# THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENLAWN



Sunday Service of Worship
December 5, 2021 – The Second Sunday of Advent
10:30 a.m.

Meeting ID: 896 9114 5321 Passcode: 215989

Dial in: 1 (646) 558-8656

497 Pulaski Road Greenlawn, NY 11740 Phone: 631-261-2150

http://greenlawnpresbyterian.com/

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#### THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENLAWN

December 5, 2021 – 10:30 a.m. The Second Sunday of Advent "Peace"

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#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

Deacon Barbara Small

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE
CANDLELIGHTING
SCRIPTURE

Jane and Ken Longstreet

Luke 1:76-79

**PRAYER** 

**GATHERING MUSIC** 

CALL TO WORSHIP

The reign of God is drawing near.

The prophet calls us to change our lives!

Prepare the way for the Lord:

A just and peaceful path!

We come to worship today, and Christ welcomes us,

For the glory of God!

HYMN # 5 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

**PICARDY** 

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand. Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in His hand, Christ our God to Earth descend-eth, our full homage to demand.

King of Kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on Earth He stood, Lord of Lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood. He will give to all the faith-ful His own self for Heavenly food. Rank on rank the Host of Heaven spreads its vanguard on the way. As the Light of Light descendeth from the realms of endless day, That the powers of hell may van-ish as the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim, with sleepless eye, Veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High!

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, You call us to turn our lives around, and work with patience and diligence, but we get discouraged and give up too soon. You call us to collaborate in community, but we neither trust nor honor the gifts of others. You call us to be full of joyful confidence, but we burden ourselves with anxiety and fear. Forgive us, and lead us in the ways of patience, community, joy, and peace. Amen.

#### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

## **GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end. Amen, Amen.

#### PRAYER CONCERNS

Elder Betty Chatfield

#### PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

... All this we pray in Jesus' name, saying, 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. Amen.

# Congregational Response:

Breathe on me, breath of God. Fill me with life anew. That I may love what Thou dost love, and do what Thou wouldst do.

## INVITATION TO OFFERING

The First Presbyterian Church of Greenlawn 497 Pulaski Road Greenlawn, NY 11740 DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

With these gifts, dear God, accept the praise and thanksgiving of our hearts, which rejoice in Your goodness and Your love. Let our gifts point to Your presence, and further Your dream for the world, through Jesus, Emmanuel, God-with-us. Amen.

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Luke 3:1-6

HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER

SERMON Rev. Dr. Van Cleef

"The Crooked Roads Shall Become Straight"

COMMUNION HYMN In Remembrance of Me

**RED** 

In remembrance of me, eat this bread. In remembrance of me, drink this cup. In remembrance of me, pray for the time when God's own will is done.

In remembrance of me, heal the sick. In remembrance of me, feed the poor.

Open the door and let your neighbors in. Let them in.

Take, eat, and be comforted. Drink, and remember, too. That this is my body and precious blood shed for you, shed for you.

In remembrance of me, search for truth. In remembrance of me, always love. In remembrance of me, don't look above but in your heart – look for God.

Do this in remembrance of me.

#### THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

For the nourishment of spirit, mind, and body, for faith that we begin to see, and for comfort from the Prince of Peace, we share our gratitude, Gracious God. Encourage us in these shortened days. And, through the long nights of this season, may our faith in You carry us until the dawn arrives again. Amen.

Rejoice! Rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear. The evening is advancing and darker night is near. The Bridegroom is arising and soon He will draw nigh. Up, watch with expectation, at midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning. Replenish them with oil.

Look now for your salvation, the end of sin and toil.

The marriage feast is waiting. The gates wide open stand.

Arise, O heirs of glory, the Bridegroom is at hand.

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear.

Arise, Thou sun so longed for, above this shadowed sphere.

With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see
The day of Earth's redemption, and ever be with Thee.

#### **BENEDICTION**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: # 56 NOWELL

THE FIRST

They look-ed up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far,
And to the Earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.

