



LEWISTOWN CHURCH  
**Presbyterian**

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

**October 20, 2019**

**29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Speaker:** Rev. Sarah Sedgwick

**Sermon:** Persistent Prayers

**Scripture:** Genesis 32:22-31; Luke 18:1-8

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Pastors: Sarah Sedgwick and Robert Zorn

# LEWISTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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**October 20, 2019**

**10:30 AM**

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**Prelude**

Harvest Gifts  
Fantasia

Ashdown  
Pachelbel

## **Welcome and Announcements**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

**All: And also with you!**

**Introit**

Great is Thy Mercy

Judy Hunnicutt

## **Call to Worship**

Leader: No matter how far from God we seem to be, we do not lose heart:

**All: For the days are surely coming, says the Lord.**

Leader: No matter how many obstacles we face in life, in the church, we do not lose heart:

**All: For the days are surely coming, says the Lord.**

Leader: No matter how hard it is to continually pray and work for justice, we do not lose heart:

**All: For the days are surely coming, says the Lord,  
when I will forgive and restore my people;  
when I will equip them for every good work;  
and when I will grant justice, for I hear their  
cries day and night.**

Leader: Let us worship God together!

\* **Hymn #40** (red)

To God Be The Glory

## **Call to Confession**

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Gracious God, we confess that we do not meditate on your commands and teachings all day long. We do not keep your word before us always and in all things. Forgive us, we pray, for pursuing our own desires rather than yours. Forgive us for losing hope in your power to transform the powers of this world. Turn our hearts to your commandments and words of grace. Do not remember our sin, but remember your mercy forever.**

## Silent Prayers of Confession

### Declaration of Pardon

Friends, God promises to forgive us, to put our sins out of God's own mind and heart. In this way, God gives us not just a second chance but a new beginning. Believe the good news of the gospel: our salvation is through faith in Christ Jesus.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### Passing of the Peace

Leader: In Jesus Christ, we know God's forgiveness and peace. The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us exchange signs of Christ's peace with one another.

**Anthem**

Fairest Lord Jesus

John Carter

### Children's Chat

### Prayer of Illumination

**Scripture**

Genesis 32:22-31; Luke 18:1-8

**Sermon**

Persistent Prayers

\* **Song**

Bless the Lord (10,000 Reasons)

*Chorus:*

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;*

*Worship His holy name.*

*Sing like never before, O my soul;*

*I'll worship Your holy name.*

1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,  
It's time to sing Your song again.  
Whatever may pass,  
And whatever lies before me,  
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

*(continued on the next page)*

2. You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.  
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.
  
3. And on that day, when my strength is failing,  
The end draws near, and my time has come;  
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending  
Ten thousand years, and then forevermore!  
Myrin & Redman, ©2011 Thankyou ~ CCLI#1881909

**\* Affirmation of Faith**

**This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. men.**

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory      Children of the Heavenly Father      Wood

Doxology #592 (blue)

Prayer of Dedication

**Hymn #434 (red)**

Sweet Hour of Prayer

**Charge and Blessing**

Hear Paul's encouragement to the church in Philippi

As a charge to us this day:

Do not worry about anything,

But in everything by prayer and supplication

With thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

And be of good courage,  
For the Lord will keep our going out and our coming in  
From this time on and forevermore.  
Amen.

\* **Closing Chorus**

To God Be The Glory

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
Let the earth hear His voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son,  
And give Him the glory,  
Great things He hath done!*

**Postlude**

Allegro

Boellmann

*\*if comfortably able, please stand*

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**SERVING IN WORSHIP**

**Accompanist:** Joan Loewen

**Introit:** Children's Choir; Director, Leah Riden

**Anthem:** Chancel Choir; Director, Doug Garner

**Liturgist:** Gerri Aitkin

**Next Week:** Lisa Snyder

**Acolyte:** Blake & Landon Cunningham

**Children's Chat:** Lynn Curry

**Next Week:** Joan Loewen

**Ushers:** Leah Riden (head usher), Ray Wilde, Ginny Westover, Mercy Westover, Maryann Haines, Elaine Siddons

**Children's Church:** Ginny Westover

**Next Week:** Griffiths/Cunningham

**Preaching:** Rev. Sarah Sedgwick

**Infants/Preschool:** Pam Pecht

**Next Week:** Venus Shade

**Deacon for the Month:** Elaine Siddons

**Counters:** Lisa Snyder & Lynn Curry

**Next Week:** Jack Wilson & Dave Noss

## **TODAY'S SCRIPTURE**

### **Genesis 32:22-31**

The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

### **Luke 18:1-8**

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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## **WEEKLY REFLECTION PAGE**

You are encouraged to use the reflection questions and prayers throughout the week to strengthen your relationship with Christ and all God's people.

### **Question for Reflection**

Is prayer a habit (or pattern) for you, or is it constant, or is it occasional? Do you feel that your prayers "bother" God?

