

Third Sunday of Easter

Theme: Breaking Dawn - How Shall We Live

Sunday, May 4, 2025



“That many may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that believing, they may have life in his name.”  
John 20:31

## *GATHERING*

*Prelude:*

“How Firm A Foundation”  
Early Amer. Tune, arr. P. Keveren

Greeting and Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: In the rising of the morning sun, the Holy One speaks: We are God’s children. We are to shine!

**People: In the greening of the Earth and blooming of creation, the Holy One speaks: We are God’s children. We are to continue growing.**

Leader: In the mountains reaching toward the sky, the Holy One speaks: We are God’s children. We are to rise up with strength!

**People: Despite the darkness of winter days past, yet they will come again, the Holy One speaks: We are God’s children. We are to endure by continuing to trust!**

Leader: In the presence of the skies that float above us and the assurance of the Earth beneath us. . .

**People: The calm of the Spirit remains within us, and the Holy One speaks: We are indeed God’s children. We are to live confidently! Christ is alive! We are alive!!**

\*Hymn: #744 “Arise, Your Light Has Come” (with the Bell Choir)

\*Prayer of the Day

Holy One our God, in the name of the Risen Christ, make us glad for this day with the weekly remembrance of the resurrection of your Son our Lord. Especially uplift us through your Word and the fellowship of the church that together with our family, friends and neighbors we may be renewed. You

have poured upon us the new light of his glorious Resurrection and bathed us in His radiance. Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives to reflect your glory and our hope. We make confession of ways we hinder the light and obscure its presence. With the help of your Spirit, we seek to be renewed in purpose and life-giving purpose, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN

Assurance of Pardon - #444 “Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive” (vs. 1)

“Forgive our sins as we forgive,” you taught us, Lord, to pray, but you alone can grant us peace to live the words we say.”

## *PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD*

*Anthem:*

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”  
Trad. English, arr. B. Kinyon  
The Bell Choir

Scripture: Revelation 5:11-14 The song of the living creatures to the Lamb  
John 20:19-31 (*not read*) - Beholding the wounds of the Risen Christ

Sermon: “The Meaning of ‘Embodiment’ ”

\*Hymn: #250 “Hymn of Promise”

## *RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD*

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of the victory of life over death; on this glorious third Sunday of Easter, we rejoice in the enormous gift of the resurrection. Just as the women encountered the empty tomb and the angelic message of new life, as Thomas touched the nail prints and reached into Jesus’ side, and as his disciples returned to fishing, we too encounter the living Christ in our hearts and the common and ordinary events of our lives. May our tithes and offerings be an

**affirmation of our openness to see the risen Christ when and where he appears, the one who challenges us to see beyond our own expectations. Bless our giving and help us discover the transformative power of the living Jesus in our lives and in our world. In the holy name of our Risen Savior, we pray. AMEN**

Announcements and Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

\*Hymn: #246 “Christ Is Alive”

\*Charge and Affirmation of Faith

Leader: Unlock the doors of fear and doubt. Let your faith spill into the streets! In restaurant and store! In classroom and hall! In office and home! In factory on farm! along highways and byways!

**People: Jesus is risen! Death has no more claims on our lives. In life, in death, Christ is our life. Christ is alive! May peace be with us all! AMEN**

*Postlude:* “Great Is the Lord” M. W. Smith and D. D. Smith  
(Please remain seated)

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 Person this week: Ellen Barnes**

The Sanctuary Flowers are in Memory of Jim Hess and Pat Ide  
Given by Gerry and Family

## *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](http://www.leacockpres.org)