

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
Theme: Lessons in Leadership – Courage

Sunday, October 25, 2026



“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

GATHERING

Prelude

Call to Worship

Leader: Family of God, we live in a world full of conflict and division. God calls us to be a people of reconciliation.

People: We live in a world full of misinformation and confusion. God calls us to be a people of truth and clarity.

Leader: We live in a world that wants to settle disputes with harmful words and actions. God calls us to be a people who make peace through compassion and honesty.

People: We live in a world that does not understand the ways of Jesus. Yet Jesus calls us to be salt and light for the good of the whole world. Through today’s worship we will be strengthened for that.

*Hymn: #722 “Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak”

*Prayer of the Day and Confession

Lord of the Church, you call a broken people to your purposes: in times of challenge, teach us to listen and show us the way forward. Bind us to a vision that comes from a burning bush, from our burning hearts and our searching minds. Lead us to offer our energy and resources to accomplish the beautiful work of reconciliation which begins with You, our Reconciling God.

Leader: Trusting in our Partner in grace, let us make our confession in silent prayer.
(*silent confession*)

Continuing we pray:

Gracious and loving God, open our hearts so that we are able to admit to you the fullness of our lives – that which is beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful and hateful.

We confess that we love with condition. We judge and condemn. We cast the first stone and keep the logs in our own eyes. We do not always turn to You as the source of our healing. We lose courage and lack vision. Help us, we pray. Renew us to turn more faithfully to you and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. AMEN

Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends in Christ, know this: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting. Let us be reminded of this surpassing grace – in the name of Jesus, I declare the forgiveness we each and all need. AMEN

Response: #654 “In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful”

“In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful; in the Lord I will rejoice! Look to God; do not be afraid. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.”

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Scripture: Exodus 12:1-14 and Matthew 18:15-20

Sermon: “Where Courage Begins”

*Hymn: #738 “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Reconciling God, you mark our lives not with fear, but with mercy, and you gather us into a people shaped by grace. As you delivered your children at Passover and taught your church to seek peace with one another, teach us to live in our “church clothes” every day—clothed in patience, truth, and love. Receive

our gifts whenever we give them as signs of our commitment to your work of healing and restoration. Use what we offer to mend what is broken, welcome those who feel outside, and build a community where forgiveness and hope have the final word. In Christ's name, we pray. AMEN

Announcements and Concerns of the Church

Prayers of the People

*Hymn: #69 "Here I Am, Lord"

*Charge and Benediction

Leader: Family of God, the lessons of reconciliation and peace-making are not easy. As we move into the week ahead, may God bless us with the desire to restore community where it is broken.

People: We depart to hold boundaries with firmness and grace, to listen with curiosity, and to speak with gentleness, that all may know we are disciples of Jesus Christ. AMEN

Postlude

(Please remain seated)

The End of Worship
The Beginning of Service

*Those who wish may stand

Rev. James Shuler, Interim Pastor
Dianne Yuninger, Organist

Prayers of the Congregation

The Prayer Person this week is: **June Stannard**

**The Sanctuary Flowers are in Loving Memory of
James & Betty Smith
Given by the David & Karen Smith Homsher 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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