

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENLAWN



Sunday Service of Worship
April 16, 2023 – The Second Sunday of the Easter Season
10:30 a.m.

Meeting ID: 811 4762 6880
Passcode: 513956

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GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

Dan Charnews

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is risen.

He is risen, indeed.

Come, let us praise the Lord.

Let us worship our risen Savior.

For death has given away to life.

Despair has been overwhelmed by hope.

Grief has been replaced by joy.

And darkness has been dispelled by light!

All is made new, for Christ is risen.

He is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

HYMN # 119

The Strife Is O'er

VICTORY

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The strife is o'er, the battle done. The victory of life is won.

The song of triumph has begin. Alleluia!

The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their legions hath dispersed.

Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!

The three sad says are quickly sped. Christ rises glorious from the dead.

All glory to our risen Head! Alleluia!

Lord, by Your wounds on Calvary, from death's dread sting Your servants free,

That we may live eternally. Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us, God, for seeking to limit Your truth to what we can understand. Forgive us for chasing after idols of our own making. We are so busy with them that we forget to open ourselves to Your larger reality. We reduce the circles of connection and caring that Jesus demonstrated. Be to us a refuge, granting us courage to face the questions that haunt us until they lead to a deeper understanding. Forgive us, we pray. 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

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

We rejoice in the inheritance You have given us, O God, and delight in sharing it with others. You have given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. You have touched our lives with eternity, with indescribable and glorious joy. We want others to experience what we have

begun to realize in company with one another and with You. To than end, bless all the offerings of this day. Amen.

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

John 20:19-31

HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Ann Van Cleef

“The Thomas in All of Us”

HYMN # 108

Christ Is Alive!

TRURO

*Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.*

*Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
Till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with jus-tice, love, and praise.*

*Not throned afar, remotely high, untouched, unmoved by human pains,
But daily in the midst of life, our Savior in the God-head reigns.*

*In every insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives where even hope has died.*

*Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
Till Earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.*

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 423

*Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run.
His Kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.*

JOYS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS, FOLLOWED BY POSTLUDE

Indoor Community Yard Sale – This Saturday

We have over a dozen neighbors and vendors who will be participating in our Indoor Community Yard Sale this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please stop by – you never know what treasures you’re going to find!

Presbytery Meeting

The Presbytery of Long Island will meet at Westminster United Presbyterian Church in West Islip this Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. Pastor Ann will be

attending; we are looking for an ordained Elder to serve as a Commissioner from our church to that meeting. Please see Pastor Ann if you can serve, as prior registration is necessary.

Becoming a Contagious Christian Class

Session 2 of *Becoming a Contagious Christian* will be offered to Session members today after Coffee Hour.

This 6-session class will be offered to the congregation in the fall. Bill Becker is the instructor. Thank you, Bill!

Looking Ahead:

We have some wonderful worship experiences coming up!

April 23: Holocaust Memorial Sunday. Rabbi Gadi Capela, Guest Speaker

April 30: Thanking God for the Gift of the Earth (Earth Day).

May 7: "Mix It Up Sunday." Everything will be different!

May 14: Mother's Day. Bring a photo of Mom for the Communion Table!

May 28: Pentecost and Memorial Day – a Blended Service.

June 11: Music Ministries Sunday

June 18: Father's Day. Bring a photo of Dad for the Communion Table!

A Gift from Leonora Knight

Leonora is grateful for the way our congregation has embraced her, and would like to show her appreciation by inviting you to a recital by her piano and voice students. It will take place next Sunday, April 23, at 12:30 p.m., immediately following Coffee Hour.

This is a wonderful opportunity for us to applaud the efforts of these young musicians, and to welcome them and their parents to the fellowship of our church.

Mark Your Calendar

On Saturday, May 20, we will be holding a Health Fair in our CE Hall. We have ten health-related participants signed up. Please see Bill Becker if you have ideas or suggestions. Stay tuned – there's more information to come.

STAFF

Pastor

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Interim Worship Accompanist

Leonora Knight

Custodian

Gary Prentiss

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Debbie Eitel

Treasurer

James Dean

Benevolence Secretary

Susan Perrotta

Building Use Manager

Larry Foray

THE SESSION

Susan Perrotta, Recording Clerk

Class of 2023

Arlissa Dean
Kathleen Gerlach
Craig Satterlee

Class of 2024

Debbie Eitel
Larry Foray
Susan Perrotta

Class of 2025

Marian Adams
Bill Becker
Gary Prentiss