

**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF GREENLAWN**



**Sunday Service of Worship  
December 12, 2021 – The Third Sunday of Advent  
10:30 a.m.**

**Meeting ID: 870 8219 2387  
Passcode: 567650**

**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)**

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**“Joy”**

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

Deacon Barbara Small

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Kathie Gerlach and Louise Miller

CANDLELIGHTING

SCRIPTURE

Zephaniah 3:14-20.

PRAYER

GATHERING MUSIC

CALL TO WORSHIP

The joy of the season is upon us. The time is almost here.

***We have come to worship and praise the Lord.***

We will sing praises to God, in Whom we place our trust.

***God opens our eyes and lifts us up.***

Let us praise God,

***Who reigns forever.***

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

*What shall we do, O God? We can never do enough to deserve Your love. We confess that we are not always truthful. We have defaced the purity of Your love for us. We have embraced ugliness and oppression, rather than loveliness and grace. We have distorted Your cries for justice in order to benefit ourselves. We have given less than our best to others and to You. 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 NEW MEMBERS INTO OUR CHURCH

### 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

*We present our gifts to You, O God. May they be used to make a difference in the lives of people where joy is scarce. May our gifts be a reminder of Your love to those who receive them. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Luke 3:7 – 18

HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER

SERMON

“A Little Christmas?”

Rev. Dr. 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 east 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**

### **New Members**

We are thrilled to welcome four new members into our congregation via Letter of Transfer: Barbara & Daniel Charnews, and Jane & Kenneth Longstreet. Welcome to our church family!

### **Many Thanks for Help with the Christmas Fair**

From Pastor Ann, Chair of the Christmas Fair: Thank you so much to Larry Foray, Michael Pennino, and Gary Prentiss for setting up tables on Thursday; to Meg Lawrence and Bob Van Cleef for assisting with set-ups on Friday; to Barbara Charnews, Betty Chatfield, Arlissa Dean, Kathy Fitzgerald, and Larry Reinhardt for assisting the day of the Fair; to Betty Chatfield, Arlissa Dean, and Susan Perrotta for packing up items on Sunday, and to Jim Dean for taking down the banner.

### **Thank You to Those Who Assisted with the Christmas Tea**

Thank you to the Tea Team: Leonora Colletti, Debbie Eitel, Larry Foray, Kathie Gerlach, Meg Lawrence, Jane and Ken Longstreet, Claire Proctor, Althea Segale, and Jill Wilson.

Kudos to our Resident Chef, Gary Prentiss, for providing delicious scones and finger sandwiches.

Thank you to Betty Chatfield, Linda Rixon, and George Santos for lending us their teapots.

### **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 on Sunday, December 19, and Christmas Eve. So, keep turning those order forms in; we'll let you know when we reach 45.

### **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!

### **Lessons and Carols – December 19**

Once again, we will be holding our Lessons and Carols Service next Sunday, 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. 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 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.

### **Tuesday Fellowship Group – New Meeting Information**

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**

### **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. Thank you so much!

### **STAFF**

#### **Pastor**

Rev. Dr. Ann M. Van Cleef  
[pastorannsutton@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorannsutton@yahoo.com)

#### **Administrative Assistant**

Leonora Colletti  
[fpcgoffice@gmail.com](mailto:fpcgoffice@gmail.com)

#### **Director of Music**

Leonora Colletti

#### **Fellowship Director**

Debbie Eitel

#### **Custodian**

Gary Prentiss

#### **Treasurer**

James Dean

#### **Financial Secretary**

Betty Chatfield

#### **Benevolence Secretary**

Susan Perrotta

#### **Webmaster**

Irene Lang

### **THE SESSION**

Susan Perrotta, Recording Clerk

#### **Class of 2021**

Betty Chatfield  
Debbie Eitel  
Ruth Satterlee

#### **Class of 2022**

Diane Kirchoff  
Gary Prentiss  
George Santos

#### **Class of 2023**

Arlissa Dean  
Kathleen Gerlach