

Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany

February 6, 2022

GATHERING

Announcements and Greeting

Prelude: "He Leadeth Me" Jason Payne

Invocation

**Call To Worship:*

Leader: God of the Epiphany Season and all seasons, help us to see clearly things that are hidden and long awaited.

People: God of Light, help us to see!

Leader: Begotten of the Father before the daystar shone or time began, the Lord our Savior appeared on earth who with the Creator and the Spirit is ever present.

People: Let us prepare our hearts for the celebration of these mysteries, those of today and those that lie before us.

*Hymn: #305 "Come Sing, O Church, in Joy" (see download)

Prayer of the Day and Confession: (unison)

By the light of a star, O God of the universe, You guided the nations to the Light of the world. Until this Redeemer comes again in glory, we, as with seekers of all times, long to see the face of the Savior, long to see redemption fulfilled, long to see the new heaven and new earth where all shall dwell together in harmony as peacefully as the lion and lamb together. Summon us with all those who thirst now to the banquet of love. May our hunger be filled and our thirst be quenched with your word of truth. Yet, in the Light of the radiant Christ we acknowledge our participation in the brokenness of the world. We pause now to make our personal confession. . .(do so now silently and individually). Having done so, we proclaim you the Light of the world, so that whoever follows You will not walk in darkness but will have the Light of life. AMEN

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: In the light of the radiant Christ may we understand our vocation to follow Him in this often dark and dreary world.

People: Let us believe the good news of the Gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

***Response:** In the Lord I'll be ever thankful; In the Lord I will rejoice! Look to God: do not be afraid. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near. (#654)

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Anthem: "It Is Well With My Soul" Robert Lau

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Hymn: #144 "In the Bleak Midwinter" (see download)

Scripture Reading: **1 Corinthians 15:1-2, 10 and Matthew 2:5b-6, 9-12**

Sermon: **Following the Steps of the Wise**

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

**Affirmation of Faith (unison) - Psalm 138*

We give you thanks, O LORD, with our whole heart because that is the right and fitting thing to do. We humble ourselves and bow down in this sacred place giving thanks to your name for your steadfast love and faithfulness. Exalted is your name and your word above everything. This day and all days we call on your name, you answer and increase the strength of our souls. May rulers everywhere praise you, O LORD, for great is Your glory. Though You are on high, yet You regard the lowly. When we walk in the midst of trouble, You preserve us from evil and wrath; You stretch out Your hand, and Your right hand delivers us. You, the LORD, will fulfill your purpose for us; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. This is the faith we affirm today.

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

The Peace of Christ

*Hymn: #468 "In My Life Lord, Be Glorified" (see download)

*Benediction

Silent Prayer (be seated)

Postlude: "Sound the Trumpet, Praise the Lord!" Mark Williams

The End of Worship
The Beginning of Service

*Those who wish may stand

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

**The Sanctuary Flowers are in Loving Memory of Raymond & Aleta Herr,
Janice & Ralph Homsher and Everett Young
Given by Keo Phongxaysanith**

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION:

PRAYER PERSON THIS WEEK: **Stephen Funk**

Beginning a sojourn with us is the **Reverend James B. Shuler**, our new interim pastor. Following seminary, Jim was a member of Baltimore Presbytery for 10 years and for the past 33 a member of Donegal. During that time, he provided leadership for Christian education, curriculum development, camping ministry, ecumenical relations, community youth work, crisis counseling, and social service outreach to those most vulnerable.

He has served as a GA commissioner, twice as Vice-Moderator and in 2009 Moderator of Donegal Presbytery following which he was Chair of Council. Since formation of the Leader Team 11 years ago, he has served as its moderator and as co-moderator with Pastor Bob Birch including your own Dianne Yuninger as able secretary.

He comes to us with a deep commitment to the vitality of the church and brings a warm, personal style. He will challenge us with new approaches and insights while assisting our way toward the next chapter of pastoral leadership.

Offering Envelopes and **Giving Statements** for 2022 are in the narthex.

Our **ZOOM Fellowship** will begin again this coming Wednesday Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. Watch for the link in your email!

If you would like to purchase flowers for the Sanctuary in honor of or in memory of someone or a special occasion, February 13 and February 20 are available. Please call the church office 717-687-6619.



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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