

The Third Sunday after Christmas  
BAPTISM OF THE LORD  
Including the Sacrament of Holy Communion  
Theme: Bridging to the Future

Sunday, January 11, 2026



“Lift up your eyes and look around; see what is to come.”  
Isaiah 60:4

### *GATHERING*

*Prelude:* “Taste and See” Gordon Young

Call to Worship

Leader: We gather as people looking for direction, for signs of a future that will please the God who is at work in the world.

**People: We gather as people listening for the whispers of the Spirit, hints of the good news in the least likely places. God, help us to notice and discover.**

Leader: We gather as people yearning for Love’s presence, the assurance that we are not alone and Love will have the last word. God, help us to notice and discover.

**People: As on all Sundays, may the Light of Love shine among us, revealing divine glory through neighbors known and unknown, through those who gather and those who choose not to gather, or those unable to gather.**

Leader: God, reveal to us anew unexpected gifts through the expansive Love that gathers us together and sustains us in service to one another and all creation.  
AMEN

\*Hymn: #744 “Arise, Your Light Has Come” (With Bell Choir)

\*Prayer of the Day and Confession

**Gracious God, we lift up our deepest gratitude as we continue to enter a new year. We offer thanks for the blessings we have received including whatever we may have learned from its challenges. Your faithfulness, Your love, and Your constant presence in our lives helps us to be secure. We admit those times we resist the help you offer, the help that others offer. Too often we focus on our own**

**problems, our own needs, our own desires. We become shortsighted and lose vision. Help us to desire You, Lord. Pour your baptismal waters over us again, cleansing us from our self-pity and arrogance. Nourish and heal us so that we may joyfully serve you. Lead us continually to look for hope, peace, guidance, and comfort, through Christ, AMEN.**

Words of Assurance

Leader: Dear friends, let us receive this assurance. . .

**People: The love of God is always offered to us, freely, joyfully, and for all eternity.**

Leader: Rejoice, this is the good news of our Lord. AMEN

### *PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD*

*Anthem:* “Lord, I Ring My Praise to Thee” H. F. Starks  
Bell Choir

Scripture: Matthew 3:13-17 and Isaiah 42:1-9

Sermon: “Stepping Forward”

### *RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD*

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Hymn: #149 “All Hail to God’s Anointed”

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Faithful and Calling God, continue to draw us into community, into covenant, and into new life through waters of grace and acts of justice. Just as**

**Jesus stepped into the river to stand with us and for us, whenever we bring our gifts, we offer them to support this ministry, to stand with others—to serve, to uplift, and to proclaim your kingdom. Use our offerings to fulfill your righteousness among us. Help us, your baptized people, to be instruments of healing, hope, and holy change in a world longing for good news. In Christ’s name we pray, AMEN**

Announcements and Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

\*Hymn: #136 “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

\*Charge and Benediction

Leader: Help us to reflect on all You have in store. Illuminate our path with Your light so that we may walk in Your ways making choices that align with Your will.

**People: Help us to seek first Your kingdom and trust that all other things will be added unto us. May the love of God, which directed the steps of those who followed the voice of angels and those guided by the light of your shining star, lead us also now and forevermore. AMEN**

Silent Prayer (*be seated*)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. AMEN

*Postlude:*  
(Please remain seated)

“Recessional on ‘St. Denio’”

Gordon Young

The End of Worship  
The Beginning of Service

\*Those who wish may stand

Rev. James Shuler, Interim Pastor  
Mrs. Dianne Yuninger, Organist/Choir Director

# Leacock Presbyterian Church

*First met in Leacock Township in 1724, recognized by the Synod in  
1740, moved to Paradise in 1840.*



3181 Lincoln Highway East  
Paradise, PA 17562  
Telephone: 687-6619  
[www.leacockpres.org](http://www.leacockpres.org)