

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

July 3, 2022

Theme: Acting as the Church: Freedom to be Free - Part 2

“For freedom Christ has set us free, so stand firm.” Galatians 5:1



“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.” Corinthians 3:17

“Live as people who are free, using your freedom to live as servants of God.” 1 Peter 2:16

GATHERING

Greeting and Welcome to Worship

Prelude: “God of Our Fathers” Gilbert Martin

Call to Worship

Leader: We gather into community because together we are better than alone.

People: We gather into community because together our strength grows, making it possible for us to face life’s fears.

Leader: The Spirit nurtures and challenges us, leading us to make the most of our God-given abilities.

People: The Spirit moves us to celebrate and witness.

Leader: The Spirit moves us to remember and give thanks.

People: We remember our Trinitarian faith—the marvel of God with us and for us in comfort, guidance, and power.

Leader: We remember our nation’s deliberations and struggles for identity and independence, including resistance, fighting, marches for peace, and current struggles for acceptance.

People: We offer our generous thanks for all that is ours to use, enjoy, and share.

Leader: We offer thanks both for our abundant blessings and the poverties that lead us to trust in You.

People: We worship the God of all nations and people, the God who calls us to freedom that is truly free.

*Hymn: #338 “O Beautiful for Spacious Skies” (see download)

*Prayer of the Day and Confession (in unison)

Gracious God, Creator of the earth and all its people, make us ever mindful of our connection to You and to one another. We see the deep need for healing within our land and our world—for individuals, families, and communities. We are dismayed by the far reaches of sin and disharmony of which we, too, are a part. Convict us of extravagance and waste. We are aware of oppression and greed, of neglect and abuse of power, and the flagrant infliction of death and destruction. Convict us as a people and as a nation. Yet, we plead for forgiveness and renewal. Lord, touch us by your Spirit and bring healing. We cannot ignore the wide disparities between people of differing faiths. Call us to common ground. We offer our sincere willingness, asking only for the opportunity to touch others with healing grace and the opportunity to serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, AMEN.

(A Time of Silent Prayer)

Leader: Through Christ our Lord we pray. **People: AMEN**

Words of Assurance

Leader: Beloved of God, the mercy of God triumphs over judgment. Do not despair. God strengthens our inner being with power through God’s Spirit: forgiving, healing, making us new, and calling us again to the journey of faithfulness

People: In Jesus Christ, we are made whole and set free.

***Response:** In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful; in the Lord I will rejoice! Look to God: do not be afraid. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near. (#654)

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

The First Reading: Psalm 30

*Hymn: #772 “Live Into Hope” (see download)

The Epistle Reading: Galatians 5:1, 13-25

Sermon: “A Different Freedom”

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Ever Creating God, bring hope to this world that You love. May our gifts bring honor to your name in this place and beyond. Grow in us compassionate living and freedom of spirit, we pray. AMEN

Announcements and Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

*Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

(Greet your near neighbor)

*Hymn #331 "God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand" (see download)

Charge and Benediction

Silent Prayer (be seated)

Postlude: "Battle Hymn of the Republic" Mary McDonald

The End of Worship
The Beginning of Service

*Those who wish may stand

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

**The Sanctuary Flowers are in Celebration of our 53rd Wedding Anniversary
Skip & Marie Brackbill**

Prayers of the Congregation

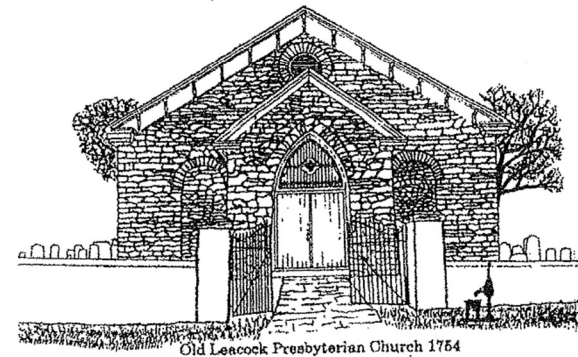
Prayer Family this week: Matthew, Michele, Ian & Sara Lichty

Upper Room Devotional for July/ August.

Due to the continuing consequences of pandemic disruption, our July/August issue will be a few weeks late in arriving. In the meantime, you can access the daily devotional at <https://www.upperroom.org/devotionals> to register and get full access to the daily devotional and the rest of The Upper Room content FREE for 30 days online. There is a beige colored bar near the top which you can click to read the day's devotional. It will take you to the devotional of the day and also to the place to register.

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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