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 DrennanChildren's MessageScripture: Matthew 20:1-16New 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

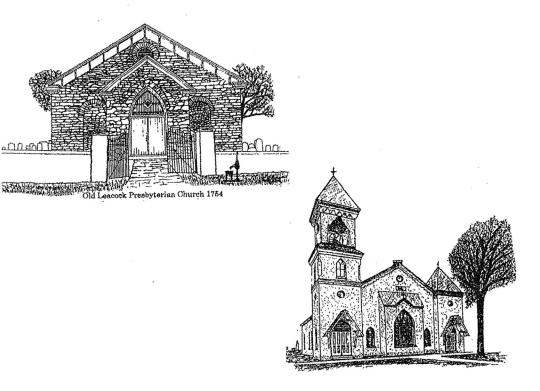
Rev. James Shuler, Interim Pastor Mrs. Dianne Yuninger, Organist/Choir Director

<u>Prayers of the Congregation</u> Prayer Person this week: Richard Buck

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



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



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