



November 1, 2020
22nd Sunday after Pentecost
Communion Sunday

Sermon:
Every Good Gift – Generous Giving

Scripture:
Psalm 34:1-10; Mark 12:38-44

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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

We Gather Together
God is Near You

Raybold
Kasen

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 November 1, 2020 and I am Rev. Sarah Sedgwick from Lewistown Presbyterian Church.

Let us begin with a few announcements:

- Christmas Cards 2020: The Deacons have provided a basket in the narthex to collect Christmas cards for our shut-ins. The Christmas Card list is in the back of the bulletin and there is a copy by the card basket. Please bring in your cards by Sunday, December 13, and the Deacons will deliver them. If you are unable to bring the cards to church, please let the church office know and a Deacon will pick them up for you.
- It is getting cold outside! Many children in our community are in need of warm hats and mittens. If you would be able to help keep our Backyard kids warm this winter, please consider purchasing (if you like to shop) or donating towards this much needed opportunity for us to love others! If you want to shop, please call me at 717-250-5957, and I will give you a size, and whether it is a girl or boy. Donations are greatly appreciated from those who would rather let us do the shopping. As of right now, we have 56 children who need our help! *"The needy shall not be forgotten."* LPC Backyard Ministry Representative, Lynn Curry
- Rev. Zorn's wooden flowers are still for sale by donation. Donations towards the flowers will be given to Krislund Camp and Conference Center. Flowers are in the narthex along with donation envelopes.
- Stewardship letters and pledge cards were mailed last week. Prayerfully consider how God is calling you to give

your treasures to God's church in 2021. Pledges will be dedicated during our November 15 worship service.

- The youth group will meet tonight at 6 PM on the 3rd floor of the church. Youth in grades 6th to 12th are invited to attend for an evening of Bible study and fellowship.
- The November newsletter has been emailed and copies are available at the entrances of the sanctuary.
- We celebrate the Lord's Supper today in worship. Those joining us by Zoom are invited to have bread and juice available in their home. Individual communion cups with wafers are available at the entrances of the sanctuary for folks joining up in person.

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

Call to Worship

Leader: When we stand at the edge of fear and worry,

All: God invites us to step into the waters of faith and trust.

Leader: When we stand at the edge of the world's pain and need,

All: Jesus invites us to step into the land of humble service.

Leader: When we stand at the edge of our hunger and thirst:

All: The Spirit invites us to sit at the Table of grace.

Hymn

Fairest Lord Jesus

insert

Call to Confession

God turns the desert into pools of water and guides those who have gone astray. Let us confess to God the depth of our need that we may be saved from trouble.

Please join with me in reading the Prayer of Confession, followed by a time of silent confession.

Prayer of Confession

Lord God, only you are holy. Yet we imagine that we are righteous, excusing our own faults while pointing out those of others. We are quick to lay burdens upon our neighbors but slow to help with their own. We take credit and give blame. In spite of the grace you have shown to us, we are slow to show mercy. Forgive us, O God, and

wash us clean that we may serve you with joy and thanksgiving. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

L: Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Leader: Sisters and brothers, God has made a way where there was no way. In Christ Jesus evil and death have been vanquished, and we live in a state of grace. Believe the gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

Choral Anthem

Children's Chat

Pastor Sarah Sedgwick

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray together as we prepare to hear God's holy word:

By your Spirit, O God, still our restless spirits and unstop our ears. Let us hear your Word that it may be at work in us; for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Psalm 34:1-10; Mark 12:38-44

Sermon

Every Good Gift – Generous Giving

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Celebration of Holy Communion

Invitation

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.

Prayer after Communion

Invitation: Let God's Word be at work within you, offering gifts with glad and joyful hearts.

Prayer of Dedication: Giver of all good gifts, how can we thank you for your never-ending love? Even our very lives are not enough. Accept these offerings as tokens of our gratitude and signs of our hope in the real you have promised, the kingdom for which we wait. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

insert

People of God, servants of our eternal teacher, listen to the Word of God, practice humility, give thanks for the work you have to do, offering your voice on behalf of those whose needs you know. Walk in peace with your neighbors. And may the One who sends true prophets into our world guide and keep you, this day and always, in the way of the Lord. Amen.

Koury

Accompanist: Joan Loewen
Worship Assistant: Miranda Shoop
Next Week: Ginny Westover
Children's Chat: Pastor Sarah Sedgwick
Next Week: Miranda Shoop

YTD Received: \$123,981.76

Weekly Reflection Page

Please use these questions and prayers throughout this coming week.

Questions for Reflection

"There is nothing we have that isn't a gift to us," says Ann Voskamp, in her book *Every Good Gift*. What difference does it make to you to know everything you have – including your money – is a gift from God?

Morning Prayer

Thank you for waking me this morning, O God. Each day is a gift from you. Let your Word be at work within me today that I may be faithful to you and every breath be a prayer of gratitude. Amen.

Evening Prayer

Thank you for bringing me to the end of this day, O Lord. Forgive my missteps and oversights, and heal any wounds I may have caused. Let me rest in you without fear or anxiety, that I may awake to serve you with joy and praise. Amen.

Let's Honor The Lord With Our Giving

*"Remember this, whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly.
And whoever sows generously will also reap generously."*

2 Corinthians 9:6



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 the November election of public servants.

