

Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, November 26, 2023

REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY Including the Sacrament of Holy Communion

THEME: Season of Hope



"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

GATHERING

Prelude:

"Jesus Shall Reign"

Anna Laura Page

Greeting and Welcome to Worship

*Call to Worship: (Psalm 124)

Leader: Had it not been the Lord on our side, let the people now say,

People: Had it not been the Lord on our side, then our enemies would have overtaken us.

Leader: Then they would have swallowed us up alive, and the flood would have swept us away.

People: And the torrent would have gone over us; then over us would have gone the raging waters.

Leader: Blessed be the Lord who rescues us and gives us life.

People: We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

People: Let us rejoice in our deliverance, and praise the Lord!

* Hymn: # 2 "Come, Thou Almighty King"

Prayer of the Day – The Gratitude Prayer

Holy God, we gather in this season of thanks as it shifts toward a renewed anticipation of your coming in the Christ. We express gratitude for all we have received physically and spiritually. You have canceled our ticket to darkness and gloom, so that we can be confident from the inside out. We pray for those suffering severely and unimaginably that your mighty, pervasive spirit may undergird them. We lift them up in confidence because we ourselves at times

have been those in extreme need without hope. Somehow, some way, we pray that a glimmer of light and your healing presence will come their way. Open our hearts to humility and compassion. Grant us faith to believe you will provide a future where we see none, that bitterness may turn to joy, so that our lives may bear good fruit. Remove the hatred, fears, and division that tear at the very foundation of human community. May your Spirit work tirelessly to bring about the common good even as we pledge ourselves to do the same. In this way, we can have a season to remember. For the sake of all desperate hearts, we pray in bold confidence with thanksgiving, through Christ, our brother, AMEN.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Anthem:

"He Is King of Kings" (GTG #273)

Scripture: Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

Sermon:

"Shepherd of the Good and Bad"

*Hymn: #507 "Come to the Table of Grace"

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

* **DOXOLOGY** Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. AMEN

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Shepherd of Israel, seated on the right hand of God to reign in righteousness, receive our gifts and the commitments we offer. In your holy reign, gather the broken, the sorrowing, and the sinner in us, that we may all know holiness, joy, and forgiveness. AMEN

Announcements and Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

*Hymn: #309 “Come, Great God of All the Ages”

Charge and Benediction

Silent Prayer (be seated)

Postlude:

“Coronation Fanfares”

Robert Lau

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 Family this week: Dean R. & Robbin Englehart

Announcements

This afternoon we will gather at 1:00 p.m. to decorate the Sanctuary and Narthex for Advent and Christmas. Come when you can and help us create a joy-filled worship space.

Next Sunday is our annual **Family Advent Breakfast and Worship**, beginning in Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m. Bring a dish to share and be prepared to request your favorite Christmas carols during worship in the sanctuary.

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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