



October 18, 2020
20th Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon:

The Person God Calls: Chooses the Unexpected

Scripture:

Esther 4:1-17; Acts 16:9-15

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Rev. Sarah Sedgwick
Rev. Robert Zorn, Pastor Emeritus

LEWISTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*~Respond by reading the words printed in **BOLD** during our
worship together~*

Prelude

Fantasia
Pastor Pastorum

Mozart
Ashdown

Welcome and Announcements

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

All: And also with you!

Welcome to our Zoom online worship service this morning. Today is October 18 and I am Rev. Sarah Sedgwick from Lewistown Presbyterian Church.

Let us begin with a few announcements:

- The Deacons will be meeting today immediately following worship.
- Calvary Church has invited LPC to join them for a Trunk or Treat on Saturday, October 31, from 5 PM to 7 PM at the Bon-Ton parking lot. Decorate your car (nothing scary, please) and bring some candy to pass out. If interested, email Lisa Snyder at lmsnyder61@gmail.com. First United Methodist Church and Sacred Heart Catholic Church will be joining, too.
- Rev. Zorn is graciously offering 100 wooden flowers for sale by donation in the narthex. Money raised through the sale of these beautiful flowers will be donated to Krislund Camp and Conference Center. Envelopes for your donation can be placed in the offering plate on Sundays.
- During the month of October, we will be collecting a special offering towards Peace and Global Witness. 25% of what we collect will stay in our community for projects that promote peace. Additional monies are used for presbytery and national projects through our denomination.
- The youth group will resume meeting tonight at 6 PM on the 3rd floor of the church. Youth in grades 6th to 12th are invited to join us!
- Submissions for the November Panorama are due Friday, October 23.

Let us worship God together as we join in the Call to Worship led by Susan Ferguson.

Call to Worship

Leader: Sing to the Lord and bless God's name.

All: Tell of God's saving power from day to day.

Leader: Worship the Lord in holy splendor.

All: Tremble before God, all the earth.

Leader: Let us join together in our first hymn, "Blessed Jesus, at Your Word."

Hymn

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

insert

Call to Confession

God does not regard us with partiality, but with the grace of Christ Jesus deals with each of us according to our need. With gratitude for this amazing grace, let us confess our sin.

Please join with me in the Prayer of Confession, following by a time of silent confession:

Prayer of Confession

What a debt we owe to you, O God. You have given us all things in Christ and yet we withhold from you the honor and glory that are yours. Instead we pay tribute to empire, plot to entrap the innocent, mock your truth with empty praise, and put your patience to the test. Forgive us, God, and by your grace restore in us the image of your face; through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

L: Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice, the sea roar with laughter, the fields shout in celebration, and the forests sing with joy: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

Choral Anthem

O How I Love Jesus

R. Robinson

Children's Chat

Ginny Westover

Prayer for Illumination

As we prepare our whole selves to listen to the Word of our Lord, let us pray:

Holy One, true and living God, through the message of the gospel and the power of your Spirit make us imitators of the Lord: Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Esther 4:1-17; Acts 16:9-15

Sermon

The Person God Calls: Chooses the Unexpected

Affirmation of Faith

Philippians 2:5-11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! 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; Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Invitation: The Lord made the heavens, and all the earth belongs to God. As Jesus taught us, let us give to God the things that are God's own.

Offertory

Galliarda

Gritchekine

Prayer of Dedication: All honor and majesty, strength and beauty are yours, Almighty God, maker of heaven and earth. Let these simple offerings we bring be a sign of the great glory that is due to your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn

Together We Serve

insert

Charge and Blessing

Go forth to declare God's glory
among all the nations
so that God's wonderful work
may be known to all.
And grace to you and peace
from God the Father,
through the Lord Jesus Christ,
in the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Postlude

Duo in G

John S. Dixon

SERVING IN WORSHIP
Accompanist: Joan Loewen Worship Assistant: Susan Ferguson Next Week: Tara Merry Children's Chat: Ginny Westover Next Week: Susan Ferguson

Giving Report as of 10/11/20

Weekly Need: \$3,056.17	YTD Need: \$125,302.36
Received \$2,198.00	YTD Received: \$118,322.76

Weekly Reflection Page

Please use these questions and prayers throughout this coming week.

Questions for Reflection

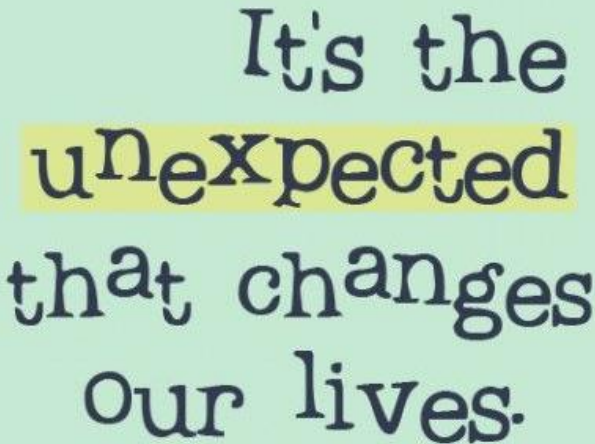
What does it mean to be an "imitator of Christ?" Who has influenced your life by the way that person "imitates" Christ, and how? What needs to happen within you to help you become an imitator of Christ?

