

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENLAWN



**Sunday Celebration of Worship
December 29, 2024 – “Carols and More Carols”
10:30 a.m.**

**Meeting ID: 813 0261 1379
Passcode: 039859**

Dial in: 1 (646) 558-8656

**497 Pulaski Road
Greenlawn, NY 11740
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<http://greenlawnpresbyterian.com/>

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 47

*Still, still, still, He sleeps this night so chill.
The Virgin's tender arms enfolding, warm and safe the Child are holding.
Still, still, still, He sleeps this night so chill.*

PRAYER CONCERNS

Elder Betty Chatfield

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (sung)

MALOTTE

*Our Father, which 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.*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 28

*Good Christian Friends, rejoice – with heart and soul and voice.
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened Heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*With joyous praise, we return to You a portion of what You have given to us,
Creator God. What we offer in these moments is a beginning. We will ponder
again Your amazing grace in granting us life, in offering the Child Jesus to bring
us back to You, and in giving us the name "Christian." Praise be to You, O God.
Amen.*

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON # 48

Isaiah 11:1

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

*Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung
Of Jesse's lineage coming by faithful prophets sung.
It came a floweret bright
Amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.*

*Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind.
With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love a-right*

She bore for us a Savior when half spent was the night.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON # 59

Luke 2:8-14

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night

*While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around, and glory shone around*

“Fear not,” said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled minds.

*“Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and humankind, to you and humankind.”*

*“To you, in David’s town this day is born of David’s line
The Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*

And this shall be the sign, and this shall be the sign.”

*“The heavenly Babe you there shall find to human view displayed,
All humbly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid, and in a manger laid.”*

*Thus spoke the seraph, and forthwith appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who this
Addressed their joyful song, addressed their joyful song.*

*“All glory be to God on high, and to the Earth be peace.
Good will to all from highest Heaven
Begin and never cease, begin and never cease.”*

HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER

SERMON “The Story of Let There Be Peace on Earth” Rev. Dr. Van Cleef
(Adapted from More Stories Behind the Best Loved Songs of Christmas by Ace Collins)

*Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on Earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our Creator, we are family.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.*

*Let peace begin with me. Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me.*

OUR FAVORITE CHRISTMAS CAROLS

(During this informal part of the Service, we will ask members of the congregation to suggest favorite Christmas carols for everyone to sing together.)

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

*Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And auld lang syne.*

*For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne.
We'll take a cup of kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.*

JOYS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Member

This morning, we are delighted to welcome John Van Dyke as a member of our church. Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church of Greenlawn Family!

New Year Celebration

We will be ringing in the New Year (a bit early) at a special celebration during today's coffee hour. Be sure to join us! May God bless us all in 2025 and beyond.

Christmas Sweater Contest

We will hold our annual Christmas Sweater Contest immediately following today's Celebration of Worship. There will be prizes given in several categories. Come join in the fun!

God's Creation Calendars

God's Creation 2025 Wall Calendars are still available at a bargain price of \$7. Please see Debbie Eitel.

The Little Food Pantry

Please remember our Little Food Pantry when you go shopping. We are encouraging folks to donate packaged foods, as canned food tends to explode in the freezing weather. Thank you.

Poinsettias

If you dedicated a poinsettia and forgot to take it home on Christmas Eve, please do so today.

Is God Calling You to Become a Church Officer?

There are three people whose terms are ending on Session this year, and we still have an unfilled spot in the Class of 2026. Please prayerfully consider becoming a Ruling Elder. There are eleven meetings per year, nine of them on Zoom. Susan Perrotta will be happy to give you more information.

You May Now Donate On Line

Simply put your cell phone into camera mode, hold it up to the funny little square thing (no need to take a photo), and the link to our church website will pop up. The “Donate” button is on the opening page.



STAFF

Pastor

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Debbie Eitel

Benevolence Secretary

Susan Perrotta

Building Use Manager

Larry Foray

Treasurer

James Dean

Custodian

Gary Prentiss

Webmaster

Irene Lang

THE SESSION

Susan Perrotta, Recording Clerk

Class of 2024

Debbie Eitel
Larry Foray
Susan Perrotta

Class of 2025

Marian Adams
Bill Becker
Gary Prentiss

Class of 2026

Arlissa Dean
Kathleen Gerlach