

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Theme: Rise Up—Not Give Up or Give In

Sunday, April 6, 2025



GATHERING

Prelude: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" L. Mason, arr. M. Schinske

Greeting and Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: Lenten travelers, the journey is long. Let us take a moment to rest and breathe.

People: Only in God do we find our rest.

Leader: Sometimes the road is easy, and we bask in the warmth of the Light who guides us.

People: Other times the road is hard, and we hide from the Light, afraid for our actions to be made known in public.

Leader: Somedays we delight in the joy of journeying together on this road.

People: Other days we struggle with the temptation to judge and condemn one another as we travel this path.

Leader: Today, let us come into the Light together as we learn to love God and one another through the twists and turns of our Lenten journey.

People: We come to worship God together! AMEN

*Hymn: #435 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

*Prayer of the Day

Holy God, we offer our anticipation for what is yet to come in this Lenten Season. As days lengthen and the good earth warms, so keep us appreciative and warm of heart. Give us in this season fresh vision and renewed understanding of those things most essential to do. Whether we are working on solutions or uncertain where to begin,

whether for our church, within our families or our community, guide us in the way we should go. Fill us with energy for the work of worship and the work of daily living. Give us zeal in our witness and keep us steady on a course worthy of our faith, through Jesus Christ we pray, AMEN

Assurance of Pardon - #444 "Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive" (vs. 1)

"Forgive our sins as we forgive," you taught us, Lord, to pray, but you alone can grant us peace to live the words we say."

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Meditation: "He Leadeth Me" W. Bradbury, arr. W. Mercer

Scripture: Ephesians 2:1-10 and John 3:14-21

Sermon: "Seeking the Light"

*Hymn: #79 "Light Dawns in a Weary World"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of unwavering love, you have held nothing back in your love for us, not even your Son. How we marvel at that kind of love, and how we long to reflect a portion of that devotion back to you. As we dedicate our offerings to you, lead us away from our tendency to hold back and worry if there will be enough. Help us to live as the people of love and abundance you have called us to be. In Christ, we pray. AMEN

Affirmation of Faith

Leader: Blest are you, Lord Jesus who came to us a little child one of us, flesh and blood, to share in our humanity. For God so loved the world that all might have eternal life.

People: Blest are you, Lord Jesus who came to us as carpenter and yet in whose creative hands a world was fashioned. For God so loved the world that all might have eternal life.

Leader: Blest are you, Lord Jesus who came to us as fisherman and yet pointed to a harvest that was yet to come. For God so loved the world that all might have eternal life.

People: Blest are you, Lord Jesus who came to us as teacher and opened eyes to truths that only the poor could understand. For God so loved the world that all might have eternal life.

Leader: Blest are you, Lord Jesus who came to us as healer and opened hearts to the reality of wholeness. For God so loved the world that all might have eternal life.

People: Blest are you, Lord Jesus who came to us as prophet, priest, and king and yet humbled himself to take our place upon the cross. For God so loved the world that all might have eternal life.

Leader: Blest are you, Lord Jesus who came to us as servant and revealed to us the extent of his Father's love for humankind. For God so loved the world that all might have eternal life.

People: Blest are you, Lord Jesus, who rose from the humiliation of a sinner's death to the triumph of a Savior's resurrection. For God so loved the world that all might have eternal life.

All: God so loved the world that God gave his only Son for the sake of you and me and sinners everywhere. Indeed, God so loved the world! Blest are you Lord Jesus, our Savior and Redeemer. AMEN

Announcements and Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

*Hymn: #192 "Shine, Jesus Shine"

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: "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" W. Waller, arr. C. Berry
#415 in the Hymnal; you are invited to follow the text.

(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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