Service of Worship

Leeds Community Church

March 17, 2024 Rev. Steve Allman, pastor of LCC

*\* You may stand.*

PRELUDE

BELLS

WELCOME

ENTERING SACRED SPACE

“Every moment and every event of every man's life on earth plants something in his soul.” -Thomas Merton

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Psalm 51)

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love.

**According to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions.**

You desire truth in our deepest selves, so teach our hearts wisdom.

**Let us hear your joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**

Create in us clean hearts, O God; put new and right spirits within us.

**Sustain in us willing spirits and restore us to the joy of your salvation.**

\*HYMN #487 “When Morning Gilds the Skies”

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**Almighty God, our redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope. Renew us by your Holy Spirit, so that we may follow your commands and proclaim your reign of love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Living Christ, with whom we journey to the cross, we confess that we are always looking for an easier way. We long for the fullness of life with you, but we are slow to abandon the comforts of the life we know. We seek the fruit of new life, but we are not willing to die to ourselves. You call us to life in community, but we stubbornly cling to “me and mine.” Yet you offer the grace of life abundant, even and especially when our best efforts fall short. Transform us, renew us, and free us from our attachment to what was, so that you might bring us into the glory of what will be. In Jesus’ name we pray,**

**Amen.**

*Time for silent confession*

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, hear the good news! We worship a God who forgives our iniquities and remembers our sins no more. Brothers and sisters, believe the good news of the Gospel:

**In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven.** **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\*GLORIA PATRI #579

PREPARE TO HEAR GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Jeremiah 31:31-34 (p. 735 OT), John 12:20-33 (pp. 106-107 NT)

SERMON “Seeing Jesus”

\*HYMN #82 “O Lamb of God Most Holy!”

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*DOXOLOGY #592

\*HYMN #387 “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

BENEDICTION

RESPONSE #438 “Blessed Be the Tie that Binds”

Calendar of Events: (see insert)

**Biography:**

Rev. Allman is happy to be serving in Leeds. He grew up in eastern Pennsylvania and spent time in sales and teaching before attending Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Before coming to Maine, he served churches in West Virginia, New York, and South Dakota. He’s currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry Degree at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. You can reach him at (207) 240-2958 or revallman@gmail.com.

ELDERS: Brenda Lake Jane Wheeler

Bill Flewelling Barbara Grant

DEACONS: Patricia Leblond Jo Brackett

 Bill Grant John Nutting

 Sue Jewett Ami Merrick

The **Sacrament of Holy Communion** is shared on the first Sunday of each month.

The first Sunday of each month we collect bottles to benefit the **accessibility fund**.

DEACONS – first Monday of every month, 5:30 p.m.

SESSION – Wednesday, 4/10/24, 2 p.m.

CHILDREN’S CHURCH – Sundays at 10 a.m., starting in the sanctuary

Website: www.leedscommunitychurch.org Like us on Facebook

Email: leedscommunitychurch.me@gmail.com phone: (207) 524-5444

Clerk of Session: Jane Wheeler

Chair of Deacons: John Nutting

Church Treasurer: Barbara Grant

Organist/Choir Director: Eileen Coyne

**Leeds Community Church**

We are a Christian church that is committed to carrying out the mission of Christ. We, therefore, are socially active. Our church is open to all people, regardless of background or any other status. “Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family” is never far from thought. We pray that every person will feel acceptance, the love of Christ, the joy of the Holy Spirit, and the wonder of God’s grace.

