

13th Sunday after Pentecost

September 3, 2017

GATHERING

Announcements and Greeting

Prelude: "Almighty" Wayne Watson

Invocation

**Call To Worship (from Psalm 8, adapted from the work of Bruce Prewer)*

Leader: Gathered in the name of Jesus Christ, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and blessed by God the Father,

People: We come to worship one, holy God.

Leader: O God, our own God, how wonderful is your name in all the earth.

People: Your majesty is the music of the starry skies. Yet even children of dust can sing your praises.

Leader: As we praise our Creator, our Redeemer, our Sustainer, let your gratitude and joy be made known.

People: O God, our own God, how wonderful is your name in all the earth!

**Hymn: #35 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"*

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Loving God,

We confess to you, God, that we have heard Your word but ignore its witness. We have nodded agreement with Your truth, but we follow our own ways. In doing so, we have harmed ourselves, one another, and our world. Bring your forgiveness with fresh power in our lives and our hearts. As the word became flesh in Christ, we pray it may come alive in us. Melt our rigid perceptions and prejudices. Break down our resistance to change. Link us together in a community of faith, boldly receptive to the Gospel. We want to be a community of forgiven and forgiving sinners.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Anthem: "Lord, I Need You" Jesse Reeves, Kristian Stanfill, Matt Maher, Christy Nockels & Daniel Carson

Children's Sermon

Prayers of the People

First Scripture Reading: Psalm 8: 1-9 (p.466)

**Hymn: #440 "Jesus, Lover of My Soul"*

Second Scripture Reading: Ephesians 1:1-14 (p.180)

Sermon: **Exuberance in Ephesus**

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

**Affirmation of Faith – Apostles Creed (p.17)*

The Peace of Christ

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Please sign and pass the Friendship Book

Offertory: "As the Deer" Martin Nystrom

Doxology (page 606)

**Hymn: #450 "Be Thou My Vision"*

**Benediction:*

Choral Response: "Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day, that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you." (p.748)

Silent Prayer (be seated)

Postlude: "Soon and Very Soon" Andrae Crouch

The End of Worship

The Beginning of Service

**Those who wish may stand*

As you leave worship, greet all with the Peace of Christ

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.

IN THE NURSERY (babies through 4 yrs.): **NURSERY PROVIDED UPON REQUEST.** Please see an usher if you would like to take your children to the nursery.

We welcome the Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson to our pulpit this morning. He is the Stated Clerk/Facilitator for Developing Leaders for Donegal Presbytery. In this role, he helps to shape the flow and process of our presbytery gatherings; develops cohorts to train emerging leaders, assists congregations in transition, develops mission funding initiatives and processes; and does whatever he can to help our presbytery grow in ministry and mission. Michael also teaches at Lancaster Theological Seminary and is working on a Ph.D. in missional ecclesiology. Michael was raised at Centre Presbyterian Church and spent much of his youth hiking and canoeing on Muddy Creek. Michael and his wife, Tricia, are enjoying raising their three kids (Julia, Clint, and Emma) in Lancaster County. He looks forward to reading, kayaking, really good coffee and is delighted to be with us today.

We again welcome **Renee Mendenhall** to our worship and thank her for her gift of music. A graduate of Pequea Valley High School and Penn State University, Renee is currently training for a career in alternative medicine. She also has earned her Master's Degree from Northwestern University.

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION:

PRAYER FAMILY THIS WEEK: Stephanie, Sean & Seth Gray

<u>TODAY</u>	8:00 a.m.	Service of Worship, Old Leacock
	9:30 a.m.	Service of Worship, Paradise
	7:00 p.m.	Hymn Sing at Old Leacock
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir
<u>THURSDAY</u>	7:00 p.m.	Mission Committee Meeting

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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OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chancel Choir rehearsal will begin **Wednesday September 6** at 7:30 in the Choir Room. All singers are invited to join us as we prepare to aid in worship.

Clothing Drive

Starting today, the first Sunday in September, we will again be collecting good, clean used clothing for the Lancaster clothing bank. This will end the last week in September. You may just place your clothing in the narthex and the mission committee will take care of it.



Picnic Time at Old Leacock!

Next Sunday, September 10, we will celebrate Old Leacock Day with a picnic after the 9:30 service. Hot dogs, rolls, drink, silverware, cups, plates, napkins and condiments will be provided. Just bring a covered dish to share and chair to sit on while you eat and visit with your church friends celebrating our heritage of worshiping at Old Leacock.