For Our Ministry Leaders

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

Prayer Requests

- Bill Sisson: Recovery from surgery on Oct. 20.
- Brad Siddons: weekly transfusions; cancer treatment; abscessed tooth
- Ryan Dixon: cancer
- Denise Beltzner: scleroderma and lupus
- Linda Miller: now at home; continued prayers for healing
- Debbie: breast cancer
- 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

01/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

- Mary Lou Ingram
- Tedmond, Maggie, Leland, Maela & Ethan Mitchell

Biblical Advice for Cheerful Givers

We've been told this since our days in Sunday school: We want to give and we need to give gladly. A spirit of generosity isn't enough to guide us in our decisions. What else does Scripture have to say on the subject?

Three kinds of financial giving are mentioned in the Bible: offerings, tithes and alms. Understanding what they mean helps us achieve a thoughtful, balanced plan for our cheerful giving.

*Each of you must give
as you have made up
your mind, for God loves
a cheerful giver.
(2 Corinthians 9:7)*

Offerings and Tithing

On the first day of every week, each of you is to put aside and save whatever extra you earn, so that collections need not be taken when I come (1 Corinthians 16:2).

The faith practice of making a regular financial offering to your congregation is grounded in a "first fruits" philosophy.

We might think of this giving as "business as usual." You pay the rent, you buy groceries and you contribute regularly to help carry out God's mission in the world. Your generosity isn't an afterthought; it's part of your day-in-and-day-out joyful response as a child of God.

These offerings first help to support local ministries, outreach and more. Your congregation then shares a portion of your offering—mission support—with your synod and the churchwide expression. *Stories of Faith in Action* is filled with examples of how mission support enables us to do God's work with our hands.

Many Christians talk about their regular contribution as a tithe. This helps them to differentiate between their financial commitment to their congregation and the special offerings they designate to specific causes. Such causes may include ELCA World Hunger, a program of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, your congregation's building fund or a pan-Lutheran organization such as Lutheran World Relief.

We encourage your designated support of these worthy causes. But we also recommend that these offerings are given above and beyond, and never in place of, your commitment to your regular congregational offering.

Alms

Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys (Luke 12:33).

Alms are our compassionate, heartfelt response to the people Jesus mentioned in Matthew 25: those "least" of our sisters and brothers who are "less" than we in circumstance only and always our equal in their humanity.

This is our most personal and spontaneous kind of giving in response to people in need. Think about the homeless man you see everyday by the bus stop or the family in your congregation whose home was lost during a fire. Your outreach makes God's love for them feel very real and very immediate; your kindness reveals Christ's presence within them as well.

Time and Talent

It's also important to remember that when we focus exclusively on giving in terms of money alone, we lose sight of the bigger picture. God calls us to be generous in all areas our lives and invites us to explore the many opportunities to share ourselves through our time and talent.

When we ground our giving in a biblical context, our financial generosity becomes an expression of our love for God, for our neighbor and for ourselves. We are new people in Christ: compassionate and eager to share.

We give cheerfully because God has given us so much.



CHRISTMAS CARDS 2020: The Deacons have provided a basket in the narthex to collect Christmas cards for our shut-ins. Please bring in your cards by Sunday, December 13, and the Deacons will deliver them. If you are unable to bring the cards to church, please let the church office know and a Deacon will pick them up for you. We will be collecting cards for:

Lavonne Ball
Donald Black
Nancy Bowman
Nancy Carter
Jean Clark
Shirley Ferguson
Audrey Hassinger
Doris Hoverter
Mary Lou Ingram
John Irrgang

Carl Knepp
Lois Notestine
Thiry Olbrich
April Paige
Joan Renaldi
Shirley Setzler
Brad Siddons
Marsha Sout
Lowell & Dottie Stephens
Virginia Warfel

Addresses for you to send cards:

Rev. Cindy & Dave Carlisle
8 Crabapple Court
Lake in the Hills, IL 60158

Rev. Larry & Nancy Chottiner
642 Alcott Drive
Mount Joy, PA 17552

Dr. Eric & Becky Hinderliter
1311 Climbing Rose
Cary, NC 37518

Phyllis Hinderliter
76 Partridge Circle
Carlisle, PA 17013

Rev. James & Devon Thomas
382 Shaw Road
Ridley Park, PA 19078

630

Fairest Lord Jesus

1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Rul - er of all
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair - er still the
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Rul - er of the

na - ture, O thou of God to earth come
 wood - lands, robed in the bloom - ing garb of
 moon - light, and all the twink - ling, star - ry
 na - tions, Son of God and Son of

down, thee will I cher - ish, thee will I
 spring, Je - sus is fair - er; Je - sus is
 host, Je - sus shines bright - er; Je - sus shines
 Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o -

hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
 pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
 pur - er, than all the an - gels heaven can boast.
 ra - tion, now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Franz Liszt used this melody for a "Crusaders' March" in an oratorio, but this hymn had nothing to do with the Crusades. No record of the German text exists before the middle of the 17th century or of the Silesian folk melody before the first half of the 19th century.

I Love to Tell the Story

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry; 'tis pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it, like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know 'tis true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else could do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly Word.
 'twill be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

This text is drawn from the second part of a fifty-stanza poem on the life of Christ written in 1866, during the author's recovery from a serious illness. The tune named for her first appeared three years later, and the composer was responsible for the creation of the refrain.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Time: November 1, 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

KIDZ ZOOM – CLICK ON THE HYPERLINK BELOW (It is a different link)

Join Zoom Meeting for Kidz Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88365779417?pwd=RktDS0Qxcmk5eUZZaEpoazBhbXQ0dz09>

Meeting ID: 883 6577 9417

Passcode: 9643

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.”