

## Epiphany Sunday

January 6, 2019

### *GATHERING*

Announcements and Greeting

Prelude: "We Three Kings" Janet Linker

*Invocation*

*\*Call To Worship*

Leader: Follow the star; kneel to worship.

**People: Bring the best gift - bring yourself.**

Leader: Come to the table; taste the Bread of Life,

**People: Here, be filled with the cup of blessing.**

Leader: Rise, renewed and healed.

**People: Come, follow the star to new birth, sit at the table of holiness, and sing your praises!**

*\*Hymn:* #97 "Watchman, Tell us of the Night"

*Prayer of Confession (Unison)*

**God of eternal hope, you place a light into every darkness and a star in every sky, and yet we prefer to walk in the darkness of despair and worry. We cover over the light of possibility with a flurry of worry. We walk bent over with care and concern and miss the reach of the stars. We forge ahead on our own, not noticing your outstretched hand. We forget that there is never a moment that you are not with us, that your Son was called Immanuel, which means "God with us" You bring a candle of hope, the light of peace, the radiance of joy. Shine your light on our path and walk with us through all our valleys with the sun at our backs. Amen.**

*Assurance of Pardon*

The Light shines in the darkness! Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel!

**\*Response: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

### *PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD*

*Anthem:* "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" Lani Smith  
Chancel Choir

*Children's Sermon*

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

*First Scripture Reading:* Isaiah 60: 1-6, 19-22 (p.649)

*\*Hymn:* #151 "We Three Kings"

*Second Scripture Reading:* Matthew 2:1-12 (p.1)

*Sermon:* **Starry, Starry Night**

### *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: "How Beautiful the March of Days" Dale Wood

Doxology (page 606)

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

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 "As With Gladness Men of Old" Janet Linker

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 Ralph & Janice Homsher  
Given by the David Homsher 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 & Chuck Ankney

Next Sunday, January 13: Jennifer McElhany & Shirley Smith

**PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION:**

PRAYER PERSON THIS WEEK: **Matthew Sowers**

<b><u>TODAY</u></b>	9:30 a.m.	Service of Worship
	10:45 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
<b><u>MONDAY</u></b>	9:30 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry
	7:00 p.m.	CCL Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Worship Committee Meeting
<b><u>WEDNESDAY</u></b>	6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir

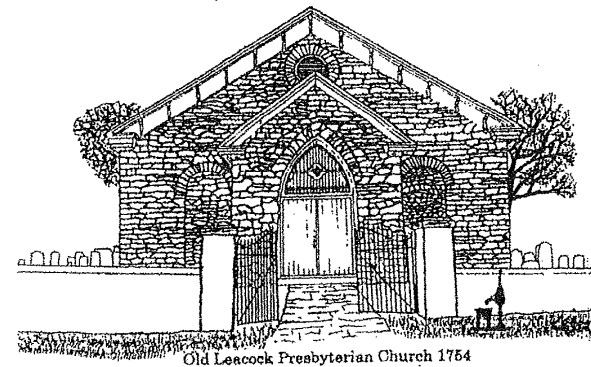
**OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Reminder: 2019 Offering Envelopes** are ready for all to pick up in the Sunday School Wing. They are in the first room on your left. Picking up your envelopes will help to keep our expenses down.

**Attention Leacock Women!** We will be meeting Sunday, January 20 following worship to decide on the allocation of Bazaar funds. We value your input!

# 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)**

**Please welcome Rev. Dr. Erin S. Cox-Holmes to the pulpit today**

The Rev. Dr. Erin S. Cox-Holmes was raised in Redlands, California and graduated from the University of Redlands in 1980 with a degree in English and Religion. She received her Master of Divinity from Earlham School of Religion, and was ordained in the Presbytery of Detroit. After service as an associate pastor and an interim pastor, Erin served for 15 years as the Associate Executive Presbyter in Kiskiminetas Presbytery in western Pennsylvania. She received her Doctor of Ministry from Dubuque Theological Seminary in 2008, with a focus on revitalizing the church and worship in the digital age. She began as the Executive Presbyter in Donegal Presbytery on January 1 of 2010. Erin's husband, the Rev. Kent Holmes, is serving Bethany Presbyterian Church as pastor, after 18 years as the pastor of Punxsutawney Presbyterian church. They live in Manheim Township north of Lancaster.

As kingfishers catch fire, dragonflies draw flame;  
As tumbled over rim in roundy wells  
Stones ring; like each tucked string tells, each hung bell's  
Bow swung finds tongue to fling out broad its name;  
Each mortal thing does one thing and the same:  
Deals out that being indoors each one dwells;  
Selves — goes itself; *myself* it speaks and spells,  
Crying *Whát I dó is me: for that I came.*

I say móre: the just man justices;  
Keeps grace: that keeps all his goings graces;  
Acts in God's eye what in God's eye he is —  
Christ — for Christ plays in ten thousand places,  
Lovely in limbs, and lovely in eyes not his  
To the Father through the features of men's faces.

-- Gerard Manley Hopkins