



LEWISTOWN

CHURCH

Presbyterian

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

March 18, 2018

Series: Sacred Rhythms

Week 4: The Examen

"Honest to God"

***"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

LEWISTOWN, PA 17044

Telephone: (717) 248-4561

lewistownpresbyterian.org

Pastors: James Thomas and Robert Zorn

Unison Prayer of Confession Memorial Drive Presbyterian

Almighty God, the giver of life and forgiver of sins, we come to you now with hope: Hope because you always love us, even though at times it seems like we have been forsaken. Hope because you do not hold our sins against us, but instead grant us your grace. Hope because you turn our hearts toward you and give us the courage to trust you in a world filled with darkness. Help us, Lord, to confess our sins, remembering that your son died for our sins so that we might be reconciled to you. Create in us the desire to serve you faithfully in all that we say and do, in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Anthem My Savior Died Upon the Cross Farrar

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory O Love Divine, What Thou Hast Done Powell
* Doxology #592 (blue)
* Prayer of Dedication

* **Song** Redeemer, Savior, Friend

1. I know You had me on Your mind,
When You climbed up on that hill.
For You saw me with eternal eyes,
While I was yet in sin, Redeemer, Savior, Friend.

Chorus:

*Redeemer, redeem my heart again.
Savior, come and shelter me from sin.
You're familiar with my weakness,
Devoted to the end; Redeemer, Savior, Friend.*

2. Every stripe upon Your battered back,
Every thorn that pierced Your brow,
Every nail drove deep through guiltless hands,
Said that Your love knows no end;
Redeemer, Savior, Friend.

Scripture Reading

Psalm 139

Sermon

Honest to God

Spiritual Practice

Pastoral Prayer

* **Hymn #372** (red)

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

* **Benediction**

* **Closing Chorus**

My Chains are Gone

*My chains are gone; I've been set free.
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.
And like a flood His mercy reigns,
Unending love, amazing grace.*

Postlude

Fugue in C major

Bach

**If comfortably able please stand*

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Accompanist: Joan Loewen

Introit: Adult Bell Choir; Doug Garner, Director

Liturgist: Olivia Smith **Next Week:** Ruth Fisher

Acolyte: Leland Mitchell

Children's Sermon: Susan Ferguson

Next Week: Sue Garner

Children's Church: Leah Riden **Next week:** Sue Garner

Anthem: Chancel Choir; Doug Garner, Director

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

Preaching: Pastor James Thomas

Infants/Preschool: Karissa Zagurskie and Jimmy Zagurskie

Next week: Linda O'Dell and Alex Garner

Deacon for the Month: Lynn Curry

Counters: Bill Sisson and Brad Siddons

Next Week: Lisa Snyder and Dale Henry

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.

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 after church and we will play on Palm Sunday, March 25 during the service. Hope to see you!!!

LENTEN KIDZ KLUB: There is room for you at our Kidz Klub table this afternoon from 4-6 PM. We will prepare for our Passover meal by making unleavened bread. Clive has agreed to help us find all of the leaven in our Jerusalem house and sweep it out the door beforehand. Come join the fun on the third floor – even if this is your first time! Supper at 5:30 PM.

FAMILY EASTER EVENT: Mark your calendars for **Saturday, March 31**, (the day before Easter Sunday) and then invite a friend to join you on a thought provoking and meaningful Easter journey. Kids and their 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 to continue your journey with Jesus at home. Walk with Jesus begins at 8:45 am and will conclude at 11:45. **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.

MAUNDY THURSDAY OBSERVANCE: On Thursday, March 29, join us in the Baraca Room at 6:30 PM for a light meal followed by the Lord's Supper. At about 7:15, we will proceed to the sanctuary for a Tenebrae service – a service of gathering darkness – during which we will reflect on the gospel accounts of Christ's arrest and crucifixion. This is a very meaningful service, which helps us reflect on Jesus Christ's sacrifice for us.

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.

EASTER SUNRISE: We will meet at Mount Rock Cemetery at 7:30 on Easter morning for an early service at which we will reflect on the wonder of the women who came to Jesus' tomb to find it empty, and the joy of the realization that Christ is risen!

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 Bill Sisson's home. 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.

LENTEEN LUNCHEON: The final Lewistown Ministerium Lenten Luncheon will be at noon on Wednesday at the Sacred Heart school cafeteria.

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

YOUTH: GRADES 6-12 will continue with the Lenten study in Sacred Rhythms. Please join us on the third floor tonight at 6 PM.

COOKIE BAKERS NEEDED: Backyard Ministries has asked our church family if we can support their ministry by making cookies for families they serve. As many of you know, in the past we have made quarts of food for families once a month. While the food was greatly appreciated it is difficult to transport and to keep at the right temperature. Cookies can be made in the comfort of your own home and then placed in the container in the church freezer marked "Backyard Cookies." Please package the cookies in bags of 6 and mark the date on the bag. The cookies will be collected and distributed on the fourth Tuesday of each month. They provide a connection to the families who have children coming to Backyard Clubs to learn about Jesus. Please consider helping with this outreach to our community. *Thank you, Lynn Curry*

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.

DEACONS' OFFERING: The loose offering in the collection plate today is designated to the Deacons' Fund and will be used to assist church members in need.

GIFTS OF LOVE: Information about what to provide for Hygiene and School kits and how to package the items is in the narthex. Volunteers from the Huntingdon Presbytery will deliver the kits to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance distribution center.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Psalm 139:1-18, 23-24

¹ You have searched me, LORD, and you know me. ² You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. ³ You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. ⁴ Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely. ⁵ You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. ⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. ⁷ Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? ⁸ If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. ⁹ If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, ¹⁰ even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. ¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," ¹² even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you. ¹³ For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴ I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful; I know that full well. ¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. ¹⁶ Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. ¹⁷ How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them! ¹⁸ Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand—when I awake, I am still with you.

²³ Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. ²⁴ See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

March 18 – March 25, 2018

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

MONDAY, March 19

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

TUESDAY, March 20

- 6:30 PM Adult Lenten Study – Sisson home

WEDNESDAY, March 21

- 6:30 AM Adult Lenten Study – manse
- 12 Noon Lenten Luncheon – Sacred Heart Catholic
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY, March 25

- 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

GIVING REPORT AS OF 3/11/18

Weekly Need:	\$ 3,265.14	Yearly Need:	\$ 32,651.40
Last Week:	\$ 3,384.00	YTD Received:	\$ 30,193.00