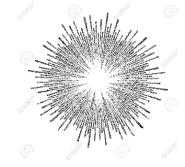


Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
Theme: Hope Shines Bright

Sunday, February 5, 2023



“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

GATHERING

Prelude: “Seek Ye First” arr. Douglas Wagner

Greeting and Welcome to Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 112

Leader: Praise the LORD! Happy are those who fear the LORD, who greatly delight in God’s commands.

People: They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.

Leader: It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.

People: For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever.

Leader: May we not be afraid of ominous tidings; may our spirits remain strong, secure in the LORD.

People: May our hearts remain steady, not afraid of what lies ahead; but trusting to the end the triumph of our God.

*Hymn: #744 “Arise, Your Light Has Come” (see download)

*PRAYER OF THE DAY and CONFESSION

O One who gives us a word beyond all words, how hard it is to attain the kingdom of God, Jesus once cautioned. Yet, Lord, we have tried, each in our own ways, small and large. The Almighty knows our longings. The Almighty knows our struggles. The Almighty knows our failings. The Almighty knows what we have given and what we have withheld. Yet, we are the ones who have received so much. Lead us, Almighty God, to retain vibrant faith and hope-filled

living. May we grow famed for our generosity, our resilience, our abundant spirit. May all we do and say be an unmistakable witness to the love, mercy, and power of our God in this community and beyond, AMEN.

DECLARATION OF PARDON (*sung*): #444 “Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive” (vs. 3 only)

“In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew: what trivial debts are owed to us; how great our debt to you!”

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Accepting a power outside of ourselves, a grace more profound than we can imagine, **People: we receive the assurance of a full measure, pressed down and overflowing. Therefore, we shall live in grateful response to what God has done and will continue to do. AMEN**

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Anthem: “Let Us Pray For Peace” Keith Christopher

Children’s Message

Scripture: I Corinthians 2:5,9-12 and Matthew 5:13-18

Sermon: “**Hoping for Light That Shines On**”

Hymn: “Whispering Hope” (insert)

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Lord, let our congregation be a witness to You: immersed in scripture, constant in prayer, joyful in worship, generous in giving. A loving, supportive community reaching out to those in need. Accept these gifts we offer, in Jesus' name, AMEN.

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

*Hymn: #475 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" (see download)

*Benediction

Postlude: "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" Ross Anderson

The End of Worship
The Beginning of Service

*Those who are able, please stand

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

Prayers of the Congregation

Prayer Person this week: **Virginia Stauffer**

**The Sanctuary Flowers are in Celebration of my Anniversary at Leacock
and in Honor of the Congregation
Given by Keo Phongxaysanith**

Leacock Presbyterian Church

*First met in Leacock Township in 1724, recognized by the Synod in
1740, moved to Paradise in 1840.*



3181 Lincoln Highway East
Paradise, PA 17562
Telephone: 687-6619
www.leacockpres.org