & spices
- Snacks
- Toiletries & 1st Aid
- Other

Attention Soon-to-be Grads! Please let the church office know if you or a loved one will be graduating from High School, College or a Military program this year. We

would like to honor you for all your hard work by putting your name and the name of the school in the June newsletter. We would love to hear any future plans you would like to share with your church family also. You may call the church office, send us an email, fill out the form included in this bulletin and put it in the secretary's mailbox or drop the form in the offering plate on Sunday morning. **We will be celebrating all of our graduates in worship on Sunday, June 14. A special gift will be given to those who send us their graduation information by May 24.**

Join us for the **80th Annual Dillingersville Pilgrimage** on **Sunday, June 28, 2026**, for a memorable day of worship, history, and community! Experience an outdoor service under a large tent, surrounded by the beauty of nature at the historic 1841 stone schoolhouse, located at 7226 School House Lane in Zionsville. The combined Lutheran, Mennonite, and U.C.C. congregations will gather for a service at **10:30 a.m.**, followed by a picnic lunch and delicious homemade baked goods for sale. Stay for an exciting **12:30 p.m.** performance by **Simple Gifts**, two women plus twelve instruments that draw on an impressive variety of ethnic folk styles. This unique concert will be a highlight you won't want to miss!

Calling All Bakers!!! There will be a bake sale as part of the events at the **80th Annual Pilgrimage to the Dillingersville Schoolhouse**. If you love to bake, please consider donating one of your delicious desserts to support this beautiful and historical schoolhouse. Bring your dessert(s) to the schoolhouse with you prior to the 10:30am service on Sunday, June 28th. Please keep in mind that there is no refrigeration available, so you may want to consider not using icing on your dessert. **For more information or to get your donation to the church before June 28, please contact Lori Esslinger at 610-393-3522** (cell number). Thank you!

The last day for Sunday School this Spring will be June 7. Classes will resume on September 13. And there is always room for more teachers and more helpers! If you have other questions about Sunday School, please speak with Pastor Lori, Susan Jacobs, or Deb Schoenberger.

Week of May 11 through May 17:

Pastor Lori will have office hours on Wednesday, 10am-3pm.
(other times by appointment)

Church Hours: Tues. 11:30am-1:30pm, Wed & Thurs 10:00am-2pm
(please call before coming to make sure secretary is in the office)

Monday: 4-6pm ATF Giveaway

6pm Scouts

7pm Property

Tuesday: 7pm Cubs

7pm FUN Group

Wednesday: 7pm Finance

Thursday: 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday: 10am-12pm Richard Yeakel Funeral

Saturday: 10am-12pm ATF Giveaway

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

Next Sunday, May 17

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:15 a.m. Worship, Baptism

12 noon Sunday Brunchers, Mercantile

Total Offerings from May 3, 2026:

General Offerings: \$2758.00

Flowers: \$40.00

Sunday School: \$8.00

Pastor Discretionary: \$40.00

Comm.: \$93.00

Attendance: 54

Ben/Missions: \$85.00

Bulletin: \$10.00

Cemetery: \$20.00

Heat/Elec.: \$10.00

Bldg. Repair: \$20.00

Parking: \$25.00

CALLING ALL GRADUATES

Calling all graduates and families of graduates! We want information from you! **Graduate Recognition Sunday is June 14, 2026 at our 10:15 a.m. Worship Service.** We want to celebrate your accomplishments with you and also offer you a small token of our congratulations! Please complete the following information and return it to the church office (may be dropped in offering plate) by May 24, 2026 so we can prepare for the celebration! Thanks!

Name of Student

Son/Daughter of

Graduates (ed) from (name of higher learning facility):

Date of graduation or expected:

Month: _____ Year: _____

with a degree of (Associate, Bachelor, Masters, etc.)

In _____

(Name of field of degree, i.e. business management, computer science, etc.)

Future plans include: (i.e., going on to Penn State, finding a career in..., etc.)

Anything else special you would like to mention?
