

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 26, 2023

THEME: Listening to Sacred Stillness



“Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” Ezekiel 37:9

GATHERING

Prelude: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” Dale Wood

Greeting and Welcome to Worship

Call to Worship

Leader: Come and see the ambassador of God's friendship for us.

People: We will find Jesus waiting to meet us: in classrooms, at a shopping center, in all the common places and moments.

Leader: Come and hear the One who speaks of God's joy in us.

People: We will listen to Jesus, whose words of grace and peace raise the rafters of our hope.

Leader: Come and know how much God loves you.

People: We will discover Jesus, who offers us the gift of reconciliation.

Hymn: #739 “O for a Closer Walk with God” (sung to the tune of #629)
(see download)

*Litany of Confession - The Psalm of the Day - Ps. 130

Leader: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

People: Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

Leader: If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

People: But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

Leader: We wait for the LORD, our soul waits, and in Your word we hope.

People: My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.

Leader: O people of God, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, with the LORD is great power to redeem.

*Prayer of the Day - The Confession of St. Patrick including the Lord's Prayer

God of eternity, you know how often we travel down the rocky roads of doubt and fear. We pester others with our worries; we hurl bitter words at those we love. We have chances to offer ourselves in service, but only give our contempt to those in need. We could share the living waters with the world, but want to store it in jars for safe-keeping.

Fountain of Grace, forgive us. Turn towards us, to meet us wherever we are. Break open our rock-hard sin, so we might be made whole. (A Time for Silent Confession)

Help us to accept and acclaim that in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, our thirst for hope and joy is quenched. Through Christ our Lord we continue to pray as the Lord has taught us. . . .

***“O God, in the expanding of space and time, may we keep your name holy, respecting the greatness that You are. It is your kingdom and your will which is our priority—always! May everyone have enough to live. Give us what we need to share with friends, family, and those in need. Fill our spiritual, emotional, and physical hunger. Let us learn to forgive others as you forgive us. And don't let us stray from your path of truth. Help us make decisions with you in mind, staying in your grace. Don't let evil take over, for Your power is enough forever. Let it be this way always.” AMEN**

**(prepared by the Youth at Night Owl Camp - 2009 based on Matt. 6:9 and Luke 11:2 . . . Pray in this manner. . .)*

Declaration of Pardon: #444 “Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive” (vs. 4)

“Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls; And bid resentment cease. Then, bound to all in bonds of love Our lives will spread your peace.”

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

(Offer the “wave of peace” to those around you or greet those you comfortably can)

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Anthem: “God So Loved the World” John Stainer

Scripture: Romans 8:9-11 and Ezekiel 37:1-14

Sermon: **“Of Whirlwinds, Visions and Ecstasy”**

*Hymn: #288 “Spirit of the Living God” (*sing twice*) (see download)

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Prayer of Thanksgiving

For the blessings of this and all our days, we thank you, gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just the offering of our contributions but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us. AMEN

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

*Hymn: #450 “Be Thou My Vision” (see download)

*Benediction

**“Be still and know that the very God will rouse from the place of holy dwelling.”
Zechariah 2:13**

Postlude

“Were You There?”

Carolyn Hamlin

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

Prayers of the Congregation

Prayer Person this week: Mildred Young

The Sanctuary Flowers are in Loving Memory of Barbara Hostetter
on her birthday March 18
Given by Milt Hostetter

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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