

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, May 7, 2023

Theme: RESURRECTED! The Best Is Yet to Come

(Reflections on the Meaning of Easter Faith)

Gesti appare ai discepoli



GATHERING

Prelude: “Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee” Anna Laura Page

Greeting and Welcome to Worship

Call to Worship:

Leader: The Risen Christ declares, “Peace be with you.”

People: In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit we do not doubt, but believe.

Leader: While most of the world has already forgotten Easter, we know that every Sunday is a mini-Easter year-round.

People: On its 32nd day, we continue to celebrate the day that is also a season of fifty days.

Leader: “Alleluia! Christ is risen!” we continue to say.

People: We say it because we believe its power, convicted of its meaning for us and a world longing to be alive.

*Hymn: #299 “You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim” (see download)
(with Bell Choir)

*Prayer of the Day

O God who journeys with us, our lives are fragile at times, lacking wholeness in our days. Where cares fester in our hearts, or bitter anguish pitches us about as pounding waves crash the shore, stir our souls, uplift our hearts, instruct our minds, lighten our load. As the Risen Christ, inspire us to accept the life you offer, life that never ends. In all these things, we trust You to give us what we

need. With You we are safe and secure. Comforted, we will do your bidding, believing what we need to believe, going where You want us to go, living as You want us to live, serving as You need us to serve, and giving as You have blessed us to give. AMEN

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE

In confidence, let us receive the abundant help of our God, trusting that all manner of things shall be well, and all manner of things well.

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Do not let us fall into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and glory are yours. Now and forever. AMEN

(This version of the Lord’s Prayer includes a phrase amended by Pope Francis in 2019, changing the “lead us not into temptation” to the phrase we prayed above. The pontiff felt the traditional line implies that God pushes people toward sin).

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: “Crown Him with Many Crowns” Elvey/Hefner
Bell Choir

Children’s Message: “Roll Call”

Scripture: Acts 4:5-12 and 1 John 3:16-24

Sermon: “When the Roll Is Called Down Here”

*Hymn: #346 “For the Healing of the Nations” (see download)

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of Shalom, as Jesus gathered on the beach that day, as he witnessed the disciples attempting to fish, remove our doubts of an abundant catch. Show us where to cast our nets. Take away concern that cripples, and keep us strong in our giving and in our living. Help us hear again the words of your peace, recognizing your presence in our ordinary daily living. Receive our offerings as a sign of our commitment to your life-giving ways. We entrust to You our hearts, our energies, our lives. AMEN

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

*Hymn: "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" (*insert*) (see download)

*Benediction

Postlude

"Voice of Praise"

Ellen Jane Lorenz

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: Chad & Nina Ankney

The Sanctuary Flowers are Loving Memory of Jim Hess and Pat Ide
Given by Gerry & 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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