

Celebrating the Epiphany
Including the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Sunday, January 7, 2024

*Behold,
I make all things new*

Revelation 21:5

“Write these words down, for they are trustworthy and true.” Revelation 21:5

GATHERING

Prelude: “We Three Kings” Lyndell Leatherman

Greeting and Welcome to Worship

*Call to Worship Based on Isaiah 9:1-6

Leader: Darkness took us. And we almost lost our way.

People: But now light is come.

Leader: The yoke is smashed and broken, as is the taskmaster’s rod.

People: Mary gave us her son. Upon his shoulders power rests.

Leader: He goes by incredible names: Wonder-Counselor,
God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace, Jesus, Savior.

People: His life is vast and forever peaceful—as an infant wrapped in soft clothes, cuddled in a manger.

Leader: And at the right time, yet as an infant, presented in the temple to listening ears and yearning hearts.

People: And so we are drawn to expectant joy and great rejoicing. Come, let us adore him!

*Hymn: #149 “All Hail to God’s Anointed” (Psalm 72)

*Prayer of the Day

(As we pray we ask: For to which of the angels did God ever say: “You are my son; this day I have I begotten you”?)

In prayerful contemplation, we offer thanks that an answer comes. For our ears have heard these words—to our ancestors God spoke in various and partial ways. Then, God spoke directly through His Son, who is the imprint of His being, the radiance of His glory, through whom He created the universe and by whom He sustains all things by His word.

Oh yes, we both pray and proclaim with thanksgiving that You, O God, took down the wall when You brought your firstborn into the world and said to the baby in the manger, “You are my Son; this day I have begotten you.” O Lord, let us listen, help us hear. AMEN

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Anthem: “Christians, Let Us Love One Another”

Scripture: Psalm 72:3-7 and Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon: “**More Light, Less Noise**”

Affirmation of Faith for Epiphany

What is Love? What is Light?

Where does it come from?

Who can create it?

Before anything else, love is there, light is there, wanting to share; wanting to shine.

So in Love’s own image and likeness, we were created.

But our Creator knew we couldn’t walk this path alone. So

Love came as a babe to Bethlehem and

he walked right with us, holding our hands, leading us into the light, teaching us all the hard ways of love.

As with the Wise Men, “we can only stand in awe-struck silence and wonder at this love that is beyond all telling.”

(Adapted from Encounters with Silence by Karl Rahner)

*Hymn: #500 “Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread”

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

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, our Savior. As we leave one year behind and look with hope to the new year ahead, help us to live and give of ourselves as those who know every day what a great gift we have been given. May it move us to give our whole selves more freely! In the name of Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, we pray! AMEN

Announcements and Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

*Hymn: #150 "As With Gladness Men of Old"

*Charge and Benediction

Silent Prayer

Postlude: "Angels From the Realms of Glory" Anna Laura Page

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 Ralph & Janice Homsher
Given by the David Homsher Family**

Prayers of the Congregation

Prayer Family this week: Donald, Christy, Logan & Juliana Fieldsa

Announcements

Chancel Choir will rehearse following worship this morning.

Monday - Worship Committee meeting - 9:30 a.m.

Per Capita this year is \$38 per member.

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