



LEWISTOWN

CHURCH

Presbyterian

Shining the light of the gospel into the heart of Lewistown since 1785

March 11, 2018

Series: Sacred Rhythms

Week Three: Listening to Scripture

"The Word Works"

***"As the deer pants for streams of water,
so my soul pants for you, my God.
My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
When can I go and meet with God?"***

Psalm 42:1,2

17 EAST THIRD STREET

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lewistownpresbyterian.org

Pastors: James Thomas and Robert Zorn

LEWISTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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March 11, 2018

10:30 AM

Prelude Just As I Am Hegarty
Prelude and Fugue in F major Bach

Welcome and Announcements

Introit O Jesus, Blest Redeemer Cleland R. McAfee

Call to Worship Psalm 119:97-105

Leader: Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long. Your commands are always with me and make me wiser than my enemies.

People: I have more insight than all my teachers, for I meditate on your statutes. I have more understanding than the elders, for I obey your precepts.

Leader: I have kept my feet from every evil path so that I might obey your word. I have not departed from your laws, for you yourself have taught me.

People: How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Leader: I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore, I hate every wrong path.

People: Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

* **Hymn #350** (red) Open My Eyes, That I May See

Word of Witness Leadership Retreat

Anthem Behold the Lamb of God G F Handel

Children's Sermon

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory There is a Fountain Hughes

* Doxology #592 (blue)

* Prayer of Dedication

*** Song**

He Knows My Name

1. I have a Maker, He formed my heart;
Before even time began my life was in His hands.

Chorus:

*He knows my name.
He knows my every thought.
He sees each tear that falls,
And hears me when I call.*

2. I have a Father, He calls me His own.
He'll never leave me no matter where I go.

Chorus:

*He knows my name.
He knows my every thought.
He sees each tear that falls,
And hears me when I call.
He knows your name.
He knows your every thought.
He sees each tear that falls,
And hears you when you call.*

T Walker, © 1996 by Doulos Publishing ~ CCLI #1881909

*** Song**

Thy Word

Chorus:

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
And a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
And a light unto my path.*

1. When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way.
Still, you're there right beside me.
And nothing will I fear, as long as you are near;
Please be near me to the end.
2. I will not forget your love for me and yet,
My heart forever is wandering.
Jesus by my guide, and hold me to your side,
And I will love you to the end.

A Grant and M W Smith, © 1997 by Ariose Music ~ CCLI #1881909

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 55:6-11
Hebrews 4:12-16

Sermon

The Word Works

Spiritual Practice

Lectio Divina

Pastoral Prayer

* **Closing Hymn #359** (red)

More Love to Thee, O Christ

* **Benediction**

* **Closing Chorus**

Seek Ye First

*Seek Ye first, the Kingdom of God,
And His righteousness;
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, Alleluia!*

Postlude

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Wood

**If comfortably able please stand*

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Accompanist: Joan Loewen

Introit & Anthem: Chancel Choir; Doug Garner, Director

Liturgist: Doug Garner

Next Week: Olivia Smith

Word of Witness: Carole Auker

Acolyte: Leland Mitchell

Children's Sermon: Lynn Curry

Next Week: Susan Ferguson

Children's Church: Lynn Curry

Next week: Leah Riden

Ushers: Lonnie Griffith (lead usher), Ryan & Laurie Fultz,
Marilyn Miller, Ed & Lynn Curry

Preaching: Pastor James Thomas

Infants/Preschool: Pam Pecht and Vicki Pecht

Next week: Karissa Zagurskie and Jimmy Zagurskie

Deacon for the Month: Lynn Curry

Counters: Kari Cullen and Dave Noss

Next Week: Bill Sisson and Brad Siddons

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME! If you are visiting with us, please sign the Visitors' Register and pick up a Welcome Bag in the narthex. Children's activity bags, Bibles, large print hymnals and hearing devices are available from the ushers. Childcare through age four is available throughout the service. Children's church is available for children age 5 – grade 4 following the children's sermon.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS today are dedicated to God's glory and are given by the Hirakis, Harklerode, Zagurskie, Shoop, Conforte, Truesdale and Finan Families to glorify God with thankful praise, and to honor the memory of Marcia Ann Fleming Hirakis, and to thank God for salvation, grace and mercy and an eternal bond of love through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

LENTEN KIDZ KLUB: There's still time to join your friends on the journey to Jerusalem this afternoon from 4-6 PM. We'll arrive at the gates of the city today in time to get ready for our Passover meal...and take care of Clive's (and our) stinky feet. Lots of fun and hands-on Bible learning on the third floor!

FAMILY EASTER EVENT: Saturday, March 31, 8:45-11:45 AM. Kids, families and friends will travel through five stations uniquely designed to encourage thinking and get families talking about the final events of Jesus life here on earth. They will experience the excitement surrounding Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem, the significance of the Last Supper, the darkness at Gethsemane, the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross, and the joy of His resurrection. Hands on learning with take home activities. **Please Note:** Walk with Jesus will incorporate our traditional Easter Egg hunt so there will be no separate egg hunt this year.

CAN YOU HELP? We are looking for Bible time decorations for our Walk with Jesus Family Easter Event. We need artificial plants, rugs, pottery and old blankets (to sit on). Please see Ginny Westover if you have any of these items to lend to us for the event on Saturday, March 31.

TROOP 4 will be serving breakfast Saturday, March 17, from 8:00-11:00 AM in the Baraca room. They will be serving pancakes, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, orange juice and coffee. \$7.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children, children under five are free. Proceeds benefit summer camping scholarships.