# JOYS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Many Thanks!

The bulletin and announcements were written last Monday, so we will have to thank the Christmas Tea and Fair helpers next week. But meanwhile ...

Thank you to Kathie Gerlach and her team: Claire Proctor, Althea Segale, and Ann Van Cleef, for decorating the wreathes that were sold at yesterday's Christmas Fair.

Thank you to Bob Arelt, Larry Foray, and Gary Prentiss for installing the outdoor banner that advertised our Fair.

Thank you to Craig Satterlee, Leslie Strait, Claire & Paul Proctor, Bob & Ann Van Cleef, and Antoinette Viteritti for purchasing the wreathes and poinsettias for the Christmas Fair last week

Have you seen the Youth Group Room? Larry Foray has been painting it, and it looks terrific. Thank you, Larry.

## **Coffee Hour Hosting**

Today's Coffee Hour is being hosted by Susan Perrotta. Thank you, Susan.

#### **Poinsettias for Christmas**

We went ahead and ordered 45 poinsettias, same number as last year, from our wholesaler. The poinsettias will be on the Communion Table om Sunday, December 19, and Christmas Eve. So, keep turning those order forms in; we'll let you know when we reach 45.

## **Christmas Tree Lighting**

Mark your calendar! On Sunday, December 19, at 5:00 p.m., we will have a special community event: we will light our new Christmas tree outside, sing some Christmas carols, and then come inside for some hot chocolate and Christmas cookies. Please plan to attend, and invite a friend.

# The Sanctuary as a Prayerful Place

We said that we would try having "quiet time" in the Sanctuary for a few weeks. Now it's time to evaluate this experiment and see if we want to continue it. If you have not done so already, please give Pastor Ann your feedback. Thank you.

# Women's Choir

The Women's Choir meets every Sunday at 9:45 a.m. The choir will sing at our Lessons and Carols Service on December 19.

# **Lessons and Carols – December 19**

Once again, we will be holding our Lessons and Carols Service on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, December 19, at 10:30 a.m.

This Service tells the story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus. It is told in nine short Bible readings from Genesis, the Prophetic Books, and the Gospels, and is interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols, hymns, and other music.

The original format was based on an Order of Worship for Christmas Eve, 1880, in Cornwall, England. It is said that a key purpose of the Service at that time was to keep men out of the pubs on Christmas Eve!

The Service at FPC Greenlawn will be based on the one at *The King's College* in Cambridge, England, where the nine lessons are read by representatives of the congregation and of the local community. We already have several community leaders who have agreed to read. We also have some soloists from our congregation.

This will be a very inspiring Service of worship. Please plan to attend, and invite a friend!

# **The Little Food Pantry**

The Little Food Pantry is in need of breakfast cereal, pasta (spaghetti, macaroni, ziti, etc.), canned tuna, canned chicken and canned Spam.

When you go to the grocery store, it would be much appreciated if you could pick up an extra box of cereal, pasta, or some canned meat to donate to the pantry. Thank you so much!

# <u>Tuesday Fellowship Group – New Meeting Information</u>

The Tuesday Fellowship Group has returned to its original time of 1:00 p.m. People who don't get out much are particularly encouraged to join. (Don't worry, we don't give out awards for perfect attendance.) If you don't have access to the Internet, you may call in at: 1 646 558 8656. **New Meeting ID: 820 4624 2452 Passcode:** 675634

# **STAFF**

Pastor Administrative Assistant

Rev. Dr. Ann M. Van Cleef Leonora Colletti

<u>pastorannsutton@yahoo.com</u> <u>fpcgoffice@gmail.com</u>

Director of Music Fellowship Director

Leonora Colletti Debbie Eitel

CustodianTreasurerGary PrentissJames Dean

Financial Secretary Benevolence Secretary

Betty Chatfield Susan Perrotta

Webmaster Irene Lang

# THE SESSION

Susan Perrotta, Recording Clerk

Class of 2021Class of 2022Class of 2023Betty ChatfieldDiane KirchhoffArlissa DeanDebbie EitelGary PrentissKathleen Gerlach

Ruth Satterlee George Santos