

Third Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018

GATHERING

Announcements and Greeting

Prelude: Aria on ‘Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah’ Michael Burkhardt

Invocation

The Lighting of the Advent Candle: The Boas Family

**Call To Worship*

Leader: Let us rejoice, for the Lord is near!

People: He is our strength; we need not fear.

Leader: With joy, let us drink water from the wells,

People: For the Lord is our salvation.

Leader: With gratitude to God, let us rejoice.

People: His peace will guard our hearts and minds.

**Hymn: #85 “Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”*

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God of mercy, in your Son you have come to save us from all that hurts, within us and without. With you is healing. Yet sometimes we do not trust you. Worry is stronger than faith. Then we turn from you and seek help where it cannot be found. Forgive us. Claim us again. Grant us your peace. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

***Response:** (tune: refrain from “Angels We Have Heard on High”)
Gloria, in excelsis Deo; Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Anthem: “A Shoot Shall Come Forth” Richard Horn
Chancel Choir

Children’s Sermon

(Following this, children may leave for Sunday School)

Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer

First Scripture Reading: Isaiah 12:2-6 (p.603)

**Hymn: #123 “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”*

Second Scripture Reading: Philippians 4:4-7 (p.187)

Sermon: **Gratitude to God: For Water from the Wells**

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

** Affirmation of Faith – Apostles Creed (p.17)*
The Peace of Christ

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Please sign and pass the Friendship Book

Offertory: “Es ist ein Rose” Jason Payne

Doxology (page 606)

The Ordination of Lori Smith as an Elder

**Hymn: #119 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

Silent Prayer (be seated)

Choral Response: “Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day, that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.” (p.748)

Postlude “Watchman, Tell Us of the Night” Lyndell Leatherman
The End of Worship The Beginning of Service

**Those who wish may stand*

As you leave worship, greet all with the Peace of Christ
Rev. Robert W. Birch, Minister
Mrs. Dianne Yuninger, Organist/Choir Director

The Sanctuary Flowers are in Loving Memory of James Weaver
Given by his family

VISITORS AND MEMBERS: WELCOME! During the offertory, the Friendship Book will be passed from the end of the pew. Please sign it and indicate other information as appropriate. Pass the book back down the pew and notice the names of the other worshippers. Greet one another warmly after the service.

WORSHIP HOUR INFORMATION:

It is an ancient Scottish custom for the pulpit Bible to be brought into the sanctuary and placed by a layperson before the service begins.

NURSERY (babies through 4 yrs.): **NURSERY PROVIDED UPON REQUEST.**

Please see an usher if you would like to take your children to the nursery.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER & HELPER

This Sunday: Kathy Ankney & Danielle Short

Next Sunday: Review & Fun – Emily Birch & Linda Erickson

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION:

PRAYER PERSON THIS WEEK: **Shirley Smith**

In Lancaster General Hospital: Virginia Stauffer Rm. #6011

<u>TODAY</u>	9:30 a.m.	Service of Worship
	10:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	Christmas Caroling	
<u>MONDAY</u>	9:30 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry
	7:00 p.m.	Trustee Meeting
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir
<u>THURSDAY</u>	6:00 p.m.	Session Dinner & Meeting

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

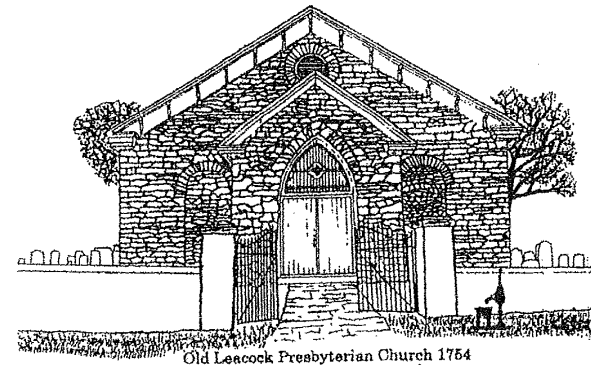
If you wish to purchase a poinsettia plant in honor or in memory of someone, **we must have your order by this Tuesday at the latest.** Order forms are in the back of the Sanctuary and in the narthex.

December is the month for our annual **Christmas Joy Offering.** This offering aids church workers who may need some financial help or students going into Christian work attending Christian colleges and academies. The special envelopes will be in the pews for the entire month of December. If using a check, please mark the memo line for "Christmas Joy Offering."

Sewn by our own Leacock Presbyterian Women and completed in 2005, the **beautiful quilt in the narthex** has the most recent high bid of **\$350.** You have until December 19 to place a higher bid!

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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