### **Morning Prayer**

Thank you, gracious God, for giving me a limp. You have let me struggle with you; you have blessed me; you have marked me as your own. Send me out today, with all my frailties and weaknesses, to be a witness to your love, grateful for another day to sing your praise. Amen.

### **Evening Prayer – Psalm 121**

I lift up my eyes to the hills – from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. God will not let your foot be moved; the One who keeps you will not slumber. God who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day; nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore. Amen.

Feel free to share some thoughts on the reflection question with Pastor Sarah by emailing her at [pastorsedgwick@gmail.com](mailto:pastorsedgwick@gmail.com)



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WELCOME!** If you are visiting with us, please sign the Visitors' Register and pick up a Welcome Brochure. Children's activity bags, Bibles, large print hymnals and hearing devices are available from the ushers.

**PASTOR SEDGWICK'S CONTACT INFORMATION:** Pastor Sarah invites you to contact her if you have a pastoral concern, prayer request, or you would like a visit. She can be reached easiest by email at [pastorsedgwick@gmail.com](mailto:pastorsedgwick@gmail.com) or by calling her cell phone at 814-771-1891.

**BACKYARD MINISTRIES:** We have some opportunities to serve and love our Backyard Ministry friends this Fall!

- **MITTENS AND HATS:** Today is the deadline to return the mittens and hats.
- **PUMPKIN BREADS:** The week of Thanksgiving we will be delivering pumpkin breads to our backyard families. If you would like to make a bread, please bring it to the church by **November 24**. They can be made ahead and frozen! Small or large loaves are appreciated!

**DEACONS' OFFERING:** The loose offering in the collection plate TODAY is designated to the Deacons' Fund.

### **GIVING REPORT AS OF 10/13/19**

Weekly Need: \$ 3,173.08	YTD Need: \$ 130,104.28
Received: \$ 8,663.50	YTD Received: \$ 129,929.86

## **2019 SESSION COMMITTEE STRUCTURE**

*The session, along with the pastor, provides primary leadership of church. Session responsibilities are coordinated by the following committees. Please feel free to contact committee members with any questions, commendations, or concerns:*

**Christian Education:** Facilitates spiritual growth through classes, small groups, and special events. Coordinates Nursery, Children's Chat and Children's Church volunteers; oversees Youth Group, Small Groups, Sunday School, VBS, Traveling Day Camp and other programs, working closely with the Christian Education Coordinator. Elders are Leah Riden and Susan Ferguson.

**Worship and Music:** Works with the pastor to provide and facilitate meaningful worship services. Oversees choirs and choir directors, supervises ushers, coordinates acolytes and liturgists, arranges special music. Elders are Sue Garner, Doug Garner and Cole Cullen.

**Property:** Maintains and improves church buildings and properties in order to facilitate effective ministry; supervises custodial and security staff and serves as official liaison with outside groups who use our building. Elders are Dave Noss and Carl Haldeman.

**Stewardship:** Oversees and directs financial and personnel resources, supervises the church treasurer, provides stewardship education, recommends and oversees budget, oversees endowment funds and special offerings. Manages all paid personnel. Elders are Ruth Fisher, Lonnie Griffith and Ed Curry.

**Fellowship:** Facilitates spiritually edifying relationships within the church body, provides funeral lunches, organizes receptions, and meals for other events, oversees the church kitchen, provides opportunities for church members to get to know each other and deepen relationships. Elders are Bill Sisson and Carole Auker.

**Preschool:** Facilitates and directs the work of the Lewistown Presbyterian Preschool and Nursery School; establishes curriculum in conjunction with teachers; reviews teacher performance; oversees school finances, including scholarships; encourages congregational support and relationships with students and families. Elder is Leah Noerr.

**Mission and Evangelism:** Inspires and facilitates the church's outreach to the community and to the world by determining mission budget, maintaining relationships with mission coworkers, representing the church in the community, and organizing member participation in hands-on mission. Elders are Karen McCurdy and Lisa Snyder.

## **CALENDAR OF UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

### **SUNDAY, October 20**

- 9:00 AM Adult Study Group – Library
- 9:15 AM Children’s Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 AM Worship Service

### **MONDAY, October 21**

#### **PANORAMA DEADLINE**

- 11:30 AM Prayer Ministry

### **TUESDAY, October 22**

- 6:30 PM Small Group Study – third floor

### **WEDNESDAY, October 23**

- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### **THURSDAY, October 24**

- 6:00 PM Mission & Evangelism Committee Meeting
- 7:00 PM Nominating Committee Meeting

### **SUNDAY, October 27**

- 9:00 AM Adult Study Group – Library
- 9:15 AM Children’s Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 AM Worship Service
- 11:30 AM Community Luncheon

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If you would like to schedule a meeting or event at the church, please call the church office so that we can avoid conflicts and properly publicize church related events.

A number of 12 Step Groups meet in the church building throughout the week. If you or someone you know is interested, call the church office or check the listing at the Third Street church entrance for a list of meeting times.