

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 31, 2021

GATHERING

Announcements and Greeting

Prelude: “Jesus, Lead Thou On” Gordon Young
Invocation

Hymn: #450 “Be Thou My Vision” (see download)

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Response: Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be; set your seal upon my heart and live in me. (p.#698)

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Anthem: “Kum ba Yah” arr. Adolphus Hailstork

Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer

Hymn: #451 “Open My Eyes, That I May See” (see download)

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

8 Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴ Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth-as in fact there are many gods and many lords - ⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist

⁷ It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹ But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Sermon: **The Most Important Test**

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

*Affirmation of Faith - Apostles Creed

The Peace of Christ

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Hymn: #345 “In An Age of Twisted Values”

1. In an age of twisted values
we have lost the truth we need.
In sophisticated language
we have justified our greed.
By our struggle for possessions
we have robbed the poor and weak.
Hear our cry and heal our nation;
your forgiveness, Lord, we seek.
2. We have built discrimination
on our prejudice and fear.
Hatred swiftly turns to cruelty
if we hold resentments dear.
For communities divided
by the walls of class and race,
hear our cry and heal our nation;
show us, Lord, your love and grace.

3. When our families are broken,
when our homes are full of strife,
when our children are bewildered,
when they lose their way in life,
when we fail to give the aged
all the care we know they need,
hear our cry and heal our nation,
help us show more love, we plead.

4. We who hear your word so often
choose so rarely to obey.
Turn us from our willful wandering;
give us truth to light our way.
In the power of your Spirit
come to cleanse us, make us new;
hear our cry and heal our nation,
til our nation honors you.

Benediction

Silent Prayer (be seated)

Postlude: "My Savior's Love"

Albin Whitworth

The End of Worship

The Beginning of Service

Rev. Robert W. Birch, Minister

Mrs. Dianne Yuninger, Organist/Choir Director

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION:

PRAYER PERSON THIS WEEK: **June Stannard**

**The Sanctuary Flowers are in Honor of
David & Bethany Yuninger's 18th Wedding Anniversary
and Dianne & Harold Yuninger's
54th Wedding Anniversary**

Per Capita

Our per capita apportionment this year is \$35.38 Please us the envelope in your envelope box for this one-time donation.

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