

26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 30, 2012

## *GATHERING*

Prelude: "Vision"

David Paxton

Invocation

Announcements and Passing the Peace of Christ

\*Call to Worship

Leader: We are children of God, created for life.

**People: It is good, then, to seek the healing of ourselves.**

Leader: We are children of God, created to love.

**People: It is good, then, to seek to heal others.**

Leader: We are children of God, created for grace.

**People: God, grant us the courage to serve and to save.**

\*Hymn: #361 "How Firm a Foundation"

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**Merciful God, in Christ you gave us the pattern of life. Born to be a king, he was a servant to all. He came to show the way to life; to do so, he gave his life. But we do not follow his way. We demand others to confess their sins, yet we look past our own sins. We trip ourselves over our fears, our angers, our selfish desires. Dear Lord, forgive us. Help us to be humble so that we learn to pray, for ourselves, for our sisters and brothers, for all the world. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

\*Gloria Patri (p. 579)

## *PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD*

Anthem: "I Lift Up My Eyes to the Mountains"

10:30 Chancel Choir

Daryl Hollinger

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

First Scripture Readings: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22(p. 427); James 5:13-20(p. 217)

\*Hymn: #378 "Make Me a Captive, Lord"

Children's Sermon

Second Scripture Reading: Mark 9:38-50(p. 42)

Sermon: **ESTHER'S CHOICE**

## *RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD*

\*Apostles Creed (p. 14)(Ecumenical Version)

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Please sign and pass the Friendship Book

Offertory: "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

Glen Medlock

\*Doxology (p. 592)

\*Hymn: #364 "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"

\*Benediction

Silent Prayer (be seated)

Postlude: "Darwell's 148<sup>th</sup>"

Charles Callahan

The End of Worship  
The Beginning of Service

\*Those who wish may stand

Rev. Robert W. Birch, Minister

Mrs. Dianne Yuninger, Organist/Choir Director

VISITORS AND MEMBERS: WELCOME! During the offertory the Friendship Book will be passed from the end of the pew. Please sign it and indicate other information as appropriate. Pass the book back down the pew and notice the names of the other worshippers. Greet one another warmly after the service.

## **WORSHIP HOUR INFORMATION:**

It is an ancient Scottish custom for the pulpit Bible to be brought into the sanctuary and placed by a layperson before the service begins.

8:00 a.m. Janet Huffman

10:30 a.m. Edwin Margerum

IN THE NURSERY (babies through 4 yrs.): 8:00 – Craig Keenan  
10:30 – Mike & Kelly Hartmann

The Sanctuary Flowers are in Loving Memory of  
Jacob C. Brackbill  
Given by the family

**PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION:**

PRAYER FAMILY THIS WEEK: Robert & Stephanie Kloepfer  
Dykota, Kelli, Kayla  
205 Fallowfield Dr.  
Leola, PA 17540-1623

**TODAY:**

8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Services of Worship  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School for infants through adults

**MONDAY:**

7:00 a.m. PW Walk  
7:30 a.m. PW Sunrise Bible Study & Breakfast  
9:30 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry  
1:00 p.m. Enfield Dr. Bible Study

**TUESDAY:**

7:00 p.m. Stewardship

**WEDNESDAY:**

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**THURSDAY:**

7:00 p.m. Mission Committee Meeting  
7:30 p.m. Community Outreach Meeting

**FRIDAY:**

6:00 p.m. Congregational Life Meeting/Pricing/ Prep Food

**SATURDAY:**

8:00 a.m. Garage Sale

**NEXT SUNDAY: World Communion Sunday**

**9:30 a.m. Service of Worship**

IN THE NURSERY: 9:30 - Loretta McClarigan

**OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Last week's offering total was \$2,521.00

Total in Organ Fund is \$61,396.55

**CROP WALK...** The 31<sup>st</sup> annual Paradise Area CROP Walk will be held on Sunday, Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>. Registration will begin at 1:00 p.m. and the walk will begin at 1:30 p.m. The CROP walk is sponsored by Worldwide Services and seeks to end hunger in the world, in the nation and here in our community. Twenty-five percent of the monies will be used locally. Participants are invited to do either a three or five mile route. Come join us as we seek to end hunger.

**October 20<sup>th</sup> is Fall Work Day.** The Trustees need your help as they plan what needs to be done around the church for Fall Work Day and begin their "Things to Do" list. If you see something that needs attention, please notify one of the Trustees, the secretary, or the minister. Or you may simply place a note in the Trustee mailbox.

**Baked Goods...** Congregational Life Committee will again be selling baked goods at the garage sale. Please help out by baking or purchasing baked goods and donating them to be sold at the garage sale to benefit the Organ Fund. Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex.

**Church Garage Sale...** Our second church garage sale is next Saturday, Oct. 6th. In addition to your donations, we need a large team of workers to collect, price and display the items. This is a major church-wide event and we need all of your support in making it a success. Please consider volunteering to work the food stand, pick-up donated items, set-up tables, price items and clean up afterwards.

**CONTACTING  
YOUR PASTOR**

When I first came to this blessed congregation, I spoke of a sequence of ways to reach me when the need arose. Certainly, the office is open Tuesday through Friday in the morning.

But there may well come other times when you need to contact me. So, what I said then still holds.

First, try to call the church; we have started a policy of checking messages remotely each day after hours. If that doesn't work or if the matter is urgent, call my cell phone, I do check it regularly. And if all else fails and it is an emergency, call our home, Emily should know how to reach me. Life is uncertain and things do come up. I want you to know that I am there for you. (See article in hardcopy of newsletter or bulletin for telephone numbers)