

Third Sunday of Lent
Theme: Listening to Sacred Stillness

Sunday, March 12, 2023



“Be still and know that I am God. . .for I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in all the earth.” Psalm 46:10

GATHERING

Prelude: “Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley” Anna Laura Page

Greeting and Welcome to Worship

Call to Worship Psalm 95:1-7

Leader: O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

People: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

Leader: For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

People: In God’s hands and are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are God’s also.

Leader: The sea is God’s, for God made it, and the dry land, which God’s hands have formed.

People: For God is our God, and we are the people of God’s pasture, and the sheep of God’s hand. O that today we would listen to God’s voice!

Leader: O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

Hymn #703 “Jesus Thy Boundless Love to Me” (see download) Bell Choir

* Prayer of the Day

Christ of the upward way, we rejoice in the promise that each passing day brings increasing light. As days grow longer, may wisdom and courage increase among us. In these times when we struggle to gather our people, fill our pews,

change self-defeating habits, or strike out in new directions, remind us that we are called through Christ, the One who holds all things together.

Though we do not glory in ways that we suffer, help us to know that suffering produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Be our hope for you have poured out your love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, a Spirit given to us.

Increase our resilience to face whatever challenges come our way. We yearn for the world’s wholeness and pray for our church’s potential as well as its fragmentation. Compel us to imagine the future You are dreaming. Compel us to embrace the healing You can provide. Lead us to places of confidence and calm, we pray, AMEN.

(The Lord’s Prayer as follows):

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. AMEN

Declaration of Pardon: #444 “Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive” (vs. 2)

“How can your pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart that broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart?”

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Through Christ our Lord we pray.

People: AMEN

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

(Offer the “wave of peace” to those around you or greet those you comfortably can)

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Anthem: “Take My Life and Let It Be” Malan/Mallory
Bell Choir

Scripture: Romans 5:1-11 and Exodus 17:1-7

Sermon: **“Striking the Rock ”**

Hymn# 53 “O God, Who Gives Us Life” (see download)

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

As followers of Jesus, we are called to embrace the challenges of our day with deep faith and trust in the one who journeys with us. In this spirit we offer our gifts. Bless the work we do with the children and youth of our community.

AMEN

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People: “Peace, Perfect Peace” (A Lenten Hymn as Prayer)

*Hymn: #165 “The Glory of These Forty Days” (see download)

*Benediction

God said to Moses, “I will stand before you by the rock. Strike it, and water will come out for the people to drink.” Exodus 17:6

Postlude

“ Lift High the Cross”

Gordon Young

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 Family this week: Joseph & Sharon Lee Williams

The Sanctuary Flowers are in Loving Memory of both our Parents
Given by Bob and Margy Hershey

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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