

**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF GREENLAWN**



**Sunday Celebration of Worship
December 11, 2022
10:30 a.m.
The Third Sunday of Advent - Joy**

**Meeting ID: 890 3017 6533
Passcode: 380295
Dial in: 1 (646) 558-8656**

**497 Pulaski Road
Greenlawn, NY 11740
Phone: 631-261-2150
<http://greenlawnpresbyterian.com/>
[Facebook.com/First-Presbyterian-Church-of-Greenlawn](https://www.facebook.com/First-Presbyterian-Church-of-Greenlawn)**

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENLAWN

December 11, 2022 – 10:30 a.m.
The Third Sunday of Advent - Joy

Meeting ID: 890 3017 6533

Passcode: 380295

Dial in: 1 646 558 8656

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

Dan Charnews

THE LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

Susan Perrotta

Isaiah 35:1, 2, 8, 10

Rosalie Schweighardt

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come away from haste and frantic busyness.

This is the season for frantic waiting.

It is hard to still our souls when we are so busy.

It is hard to be patient with ourselves and others.

Receive God's mercy, and strengthen your hearts.

A Savior is coming; God's love is near.

We want to hear and believe God's promises.

We want to become patient, loving seekers.

God presents us with a high and holy way.

Come before God now with praise and singing.

We sense the joy that God offers to us.

Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

HYMN # 9

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

*O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.*

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

*O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by Thine advent here.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.*

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

*O come, Desire of Nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind.
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease. Fill the whole world with Heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Come into our emptiness, gracious God. We feel empty because we have shut You out of our lives. Break through our pretensions, Holy One. We pretend to be powerful because we have not claimed the joy that is available deep within when You dwell with us. Quiet our grumbling and complaining. We are impatient because we have focused on things, not on You. Enter our lives with the forgiveness You have promised to all who are truly sorry for their unfaithfulness. Release us from our self-centered prisons. 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.*

RECEPTION OF A NEW MEMBER INTO OUR CHURCH

PRAYER CONCERNS

Betty Chatfield

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

.....All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray by 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

Majestic God, thank You for inviting us to share the blessings that You pour out on us. We want to extend the healing ministry of Jesus who gave sight to those who were blind, and new insight to some who only pretend to see. Use our resources to heal attitudes as well as bodies, and to bring wholeness, not just cures. Help us to address the inequities of the Earth that leave so many without food or shelter or hope. Lead us into Your realm in the midst of our daily living. Amen.

A MUSICAL GIFT
Evola

Olivia

The First Noel

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE
11

Matthew 11:2-

HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER

SERMON

“What Would Jesus Do?”

Rev. Dr. Ann Van Cleef

HYMN # 12

People, Look East

BESANÇON

*People, look east, the time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able. Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way.*

*Stars, keep the watch when night is dim. One more light the bowl shall brim.
Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.*

*Angels, announce with shouts of mirth, Christ, who brings new life to Earth.
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look ease and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.*

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: # 56
NOWELL

THE FIRST

*And by the light of that same star,
Three wise man came from country far.
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.*

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.

JOYS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Guest Soloist

This morning, we welcome Olivia Evola, a private student of Leonora Knight. Olivia, who will be 20 on New Year's Eve, is a graduate of Walt Whitman High School, and is a sophomore at Suffolk Community College, where she is majoring in Exercise Science and minoring in Spanish. She has sung solos at five NYSSMA Festivals, and performed in two All-County Choirs. Thank you for sharing your music with us, Olivia!

New Member

We are thrilled to welcome another new member into our congregation via Letter of transfer: Bill Becker. Welcome to our church family, Bill!

Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair took place yesterday. Thank you so much to those who assisted in any way.

Poinsettias for Christmas

We went ahead and ordered 40 poinsettias from our wholesaler. The poinsettias will be on the Communion Table on Sunday, December 18, and Christmas Eve. So, keep turning those order forms in; we'll let you know when we reach 40.

Lessons and Carols

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols Service will be held on Sunday, December 18, the Fourth Sunday of Advent, 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 are looking for community members who are willing to read; please see Pastor Ann if you have suggestions.

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

Christmas Tree Lighting

Mark your calendar! On Sunday, December 18, 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.

Christmas Eve Service

Our Christmas Eve Service will take place on Saturday, December 24, at 7:00 p.m. It will be simulcast on Zoom, using the same log-on numbers that we use for our regular Sunday Services.

The Service will end with the traditional lighting of individual candles held by the congregation, while “Silent Night” is sung by those in attendance. We welcome everyone to this Service.

Worship on Christmas Day

We will have a short Zoom-only Prayer Service on Christmas Day at 10:30 a.m. Log-in information is the same as the rest of December:

Meeting ID: 890 3017 6533

Passcode: 380295 Dial in: 1 (646) 558-8656

Christmas Offering

We have been asked by the Presbytery to take up a special offering to help needy retired ministers and missionaries with their bills. (Many of them have very low pensions.) We will have envelopes in next week’s bulletin. Thank you!

“Jackets for Jesus”

Once again, Debbie Eitel is spearheading a collection of gently used winter jackets and coats which will be given to the less fortunate in our community. Hats, scarves, and gloves are welcome as well. There is a large box in the hall where these items may be deposited. Thank you for your generosity.

“God’s Creation” Wall Calendars

The beautiful “God’s Creation” wall calendars have arrived. Every month features a full-color picture and a Scripture verse. Each Sunday has a Scripture verse notated as well. The price is \$8 / calendar; please see Debbie Eitel.

STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Ann M. Van Cleef
pastorannsutton@yahoo.com

Interim Worship Accompanist

Leonora Knight

Custodian

Gary Prentiss

Financial Secretary

Betty Chatfield

Webmaster

Irene Lang

Administrative Assistant

Leonora Colletti
fpcgoffice@gmail.com

Fellowship Director

Debbie Eitel

Treasurer

James Dean

Benevolence Secretary

Susan Perrotta

Building Use Manager

Larry Foray

THE SESSION

Susan Perrotta, Recording Clerk

Class of 2022

Diane Kirchoff
Gary Prentiss

Class of 2023

Arlissa Dean
Kathleen Gerlach
Craig Satterlee

Class of 2024

Debbie Eitel
Larry Foray
Susan Perrotta