THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENLAWN



Sunday Service of Worship April 30, 2023 – Thanking God for the Gift of the Earth 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

Come, let us dwell in God's shelter.

Let us dwell in God's work of art.

Come, because the Earth is the Lord's.

And God's Earth is our home.

We live in God's world. We are not alone.

We share life with the heavens and the Earth;

With the waters and the land; with trees and grasses;

With fish, birds, and creatures of every form;

And with all our brothers and sisters.

God is good, and everything God makes is good.

God is love, and everything God makes is the fruit of that love. Let us worship God!

HYMN # 455

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing.

Alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Allelu – ia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong. Ye clouds that sail in heaven along. O sing ye! Alleluia!

Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice. Ye lights of evening, find a voice!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Allelu – ia!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear, make music for thy Lord to hear.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou fire so masterful and bright, that givest us both warmth and light.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Allelu – ia!

Thou fertile earth that day by day unfoldest blessings on your way. O sing ye! Alleluia!

The flowers and fruits that in thee grow, let them God's glory also show!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Allelu – ia!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, Maker of Heaven and Earth, You place us in Your creation, and you command us to care for it. Your works declare glory and splendor, and You call us to praise and reverence.

Where we have degraded or destroyed Earth's bounty, forgive us. Where we have taken beauty and majesty for granted, have mercy upon us. Where we have become estranged from the creatures with whom we share this planet, grant us Your peace.

Renew us in the waters of Baptism. Refresh us with the winds of Your Holy Spirit. Sustain us with the Bread of Life. Forgive us for the sake of Creation and in the name of Jesus Christ, 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

Generous God, You have blessed us with the resources to share the Good News of Your love for all Creation. We dedicate these gifts and pray that they may bring healing, wholeness, and hope to the world that future generations may also know Your graciousness and love. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Psalm 8

SERMON "The Earth Is the Lord's" Rev. Dr. Ann Van Cleef

HYMN # 293

This Is My Father's World

TERRA BEATA

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
All nature sings and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world. I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas. God's hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems of to strong, God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world. The battle is not done.

Jesus, who died, shall be satisfied, and Earth and Heaven be one.

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

We've a story to tell to the nations, that shall turn their hearts to the right.

A story of truth and mercy, a story of peace and light, a story of peace and light!

For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noonday bright,

And Christ's great kingdom shall come to Earth, the kingdom of love and light.

We've a song to be sung to the nations that shall lift their hearts to the Lord, A song that shall conquer evil, and shatter the spear and sword,

And shatter the spear and sword!

For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noonday bright, And Christ's great kingdom shall come to Earth, the kingdom of love and light.

We've a message to give to the nations, that the Lord who reigneth above Has sent us His Son to save us, and show us that God is love,

And show us that God is love!

For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noonday bright, And Christ's great kingdom shall come to Earth, the kingdom of love and light.

We've a Savior to show to the nations, who the path of sorrow has trod, That all of the world's great peoples may come to the truth of God, May come to the truth of God!

For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noonday bright, And Christ's great kingdom shall come to Earth, the kingdom of love and light.

JOYS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS, FOLLOWED BY POSTLUDE

Churchyard Clean-up

This bulletin was written on Tuesday; rumor had it that there was going to be rain today. In case of rain, we will re-schedule our churchyard clean-up to later in May. (Perhaps May 21.)

Becoming a Contagious Christian Class

If it rains today, we will hold Session 3 of *Becoming a Contagious Christian* for Session members after Coffee Hour.

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

Bell Choir

Our Bell Choir had its second rehearsal last Wednesday morning. Please see Marian Adams if you are interested in joining.

Women's Choir

Our Women's Choir is preparing for Music Ministries Sunday on June 11. We rehearse every Sunday in the Parlor at 9:30 a.m. New members are always welcome. The ability to read music, although helpful, is not necessary, but the ability to carry pitch is essential.

Mark Your Calendar

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

Thank You from Gadi and Leonora

Last Sunday, we had two special events: a Holocaust Memorial Service and a Musical Recital. Rabbi Gadi wishes to thank the congregation for your warm hospitality, and says he enjoyed his time here. Leonora Knight wants to thank us for allowing her students to perform in concert, and is grateful for the church members who attended the concert.

Looking Ahead:

We have some wonderful worship experiences coming up!

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!

STAFF

Pastor Administrative Assistant

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Interim Worship Accompanist Fellowship Director

Leonora Knight Debbie Eitel

CustodianTreasurerGary PrentissJames Dean

Financial Secretary Benevolence Secretary

Betty Chatfield Susan Perrotta

Webmaster Building Use Manager

Irene Lang Larry Foray

THE SESSION

Susan Perrotta, Recording Clerk

<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>
Arlissa Dean	Debbie Eitel	Marian Adams
Kathleen Gerlach	Larry Foray	Bill Becker
Craig Satterlee	Susan Perrotta	Gary Prentiss