ATTENTION MUSICIANS! We are forming an instrumental Palm Sunday special music group. If you play an instrument and would be willing to join us, please let Cole Cullen or Art Belfiore know ASAP so that music will be ready for you. We will practice TODAY and March 18 after church and we will play on Palm Sunday, March 25 during the service. Hope to see you!!!

GIFTS OF LOVE: The mission committee is organizing the collection of Hygiene Kits and School Kits to be distributed through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Information about what to provide and how to package the items is available in the narthex. Volunteers from the Huntingdon Presbytery will deliver the kits to the distribution center.

LENTEN STUDY: Our all-church Lenten study this year is Ruth Haley Barton's Sacred Rhythms. This study is based on the premise that we function best when we establish regular practices that connect us with the flow of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in the world around us. Sacred Rhythms will not only provide an opportunity to learn about spiritual disciplines, but also to practice them. As we learn and experience together, we will be able to discern with the Holy Spirit our individual path of growth with God. Available groups are:

- **Sundays at 9 AM** led by Pat Brown
- **Sundays at 11:40 AM** led by Susan Ferguson and Mary Bull
- **Sundays at 6:00 PM** led by Jim and Devon Thomas
- **Tuesdays at 6:30 PM** at Ruth and Ken Fisher's
- **Wednesdays at 6:30 AM** led by Pastor Thomas

If you are unable to attend any of these groups, but would like to experience the curriculum, please contact the church office for a copy of the DVD to use in your family or in a group you would like to form.

LENTEN LUNCHEON SCHEDULE: The Lewistown Ministerium is sponsoring Lenten Luncheons on Wednesdays during Lent again this year. We begin at noon at the sponsoring church and end well before 1 PM. Each church will provide a meal and worship or a devotional thought. The schedule of host churches:

- **March 14:** Grace United Methodist
- **March 21:** Sacred Heart of Jesus Roman Catholic Church

YOUTH: GRADE 6-12 join us tonight at 6:00 PM as we look at the ancient spiritual practice of lectio divina.

SPECIAL OFFERINGS:

- **YELLOW EASTER ENVELOPES** will be used to support the work of the Mifflin/Juniata Abuse Network. The mission of the Abuse Network is to assist and educate victims and community members about violence and abusive behaviors to promote a more peaceful, violence-free community.
- **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING ENVELOPE:** Your gift enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, providing food to the hungry and helping to empower the poor and oppressed.

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

- **Adult Sunday Morning Study** led by Pat Brown meets in the church parlor on Sundays at 9 AM. They are studying Sacred Rhythms, our Lenten focus study.
- **Youth Sunday Morning Study:** All youth in grades 6-12 are currently attending the confirmation classes at the manse.
- **Sunday Afternoon Study** meets in the parlor after the Worship service for the Lenten focus, Sacred Rhythms. This study is led by Susan Ferguson and Mary Bull.
- **Tuesday Evening Group** is doing the study, Sacred Rhythms, our Lenten focus. The group is meeting at Ruth and Ken Fisher's home (20 White Rose Lane in Lewistown). The study begins at 6:30 PM, but all are welcome to join for dinner beforehand at 5:30 PM.
- **Wednesday Morning Group:** This group meets at the manse at 6:30 AM. They are participating in our Lenten study, Sacred Rhythms.
- **Sunday Evening Group** meets from 6:00 – 7:15 PM. This is another opportunity to participate with the Lenten study, Sacred Rhythms.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES Pastors from a number of area churches will lead a Stations of the Cross service at Sacred Heart Catholic Church at 11 AM on Good Friday, March 30. Then, following the service (approx. 11:45), all who wish to follow the cross through Lewistown will meet outside Sacred Heart for a prayer walk through our community. You are welcome to take part in either or both services.

GIVING REPORT AS OF 3/4/18

Weekly Need:	\$ 3,265.14	Yearly Need:	\$ 29,386.26
Last Week:	\$ 3,944.00	YTD Received:	\$ 26,809.00

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 55:6-11

⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. ⁷ Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. ⁸ "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. ⁹ "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. ¹⁰ As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, ¹¹ so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

¹² For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. ¹³ Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. ¹⁴ Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. ¹⁶ Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

March 11 – March 18, 2018

SUNDAY, March 11

- 9:00 AM Adult Lenten Study – parlor
- 9:00 AM Confirmation Class - manse
- 9:15 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 AM Worship Service
- 11:30 AM Deacons' Meeting
- 11:40 AM Adult Lenten Study - parlor
- 4:00 PM Lenten Kidz Klub
- 6:00 PM Adult Lenten Study – manse
- 6:00 PM Youth Group

MONDAY, March 12

- 11:30 AM Prayer Ministry
- 6:00 PM Joy Seekers
- 7:00 PM Boy Scouts

TUESDAY, March 13

- 6:30 PM Adult Lenten Study – Fisher's home

WEDNESDAY, March 14

- 6:30 AM Adult Lenten Study – manse
- 12 Noon Lenten Luncheon – Grace United Methodist
- 6:00 PM Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, March 15

- 7:00 PM Session Meeting
- PANORAMA DEADLINE**

SATURDAY, March 17

- 8:00 AM Scouts' Fundraiser Breakfast (till 11:00 AM)
- 9:00 AM Confirmation Class Retreat

SUNDAY, March 18

- 9:00 AM Adult Lenten Study – Parlor
- 9:00 AM Confirmation Class – manse
- 9:15 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 AM Worship Service
- 11:40 AM Adult Lenten Study – Parlor
- 4:00 PM Lenten Kidz Klub
- 6:00 PM Adult Lenten Study – manse
- 6:00 PM Youth Group