

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Theme: Season of Creation

Sunday, September 24, 2023



“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth,
for the first heaven and the first earth had
passed away.” Revelation 21:1

GATHERING

Prelude: “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Anna Laura Page

Greeting and Welcome to Worship

***Call to Worship and Litany of Affirmation - St Patrick’s Breastplate**

Leader: We arise today, through the strength of heaven, The light of the sun,
radiance of the moon, splendor of fire,

**People: We arise today knowing the speed of lightning, the swiftness of wind,
the depth of the sea, the stability of the earth, the firmness of rock.**

Leader: We arise today, through God's strength to pilot us, God's might to uphold
us, God's wisdom to guide us, God's eye to look before us, God's ear to
hear us,

**People: We arise today through God's word to speak for us, God's hand to
guard us, God's shield to protect us, God's host to save us,**

Leader: From everyone who shall wish us ill, afar and near. Against every cruel
and merciless power, that may oppose our body and soul. . .

**Leader and People: We shall say: Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ
behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ
on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I
sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of everyone who
thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.**

Leader: We arise today through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity,
through belief in the Threeness, through confession of the Oneness of the
Creator of creation. AMEN

*Hymn: #14 “For the Beauty of the Earth” (see download)

*A Corporate Prayer of Penitence

**God of all life, we give thanks for the gift of the earth, our common home. At
this time, many people, the oceans, and the eco-systems of the earth are
struggling to survive. In so many ways we have failed in its care. Help us to
change our ways, to join this river of justice and guide us to live a life which is
not centered exclusively on ourselves but on the needs of others, the protection
of this world and all You have provided, and the worship of You as our
ultimate concern. Lord hear us, we pray, AMEN**

The Gloria Patri: As we sing the Gloria, let us remind ourselves that we are
praising and celebrating God as the author of our universe.(#531)

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Anthem: “A Mountain Harvest” Patti Drennan

Children’s Message

Scripture: Matthew 20:1-16 New International Version

Sermon: “Looking for Work”

*Hymn: #37 “Let All Things Now Living” (see download)

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Holy God, we give in grateful thanksgiving for the world you have created and
all that You have given us. With gratitude we work in your vineyard, realizing
that some have been long at it and others come lately. We thank you for the
vision and commitment of all. Help us to use our privilege and power to
support, not oppress, all around us. May we see the needs of our brothers and
sisters and respond. Help us to live generously and graciously, blessing your
church, your people, and your creation. AMEN**

The Doxology (#606)

Sharing Joys and Concerns

All Worshipers

Prayers of the Faithful including the Lord's Prayer: (Maori and Polynesian)

Leader: O Creator God, in this month of creation time, teach us to see your footprints in the beauty of creation. Help us to listen to the voice of creation, inspire us to respect the rights of all people, and all living species to share in your gifts today and to be always mindful of those who come after us. Lord hear us,

People: Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven: The hallowing of your name echo through the universe; The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world; Your heavenly will be done by all created beings; Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trial too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. AMEN

*Hymn: #370 "This Is My Father's World" (see download)

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

"Lasst uns Erfreuen"

Gordon Young

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: Richard Buck

**The Sanctuary Flowers are in Loving Memory of Arlene & Jacob Brackbill
Given by their family**

Leacock Presbyterian Church

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



**3181 Lincoln Highway East
Paradise, PA 17562
Telephone: 687-6619
www.leacockpres.org**