Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday April 21, 2024

Theme: Breaking Dawn - How Shall We Live



"If you remain joined to me and my words remain in you, ask for anything you wish. And it will be done for you."

John 15:7

GATHERING

Prelude: "God of the Sparrow" J. Wayne Kerr

Greeting and Welcome to Worship

Call to Worship

Leader: How shall we live our Easter faith, and how shall we worship today?

People: We will remind ourselves we are to remain a part of the Vine.

Leader: And what does that mean for our day-to-day living?

People: We will seek all the ways possible for Jesus' words to guide us, to remember them and live by them.

Leader: But it is so hard in these times to stay connected when there are so many

things that tug at us, that would uproot us.

People: We will not be deterred. Our commitment is sure. That is why we are here. For surely we are the branches!

*Hymn: #250 "Hymn of Promise"

*Prayer of the Day

Living Word, whose love abides in us, You call us to love in both truth and action. Give courage to our hearts so that we may love the ones you love. Make love come to perfection in us so that our connection to the Vine remains strong, so that we can face the day of our accounting without fear. Confirm within us that there is no fear in love, for perfect love drives out fear." Both as we worship and when we leave, continue to open our ears to the wisdom of your

Words. May they continue to find root in our minds and hearts. Then they will sustain us in the living of our Easter faith. AMEN

Call to Confession and Declaration of Pardon

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Anthem: "Now the Green Blade Riseth" Crum/Johnson

Scripture: 1 John 3:16-24 and John 15:1-8

Sermon: "Tending the Vine"

Affirmation of Faith Psalm 23 – The Psalm of the Day (*unison*)

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff-- they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

*Hymn: #839 "Blessed Assurance"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious Provider, we gather with hearts filled with gratitude for the love and light you've shown us. Your Word reminds us that true love is seen in the self-sacrifice of Christ. As we offer our tithes and offerings, we are reminded of the importance of generosity and stewardship in every aspect of our lives. May our living and our giving be a reflection of the love we have experienced in

Christ and our commitment to steward them faithfully for the work of your kingdom. Through us bring justice, mercy, and hope to a world in need. In your holy name, we pray. AMEN

Announcements and Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

*Hymn: #802 "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

Postlude:

Fanfare and Postlude on 'Easter Hymn'

Douglas Wagner

The End of Worship
The Beginning of Service

*Those who wish may stand

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

Prayers of the Congregation

Prayer Family this week: Eric, Paula & Chad Hughes

The Sanctuary Flowers are in Tribute to all Leacock Members for their awesome support of Church maintenance.

With our thanks, given by Elaine & Joe Gouba

Announcements

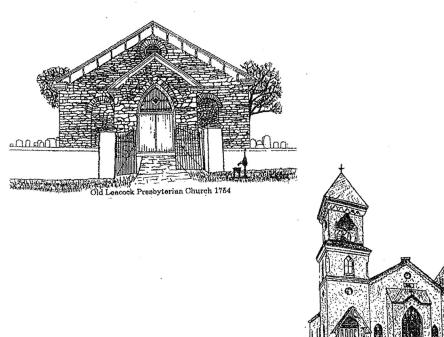
Choir practice follows worship today.

PNC will meet tomorrow at 6:30 p.m.

Fellowship in the narthex will continue through May. The CCL committee is looking for volunteers to set up fellowship on any Sunday in April and May. There is a signup sheet in the narthex, and/or please see Angela to pick a weekend. Thank you!

Leacock Presbyterían Church

First met in Leacock Township in 1724, recognized by the Synod in 1740, moved to Paradise in 1840.



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