Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany Theme: Hope Shines Bright Sunday, January 29, 2023



"When you hope, be joyful. When you suffer, be patient. When you pray, be faithful." Romans 12:12 NIRV

GATHERING

"Meditation on 'Terra Beata"

Charles Callahan

Greeting and Welcome to Worship

Praise Song: "Holy, Holy"

Call to Worship Psalm 15

- Leader: O LORD, who may abide in your presence? Who may dwell on your holy hill?
- People: Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart.
- Leader: And those who do not slander with their tongue, nor do evil to their friends, nor accuse or judge their neighbors.
- People: Those who honor the LORD and those who respect others who believe in God, who stand by their word of truth even to their own hurt, they are the ones whom God honors.
- Leader: Those who do not use money to take advantage of others, or take bribes to do what is right rather than doing right on its own merit.

People: Those who do these things shall never be moved.

*Hymn: #260 "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!" (see download)

*PRAYER OF THE DAY and CONFESSION

O God of Endless Potential, without the pursuit of radiance we behave as if our potential for vision is depleted and our capacities fixed. Develop within us the insight and energy to move forward, to plan and dream, and to work for what is both possible and unimaginable. May we increasingly become a center for dreams, for without vision the people perish. Infuse within us the vision needed for our time, in this congregation, in our community, and in this corner of the world we are privileged to claim. Keep us on the path of hope despite the rough seas of life. Immerse us in all that is redeemable and possible, through Christ we pray, AMEN.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

L: With accusations too great to bear, too horrendous to free ourselves, how can we do other than rely on a power outside ourselves, a grace more profound than we can conceive, a brightness that takes away all darkness, we look forward to that Great Day, and claim its promise.

P: So deliver us from every evil habit, every interest of former sins, everything that dims the brightness of your grace in us, anything that prevents us from taking delight in you, we pray, we plead. AMEN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Having heard these encouraging words, we accept the freeing pardon God offers. AMEN Sung Response: #444 "Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive" (vs. 2 only)

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Anthem: "Be Thou My Vision" arr. Carlton Young

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:20-24 and John 1:36-42

"What Are You Looking For?"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Sermon:

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Lord, let our congregation be a witness to You: immersed in scripture, constant in prayer, joyful in worship, generous in giving. A loving, supportive community reaching out to those in need. Accept these gifts we offer, in Jesus' name, AMEN.

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Time of Silent Prayer

*Hymn: #265 "Jesus Shall Reign" (see download)

*Benediction

Postlude:

"Recessional on 'St. Anne"

The End of Worship The Beginning of Service

*Those who are able, please stand

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

<u>Prayers of the Congregation</u> Prayer Person this week: June E. Stannard

The Sanctuary Flowers are in Memory of Raymond and Elsie Thompson Given by Delores & Brit Kilbourne



First met in Leacock Township in 1724, recognized by the Synod in 1740, moved to Paradise in 1840.



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