Morning Prayer

[Silence] I listen quietly, Lord, and the morning sounds of creation draw me to you. It is then that I hear your voice, "I am pleased with you and I know you by name." Sometimes it is difficult to fully receive your pleasure in me, to grasp that you are fond of me, even when I have nothing to show for myself. May I remember that I am yours today. Amen.

Evening Prayer

I hold up this day with gratitude, holding close to my heart those whose faith helped carry me through this day. Amen.



It's the
unexpected
that changes
our lives.

PRAYER GUIDE

Our Community

- For those who are struggling with isolation; a decrease in paid work hours; homelessness; addiction & forms of abuse.

Our Nation

- For western states battling fires; for the November election of public servants.

For Our Ministry Leaders

- Rev. Sarah Sedgwick, staff, deacons, elders, & volunteers

Prayer Requests

- Bill Sisson: surgery for aortic valve and aorta replacement surgery has been rescheduled for the week of October 19
- Brad Siddons: weekly transfusions; cancer treatment
- Ryan Dixon: cancer
- Denise Beltzner: scleroderma and lupus
- Linda Miller: now at home; continued prayers for healing
- Debbie: breast cancer
- Sandy Northern: recovering from chemotherapy
- William Smith, 16 yr. old: cancer
- Curt Warfel; health concerns
- Rich Harper; chemo treatments
- Megan Earnest: ongoing health concerns
- George Garner: terminally ill
- Levi Foltz: 2-year-old with a tumor

Those in Care Facilities

- Valley View: Mary Lou Ingram, Jack Irrgang
- Ohesson: Etta Majestic, Shirley Ferguson, Lavonne Ball
- Shirley Home (Shirleysburg): Carl Knepp
- Hearthside (State College): Mary McClellan
- Locust Grove Retirement Village: Doris Hoverter

Those in the Military

03/LT Allison (Harklerode) Conforte, BM3 Tyler M. Earnest, SFC William Corson, SGT John Dietz, SSGT Tyler Treaster

Our Mission Partners

Shelter Services, Habitat for Humanity, Backyard Ministries Heart 2 Heart Program, LUMINA Center, Leah & Francis Daytec (Philippines), Camp Krislund, Adventures in Mission & BuildinGuate

Families of the Week

- Don Hirakis
- Michael & Susan Mowery

395 Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at your word we have come a -
 2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est
 3 Glo - rious Lord, your - self im - part, Light of Light, from

gain to hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
 dark - ness shroud - ed, till your Spir - it breaks our night,
 God pro - ceed - ing. Touch our lips and ears and heart;

and in glow - ing faith be near you. By your gos - pel
 fill - ing us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and
 help us by your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry your

true and ho - ly, teach us, Lord, to love you sole - ly.
 all good liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - ing.
 church now rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

Originally conceived to be sung before the sermon, this hymn assumes a congregation that assembles regularly, and it needs to be placed near the beginning rather than the end of worship. The simple repetitive tune reinforces the text's sense of receptivity and expectation.

Together We Serve 767

Capo 3: (G) (D) (Em) (Bm7)
 B^b F Gm Dm7

1 To - geth - er we serve, u - nit - ed by love,
 2 We seek to be - come a bea - con of hope,
 3 We wel - come the scarred, the wealth - y, the poor,
 4 To - geth - er, by grace, we wit - ness and work,

(C) (G) (Am7) (Dsus) (D)
 E^b B^b Cm7 Fsus F

in - vit - ing God's world to the glo - ri - ous feast.
 a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.
 the bus - y, the lone - ly, and all who need care.
 re - mem - ber - ing Je - sus, in whom we grow strong,

(G) (D) (C) (Bm)
 B^b F E^b Dm

We work and we pray through sor - row and joy,
 We learn, year by year, to let love shine through
 We of - fer a home to those who will come,
 To - geth - er we serve in Spir - it and truth,

(G) (C) (G) (Am) (D7) (G)
 B^b E^b B^b Cm F7 B^b

ex - tend - ing God's love to the last and the least.
 un - til we see Christ in each per - son we meet.
 our hands quick to help, our hearts read - y to dare.
 re - mem - ber - ing love is the strength of our song.

The first three words of this text appear in the website address for First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo, California, for whose centennial the hymn was commissioned. The text draws on Ephesians 4:11-16, a passage describing the many gifts and ministries within the body of Christ.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Time: October 18, 2020 9:30 AM, Kidz Zoom Zone; 10:00 AM Fellowship Time; 10:30 AM Worship

FROM YOUR COMPUTER OR LAPTOP – CLICK ON THE HYPERLINK BELOW

This is the most convenient option

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5766618472>

When prompted Enter Password: 4561

ONE TAP MOBILE (iPhone) Be sure you have the Zoom App first

Meeting ID: 576 661 8472

Password: 4561

DIAL BY USING YOUR LANDLINE

Call 1-312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 576 661 8472 followed by #

Password: 4561 followed by #

Find us on ZOOM for 10 am LIVE Fellowship Time; 10:30 AM Recorded Worship. Meeting ID is 576 661 8472; Password is 4561. Questions about connectivity? Contact Elder Susan Ferguson at slf615@gmail.com or 717-250-5774. She is HAPPY to help you connect by phone, tablet or computer.

Worship at other times – Go to YouTube.com and search for the Lewistown Presbyterian Church channel for recorded worship services. Watch the recorded worship services on Facebook at Lewistown Presbyterian or LPC Friends. Or use your free subscription to RIGHT NOW Media and find worship services under “Libraries – Lewistown Presbyterian Church.”