

The Second Sunday of Christmas
Theme: Bridging to the Future

Sunday, January 4, 2026



“Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt.” Matthew 2:14

GATHERING

Prelude:

“We Three Kings”

Lyndell Leatherman

Call to Worship

Leader: We gather as people looking for the star, a sign that God is at work in the world. God, help us find your glory.

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 notice your glory.

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 encounter your glory.

People: On this Epiphany Sunday, may the Light of Love shine among us, revealing divine glory through neighbors known and unknown, vulnerable children, and unexpected gifts.

Leader: God, reveal to us anew the glory of your expansive Love that gathers us together and sustains us in loving service to one another and all creation. AMEN

*Hymn: #152 “What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright”

*Prayer of the Day and Confession

Light of God, we thank you for the gift born to lead us out of darkness. Illumine the path that leads us forward. Give us encouragement when we need it. We acknowledge that we sometimes veer off the path. When we become self-focused or distracted and sometimes overwhelmed, redirect us. When we need it the most, expose the darkness that stalks our souls. As we worship today, fill our hearts and this sanctuary with the glory of God. Turn our desires toward those purposes which fulfill Your will. Shine upon us with such brightness that we

marvel in awe. Glory of God, fill each temple of the Holy Spirit present today and we will welcome You as You welcome us. With this sincerest desire we pray, AMEN

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God's light is present in this world, present in the Christ child, present in the star, in all that guides us to authentic living. God's light is in the world, and the darkness did not overcome it. God's grace is in the world, and our missteps will not overcome it.

People: We are loved; we are forgiven. Alleluia! AMEN

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-6 Nations come to the light

Sermon: **“Lifting Ourselves Up”**

*Hymn: #79 “Light Dawns on a Weary World”

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Hymn: #144 “In the Bleak Midwinter” (vs. 4)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Radiant God, the light of your wisdom and love shines for all who seek You, guiding us not with force, but with grace. As with the Magi, we come bearing gifts, not to earn your favor, but in response to the gift of Christ you’ve given us. Use our offerings whenever we give them to reflect your light into dark

places, so that others might be drawn to your love, your justice, and your joy. Keep us faithful in our seeking, generous in our sharing, and willing to be led wherever your star shines next. In Jesus' name, AMEN

Announcements and Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

*Hymn: #150 "As with Gladness Men of Old"

*Charge and Benediction

Leader: Lord of Light—shine on us.

People: Lord of Peace—dwell in us.

Leader: Lord of Might—support and sustain us.

People: Lord of Love—enfold us.

Leader: Lord of Wisdom—enlighten us.

People: Then, Lord, we go out as Your witnesses to share as faithfully as we can the gift of Good News, honoring your Son, our Savior, Jesus the Christ, the Light of the world.

Leader: We go out looking for a future that is coming to us. AMEN

Silent Prayer (*be seated*)

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

Postlude:

"Once in Royal David's City"

Victor Johnson

(Please remain seated)

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.



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