

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, December 18, 2022

“He will come again, not to deal with our sins, but to bring salvation to all who are eagerly waiting.” Hebrews 9:28

THEME: Visioning a Renewed Nation and World



“There’s a song in the air, a mother’s deep prayer,
and a Baby’s low cry!”

GATHERING

Prelude: “Go Tell It on the Mountain” J. Wayne Kerr

Greeting and Welcome to Worship

Call to Worship: Psalm 27 with Choir (GTG #90)

*Hymn: #145 “What Child Is This?” (see download)

Lighting of the Advent Candles – Including today’s Love Candle

Leader: Sometimes on our journey, our feet become tired, our shoulders heavy, and our hearts discouraged. Sometimes darkness overwhelms us.

People: In preparation for this season, the busyness can overwhelm us as we plan and run and do. We yearn for peace.

Leader: We may even lose a sense of why—why we do all the things we do. Why this journey is necessary.

People: And the answer is simple: for the joy of it. We forget the joy when we get caught up in our lists of things to do.

Leader: We forget the joy when we worry more about how things look than connecting with others.

People: Surely God is our salvation. We will trust, and not be afraid.

Leader: For the Lord God is our strength and our might, and has become our salvation.

People: With joy we will give thanks to the Lord and call on God’s name.

Leader: We will sing our praises to you, God Come-in-the-Flesh!

People: For indeed your glory shines around us and within us. Praise be to the God of all peoples, for enduring love has come to this earth!

Solo: “Canticle of the Turning” Irish Melody
Alyssa Keenan

Prayer of the Day

Eternal God, we wait upon You in this season, hoping for complete lives toward a completeness that can only come from You. Keep us alert to the currents of history, the rivers of time that roll on generation after generation, and the movement of your Spirit among them. Give us a vision that perceives the ways You work among us and in the world. Give us also a willingness to trust Your leading in how we live. Upon Your promises, unshaken through the generations, stand those who are willing to be faithful. May we be among them, always desiring to seek You. Renew us in hope. Keep us awake and alert as we welcome the glorious coming of Jesus Christ, our Savior, AMEN.

Solo: “Ave Maria” Franz Schubert
Jenny Keenan

Scripture: Luke 1:26-33

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Anthem: “The Hills Are Bare at Bethlehem” arr. Judy Hunnicutt
Bells and Chancel Choir

Scripture: Luke 1: 34-38

Anthem: “Come to the Light” Joseph Martin
Chancel Choir

Scripture: Luke 1:46-55

Solo: “Emmanuel, Emmanuel” Charles Brown
Karen Homsher

Reading: “People, Look East”

*Congregational Hymn: #121 “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (see download)

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Offering – Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord Jesus Christ, true God from true God, you became a gift to the world you came to reclaim and redeem. Just as a child is born to us, so may we be born anew through you, always as faithful stewards of the gifts entrusted to us.

AMEN

Anthem: "Here Comes the Light" Joseph Martin
Chancel Choir

Prayers of the People

*Hymn: #147 "The First Nowell" (see download)

Charge and Benediction: Romans 16:25-27

Leader: Now to God who strengthens us according to the Good News, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages, but is now disclosed and made known to all the world.

People: Through the One sent to save, by command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith---to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be glory now and forever! AMEN

Postlude: "Joy to the World" Robert Lau
The End of Worship
The Beginning of Service

*Those who wish may stand

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

Prayers of the Congregation

Prayer Family this week: George & Karen Shue

Thanks to all the people who provided ingredients, helped make our **Peanut Butter Bonbons**, and purchased them this year. A special thanks to Loretta McClarigan for selling some of them in her shop. We made and sold more than 200 dozen and raised more than \$1355 for the fundraising fund.

WANTED - INDOOR SEXTON. Danielle is going back to school to further her education in the nursing field and will not be able to continue as our indoor sexton. If you are interested or know someone that is, please call David Berkhimer at 717-442-8319, ASAP. Your support is always a big help to keep the church properties in good shape. The Trustees thank you.

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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