

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Sunday, January 21, 2024

“As we enter fully into Ordinary Time this week, the calendar reminds us that there is nothing ordinary about becoming the people of God.”

Theme: Into the Light



Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

GATHERING

Prelude: “He Leadeth Me” Sarah Douglas

Greeting and Welcome to Worship

Call to Worship

Leader: The voice of God calls to us! Are we listening?

People: Speak, Lord, your servants are listening.

Leader: The hands of God beckon us! Are we paying attention?

People: Show us, Lord, your servants are paying attention.

Leader: The love of God asks us—are we ready to follow?

People: Guide us, Lord, and we, your servants, will follow.

Leader: Come, let us worship the God whose tenacious love never stops calling, beckoning, and asking us to follow.

People: Thanks be to God! AMEN.

*Hymn: #665 “As Morning Dawns”

*Prayer of the Day and Confession

We are incredibly stubborn, O Lord. We have entered the season in which Your Light has been given to the world, your blessings have been poured out on the world, and yet all we can think about is our own problems, our own needs, our own desires.

Help us to desire you, Lord. Help us to yearn for your presence. Pour your baptismal waters over us again, cleansing us from our self-pity and arrogance. Nourish and heal us so that we may joyfully serve you. Wash away our jealousy, greed, and all negative thoughts and behaviors that stand in the

way of our truly being the people you have called us to be. Again let us receive the blessings offered in creation, in the birth and baptism of Jesus, and in the ministry of the saints of light. We ask this in Jesus’ Name. AMEN

Words of Assurance

The love of God is always offered to us, freely, joyfully, for all eternity. Rejoice, dear friends, this is the Good News of our Lord. AMEN

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Anthem: “A Time For All Things” Douglas Wagner

Scripture: Psalm 62:5-12 and I Corinthians 6:12-20

Sermon: “**Baptism Behavior**”

*Hymn: #684 Faith Begins by Letting Go

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of redemption and new life, we focus once more this day on the greatest gift ever given -- Jesus, the light of the world. As we move into the year ahead, help us to live and give of ourselves as those who know every day makes a difference because of who we are and what we have received. May these realities move us to give our whole selves more freely! In the name of Christ, Redeemer and Friend, AMEN.

Announcements and Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

LITANY OF RENEWAL (see insert)

*Hymn: #720 Jesus Calls Us

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude: "God, the Omnipotent" Robert Thygeron

The End of Worship
The Beginning of Service

*Those who wish may stand

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

**The Sanctuary Flowers are in Loving Memory of Doris & Lee Brown
Given by their children and grandchildren**

Prayers of the Congregation

Prayer Family this week: Ronald & Susan Funk

Announcements

This is the time of year that we collect our **Blanket Offering**. Please use the envelopes in the pews or just use a white envelope and mark it Blanket and either put it in the offering plate or drop it off in the office. This offering will be collected for the next 2 Sundays--Jan. 21 & 28. If we all give a little, it can make a lot.

Our next **Community Meal** will be on Thursday, **January 25th** from 5:30-6:30 in our Smith Fellowship Hall. The meal will be Shepherd's Pie, Cole Slaw, Pepper Cabbage, Fruit Cup, Dinner Rolls and Desserts. Sign up sheets are in the narthex for food contributions and helpers to help cook, serve, and clean up. We can always use more people to help.

The **Deacons** will meet this morning after worship.

There is a **Chancel Choir** rehearsal this morning after worship.

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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