

Third Sunday in Lent
Theme: Rise Up

Communion Sunday Sunday, March 23, 2025



“Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.” Isaiah 55:1

GATHERING

Prelude:

“Depth of Mercy”

C. von Weber/E. Hopkins, arr. C. Berry

Greeting and Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: Children of God, what has God done for you?

People: God saves, provides, and holds us in the assurance of steadfast love.

Leader: Consider and remember: in the joyful times and in the sorrowful times, God remains with us.

People: Indeed, God covers us and lifts us up, protecting and empowering us with steadfast love.

Leader: When we have been like the fig tree in Jesus’ famous story, unable to produce and when everyone has given up, God holds patient.

People: God is the one who tends the soil and waters the ground, nurturing us into life with steadfast love.

Leader: So, children of God, come, let us worship God who never gives up on us!

People: We come to worship, clinging to God, holding firm in our faith, trusting that God’s steadfast love will endure!

Hymn: #475 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

*Prayer of the Day and Confession

Holy God, above and beyond the swirl of the world, yet in our midst, we come sometimes wounded, sometimes worried, sometimes afraid and injured.

Too often we are physically, mentally, and emotionally challenged. Enable us to drink from the waters of life that we will never thirst again.

We confess there are times we trust misinformation, hold onto untruth, chase thrills or happiness or wealth. We acknowledge times we become misguided, becoming stuck in fruitless routines rather than the ways of true life and peace. We confess there are times we exhaust ourselves with our own efforts or hopelessly pursue quick fixes. Too often we pursue harmful ways to lessen our pain.

Help us to remember valuable lessons taught us, even those lessons learned the hard way, or a word from the Word spoken by a sage, a teacher, a pastor, a mentor or through the voice of a friend.

We long for relief. We seek it, search for it, yearn for it— relief that can’t be purchased or bartered. You invite us, you challenge us to drink from the waters of life that we may never thirst again. So enable us to drink deeply, in the name of the Christ we pray, AMEN

Assurance of Hope

Leader: God we are grateful that your thoughts and your ways are higher than our own.

People: Thank you for leading us to life. Thank you for new mercies that renew us each day.

Leader: We offer our gratitude for welcoming us back into fellowship with you.

People: Thank you for providing waters from which we may drink and never thirst again.

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Solo Anthem: “O Son of Justice” 6th Century Latin Lenten Prayer Dave Busey
Translated: Peter J. Scagnelli ©, Music: Medieval Plainsong
Arr. Theodore Marier

Scripture: Isaiah 55:1-9 Come to the water

Psalm 63:1-8 O God, eagerly I seek you

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Baptized in cloud and seas

Luke 13:1-9 Fig tree hope

Sermon: **The Meaning of Sanctuary - Part 2**

Communion Hymn - #523 "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Faithful God, our guide and sustainer, whenever we offer our gifts, we desire that they bear fruit for your kingdom. In this solemn season of Lent, we continue to remember your call to turn toward renewal. Help us tend the soil of our hearts so that we may grow in faith and bear witness to your grace. Use our offerings to bring hope to those in need and light to those in darkness. May we live as your fruitful servants, trusting in your abundant mercy. In the name of Christ who calls us to new life, we pray. AMEN

Announcements and Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

*Hymn: #817 "We Walk by Faith"

Charge and Benediction

Leader: May God bless us with the endurance to cling to the hope of our calling.

People: We depart knowing that in the highs and lows, the joys and the sorrows, the knowns and unknowns of this life, God's love never fails. Thanks be to God! AMEN

Postlude: "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" W. Doane/I. Conkey, arr. C. Berry
(Please remain seated)

The End of Worship
The Beginning of Service

*Those who wish may stand

Rev. James Shuler, Interim Pastor
Mrs. Dianne Yuninger, Organist/Choir Director

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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