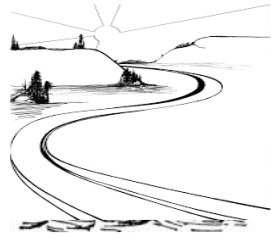


Fourth Sunday of Lent
Including the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Sunday, March 19, 2023

THEME: Listening to Sacred Stillness



“He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters.” Psalm 23:2

GATHERING

Prelude: “O Sacred Head Now Wounded” Brian Glyncannon

Greeting and Welcome to Worship

Call to Worship

Leader: Holy God, as we gather this morning, in ways we are distracted, grant us focus.

People: In ways we are worried, grant us peace.

Leader: In ways our minds are racing, slow us down.

People: In ways our lives are cluttered, grant us space.

Leader: In ways our hands are clinging to so many things, loosen our grasp.

People: Even if only for moments at a time, may we release the many things of this world that weigh us down.

Leader: Lead us as your people by your spirit,

People: that we may seek the one thing truly necessary—Your eternal kingdom.
AMEN

Hymn #39 Great Is Thy Faithfulness (see download)

*Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, so often we have missed your presence because we are looking for you clothed in a particular way. Let this time of worship be an encounter with you that will enable us to behold you in all the people we meet and all the situations we greet. You are from everlasting to everlasting, so we are confident that you are here; help us to be aware of your holy presence. O Lord, enrich this act of worship with the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray in Jesus’ name. AMEN

*The Lord's Prayer: (the Maori and Polynesian rendering)

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain Bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God in Whom is heaven: The hallowing of Your Name echo through the universe; The way of Your justice be followed by the peoples of the world; Your heavenly will be done by all created beings; Your commonwealth of peace and freedom. Sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trial too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us, for You reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. AMEN

Declaration of Pardon: #444 “Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive” (vs. 3)

“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: 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: “I Want Jesus to Walk With Me” (GTG)

Children’s Message

Scripture: Ephesians 5:8-14 and 1 Samuel 16:1, 4-7, 11-13

Sermon: **“Looking for God’s Chosen”**

The Sacrament of Communion

Hymn: #793 “O Christ, the Healer” (see download)

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of power and glory, we give thanks to you for the wonderful gifts you give us. Open our hearts to good things in our families and in our world. As we have listened to your word and have communed with one another and you, we leave in confidence and hope, through Christ. AMEN

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

*Hymn: #834 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" (see download)

*Benediction

Postlude "The Thirty-Second Psalm" Benedetto Marcello
"Happy Are They Whose Transgressions Are Forgiven"

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

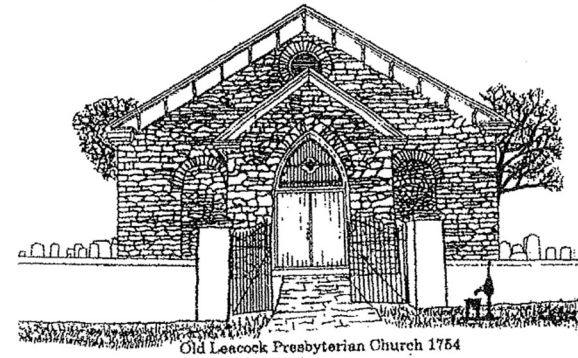
Prayers of the Congregation

Prayer Person this week: Jane Witmer

**The Sanctuary Flowers are in Loving Memory of Lewis Bryson;
Husband, Father, and Grandfather on your birthday. We miss you and we
thank God for all our Wonderful Memories.
Given by your wife Ruth and your family.**

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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