

Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost  
Season of Goodness

Sunday, October 22, 2023



**Let Justice  
and Peace Flow**  
Season of Creation 2023

A Mighty River  
Amos 5: 24

**“We remain confident of this: to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Therefore, we shall wait and be strong, in all things taking heart.” Psalm 27:13-14**

## *GATHERING*

Greeting and Welcome to Worship

*Prelude:* “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” Dale Wood

### **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: We gather today to remember and proclaim that we are God’s people.

**People: We are God’s people! God’s presence is among us!**

Leader: Like Moses, we seek an encounter with God’s goodness.

**People: God, show us your goodness that we may glorify you in all that we do.**

Leader: God’s goodness passes by us every day in the gracious gifts of creation and in the faces of our neighbors.

**People: God, help us notice your goodness in everything and everyone that we meet.**

Leader: Because of God’s goodness, we join the voice of the psalmist who proclaimed:

**People: O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.**

Leader: Sing to the LORD, bless God’s name; tell of God’s salvation from day to day.

**People: We will declare God’s glory among the nations, God’s marvelous works among all the peoples.**

Leader: For great is the LORD who made the heavens, and greatly to be praised; our God is to be revered above all gods.

**People: Honor and majesty are before our God; strength and beauty are in God’s sanctuary.**

Leader: Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God’s name.

**People: Therefore, we will worship the LORD in holy splendor; for the LORD will judge the peoples with equity and with truth.**

\*Hymn: #14 “For the Beauty of the Earth” (Bell Choir)

\*Prayer of the Day and Confession

**Holy God, we come before You knowing there are ways we have missed the mark. Grant us what we need which is surely renewal and reconciliation with You and one another.**

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not given you the things that are yours. We quibble over technicalities and argue over questions that do not lead us to love you, ourselves, or our neighbors well. Often enough we ignore your goodness which is all around, and we do not allow ourselves to be filled with the Spirit who empowers us to live as people who glorify you. Often enough we do not recognize your holy touch in the world around us, and neglect our responsibility to treat all things and all people as sacred. Forgive us, we pray, and free us to live in love and peace with you, with ourselves, with our neighbors, and with all creation. AMEN**

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: As forgiven and reconciled people, let us greet one another with signs of peace and thanksgiving saying, “Thank you for being the presence of God today.”

**People: The peace of God be with us one and all!**

## *PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD*

*Anthem:* “Come, Ye Faithful” arr. Barbara Kinyon  
Bell Choir and Piano

Scripture: Matthew 22:15-22

Sermon: **“It’s Not about Taxes”**

\*Hymn: #357 “The Days are Surely Coming”

## *RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD*

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Giving God, live in us, that we may be people of steadfast hope and powerful giving. Help us hear your words, challenging us to give you all the things that are yours. Help us remember that all we are and all we have are gifts from you, gifts to be shared in service and love. AMEN**

Announcements and Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

\*Hymn: #265 "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"

**\*Charge**

Leader: Loving, living God, be among us as we go. Continue to show us your ways.

**People: Guide our steps. Live in us, that we may be people of steadfast hope and powerful living.**

Benediction

Silent Prayer (be seated)

*Postlude:* "A Song of Rejoicing" Robert Thygerson

The End of Worship  
The Beginning of Service

\*Those who wish may stand

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

### **PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION:**

PRAYER PERSON THIS WEEK: **Robert Clark**

**The Sanctuary Flowers are in Loving Memory of James & Betty Smith  
Given by David & Karen Smith Homsher Family**

## *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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