



“A messenger is calling out in the desert, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord. Make straight paths for him.’” Luke 3:4

GATHERING

Prelude: “Lo How a Rose E’er Blooming” Jason Payne

Greeting and Welcome Lighting the Advent Candles

Call to Worship Luke 1:68-79

Leader: Give praise to the Lord, the God of Israel! God has come to his people and purchased their freedom.

People: God has acted with great power and has saved us, starting with the family line of his servant David.

Leader: Long ago holy prophets said God would do this, saving us from our enemies, rescuing us from all who hate us.

People: God has been kind to his people; God—remembering the holy covenant of long ago and the promise made to Abraham.

Leader: God wants us to be holy and godly as long as we live. So God will send a child.

People: He will be called a prophet of the Most High God who will go ahead of the Lord to prepare the way for him.

Leader: He will tell his people how they can be saved. He will tell them that their sins can be forgiven.

People: All this will happen because our God is tender and caring. God’s kindness will bring the rising sun to us from heaven.

Leader: It will shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death.

People: It will guide our feet on the path of peace.

*Hymn: #827 “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”

*Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, who sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people for the coming of your Son, inspire us to remain faithful stewards of your truth so that when our hearts are disobedient they may turn to the law of love. Help us to turn around as repentance has us do and reflect on new directions we may need to go. Lead us to be prepared so that when the Christ comes again in glory, we may stand with confidence before him as our judge—who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. AMEN

*Response to Prayer: The Doxology - #606

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Anthem: “In the Brief Midwinter” Gustav Holst
Chancel Choir

Scripture: Malachi 3:1-4 and Luke 3:1-6

Sermon: “Where Your Feet Take You” (*That’s Who You Are*)

Prayer of Commitment

Out of the embrace of mercy and righteousness, you have brought forth joy and dignity for your people, O Holy One of Israel. Remember now your ancient promise: make straight the paths that lead to you, that we may plant our feet on them. Smooth the rough ways, that we may walk in the way You lead. In our day lead us to bring forth your compassion for all humanity. AMEN

*Hymn: #106 “Prepare the Way O Zion”

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, in this season of anticipation, we offer our gifts with hopeful hearts. As we prepare for the fullness of your kingdom, may these offerings be a sign of our readiness and desire to live attentively. Use them to bring justice, righteousness, and joy to our world. Surprise us with your presence and help us to look up, to pay attention, and to embrace the hope you bring. In Jesus' name, we pray. AMEN

Announcements and Sharing Joys and Concerns

*Hymn: #331 "God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hands"

Charge and Benediction

Postlude:
(please remain seated)

"From Heaven Above"

Gordon Young

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 comfort and peace to the Andrews family. Bea's service of witness to the resurrection takes place Sunday, December 15 with visitation at 1p.m. and service at 2p.m. with fellowship meal following.

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