

**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost  
Including the Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Sunday, July 16, 2023**

**Theme: The Stewardship of Power**



**“As Jesus called the twelve together, he gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases.” Luke 9:1**

**“Behold, I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions, and over all power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.” Luke 10:19. NIV**

**“If anyone knows the good they ought to do and doesn’t do it, it is sin for them.”  
James 4:17**

***GATHERING***

*Prelude:* “Day by Day” Edward Broughton

Greeting and Welcome to Worship

**\*Call to Worship** Psalm 65:1-8

Leader: Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; to you, O God, in all the earth.

**People: O you who answer prayer! To you shall all flesh come!**

Leader: When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions.

**People: Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts.**

**We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple.**

Leader: By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation.

You are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

**People: By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with  
might.**

Leader: You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the  
tumult of the peoples.

**People: Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs; you  
make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy. Therefore, this  
day shall be a day of thanksgiving and praise.**

\*Hymn: #263 “All Hail the Power of Jesus Name” (see download)

\*Prayer of the Day and Intercession

**God of all Goodness and Grace, we gather in your name bringing ourselves just  
as we are. We thank you for loving us in the most sacred and scandalous of  
ways. Grant that we may understand how we ought to be and what things we  
ought to do. Strengthened through your word, increase our awareness of what is  
good, right and lasting. Seeking always to be faithful stewards, help us manage  
both our powerlessness and our power, our inadequacies and our strengths. To  
you the God we trust in our journey, in all things we pray, AMEN**

Assurance of God’s Love

Leader: Be assured that God leads us along, seeking to reclaim us and our world.

Sung Response: #357 “The Days Are Surely Coming” (*verse 3 only*)

**“The days are surely coming when we will know at last the fullness of God’s  
presence, God’s promise, come to pass. Then righteousness and justice will  
spread throughout the land and we will be delivered by God’s almighty hand.”**

***PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD***

Scripture: Genesis 19:25-34 and Romans 8:1-11

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23 (*Parable of the Sower*) - not read

Hymn: #19 “God of Great and God of Small” (see download)

Sermon: “Understanding Our Power”

Affirmation of Faith

Leader: Let us confess our faith in the One who truly loves us:

**People: I believe in the one true God, the Father of humanity, who creates and  
sustains the universe in wisdom and power, who calls us into being and into  
relationship with God by grace, whose nature is love.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who lived that we might see God, who  
died that we might be reconciled to God, who rose that we might experience the**

life of God, who freely accepts and welcomes all who come to him, not on the basis of their merit, but on the basis of God's unconditional love.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who is God present with us now, who shows us our need for God, who assures us of God's love in all circumstances who lives the life and love of Jesus Christ through us. In this faith, I will seek to live in harmony with God, with people everywhere, and with all of creation. AMEN

## *RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD*

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Hymn: #499 "Bread of the World in Mercy Broken" (see download)

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*based on Psalm 119:105*)

**Giving God, we thank you for the gift of Your word, indeed a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. May our gifts likewise bring light and hope, vitality and sustainability to the ministry which we cherish and to which you continue to call us. Through Christ who gave all, AMEN**

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

\*Hymn: #213 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" (see download)

\*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

"Benediction"

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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

# *Leacock Presbyterian Church*

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



Old Leacock Presbyterian Church 1754



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