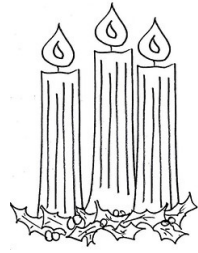


Third Sunday of Advent - Gaudette Sunday

Sunday, December 15, 2024

Theme: Paying Attention



“Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful! Philippians 4:4

## *GATHERING*

*Prelude:* “What Child Is This” Jason Payne

Greeting and Welcome

Call to Worship Isaiah 12:1-6

Leader: Lord, we will praise you, for You have brought your people comfort.

**People: God, you are the one who saves us. We will trust in you. Then we won’t be afraid.**

Leader: Lord, you are the one who gives us strength. You are the one who keeps us safe. Lord, you have saved us.”

**People: People of Israel, God will save you. Let joy come forth as water brought up deep from within a well.**

Leader: Sing to the Lord, people of Zion, give a loud shout! God has done marvelous things.

**People: In days to come, the people of Israel will sing!**

Leader: And we, too, will give praise to the Lord, telling the nations what God has done.

**People: “The Holy One of Israel is among us. Our God is great!” Through our witness, we will make known God’s name over all the world.**

\*Hymn: #347 “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” (with Bell Choir)

\*Prayer of the Day

**Holy God, in all the ways we are reminded you are in the midst of the people, yet we are also reminded Your presence is highly disruptive. Judgments come yet by mercy are withdrawn. Enemies appear yet are also deflected.**

**Disasters come yet You promise a day they will no longer be feared but rather removed. The reproach experienced by the lame and outcast is to be transformed into renown. Because, O God, You are in the midst of the people and by Your presence things as they are cannot stay the same.**

**We pray for, we long for renewal. Evil and darkness cannot remain no matter how entrenched they have been throughout time and presently remain. Holy God, enable us to hang on to the promise that your coming again through the Christ will disrupt and dismantle the present, promising a new and radiant future. Through Christ the Coming One, we pray, AMEN.**

## *PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD*

*Anthem:* “O Sing a Song of Bethlehem” B. Kinyon  
Bell Choir

Hymn: #357 “The Days Are Surely Coming”

Scripture: Luke 3:7-18 and Philippians 4:4-7

Sermon: “Of Warnings and Good News” (Living the Extras)

Hymn: #88 “O Come, O Come, Emanuel”

## *RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD*

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Generous God, as we move through this Advent season we are reminded of those days when your people wondered and waited, living toward hope. While other voices claim to have the means to save us: money, possessions, power, and status, we share this offering, trusting the only voice that can truly save, that can truly reach the despairing and the alienated of our world. We look again for the coming of Christ, our Savior, in whose name we pray. AMEN**

Announcements and Sharing Joys and Concerns  
*Hymn requests from the congregation received here*

Prayers of the People

Hymn: #365 “God Reigns! Let Earth Rejoice!”

Charge and Benediction

Leader: God of hope, you call us home from the exile of selfish oppression to the freedom of justice.

**People: Draw us away from sickness and pain to the balm of healing. Lead us confidently to the joy of sharing.**

Leader: Make us strong to join in Your holy work, as friends of strangers and victims, companions of those whom others shun, and as the happiness of those whose hearts are broken.

**People: We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord, “Our Father, who art in heaven. . .(using debts and debtors). AMEN**

*Postlude:*  
(please remain seated)

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

Robert Lau

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 Family this week: Danielle Short, Jayde and Kyle**

Today’s Sanctuary Flowers uplift the spirit of the Advent and Christmas season, pausing us to reflect on the spiritual gifts we receive as well as the ones we offer. God’s love for us is a true gift as are these flowers today.

# 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)