

**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF GREENLAWN**



**Sunday Service of Worship  
December 3, 2023 – The First Sunday of Advent  
10:30 a.m.**

**Meeting ID: 820 9580 8348  
Passcode: 128114**

**Dial in: 1 (646) 558-8656**

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Greenlawn, NY 11740  
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**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENLAWN**

**December 3, 2023 – 10:30 a.m.**

**The First Sunday of Advent**

**“Hope”**

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

Dan Charnews

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Betty and Bill Chatfield

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

*One Candle Is Lit*

*Come surely, Lord Jesus, as dawn follows night.  
Our hearts long to greet You, as roses. the light.  
Salvation, draw near us, our vision engage,  
One – candle is lit for the hope of the age.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come into God’s presence in hopeful anticipation.

We await the coming of the Son of God.

***The sun may be dimmed, the moon may lose its light.***

***The stars may fall from the sky.***

Still, the Divine Spirit is with us.

***God sends angels from the four winds,***

***From the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.***

We hear Jesus’ words:

***“Keep awake! Be alert!”***

HYMN # 8

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

TRURO

*Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates. Behold, the King of Glory waits.  
The King of Kings is drawing near. The Savior of the World is here!*

*Fling wide the portals of your heart. Make it a temple set apart.  
From earthly use for heaven’s employ, adorned with prayer, and love and joy.*

*Redeemer come! I open wide my heart to Thee, here, Lord abide.  
Let me Thy inner presence feel Thy grace and love in me reveal.*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*O God, You are the ever-present, ever-loving, ever-compassionate Power that governs the world. Like generations before us, we fail in our efforts to live in the peace and harmony that You deliver. We know that we alone cannot wipe clean the slate of our transgressions. We fade like leaves. Our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. Yet You, O God, are our Parent. Like the potter, You fashioned us from clay into Your holy image. Hear the sighing of our spirits as we lay open our hearts to You. Mold us anew, and recreate a right image within us. 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

#### 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

*O God, Whose faithfulness exceeds the limits of the earth, accept these gifts of our hearts and hands. May they be multiplied and magnified as the living presence of Christ's name in the world. Amen.*

### THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Mark 13:24-37

### HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER

### SERMON

“We Wait”

Rev. Dr. Van Cleef

## COMMUNION HYMN

*In Remembrance of Me*

RED

*In remembrance of me, eat this bread. In remembrance of me, drink this cup.**In remembrance of me, pray for the time when God's own will is done.**In remembrance of me, heal the sick. In remembrance of me, feed the poor.**Open the door and let your neighbors in. Let them in.**Take, eat, and be comforted. Drink, and remember, too.**That this is my body and precious blood shed for you, shed for you.**In remembrance of me, search for truth. In remembrance of me, always love.**In remembrance of me, don't look above but in your heart – look for God.**Do this in remembrance of me.*

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***For the nourishment of spirit, mind, and body, for faith that we begin to see, and for comfort from the Prince of Peace, we share our gratitude, Gracious God. Encourage us in these shortened days. And, through the long nights of this season, may our faith in You carry us until the dawn arrives again. Amen.***

## HYMN # 2

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

*Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free.  
From our fears and sins release us. Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the Earth Thou art.  
Dear desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.*

*Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King.  
Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious Kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone.  
By Thine all sufficient merit raise us to Thy glorious throne.*

## BENEDICTION

## CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

*Christians all, your Lord is coming, drawing near in holy birth.  
Ring the bells and sound the trumpets, let your music fill the Earth.  
Dance and move to show God's glory. Kneel and pause to hear God's word.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Rise and let your songs be heard.*

## **JOYS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS, FOLLOWED BY POSTLUDE**

### **Pledge Cards**

If you have not had an opportunity to turn in your pledge card, there is still time. Please see Betty Chatfield. And, thank you for supporting our church.

### **Arrangements for Bob Van Cleef**

Pastor Ann would like to thank everyone for your expressions of kindness and sympathy on the passing of our dear "Bob # 3." Arrangements are as follows:

**Visitation:** Monday *and* Tuesday, December 11 *and* 12, 2-4 *and* 7-9 both days, Horton Mathie Funeral Home, 735 First Street, Greenport, NY. (631) 477-0054

**Burial:** Wednesday, December 13, 9:00 a.m., Orient Central Cemetery, Tabor Road, Orient, NY. (Take Main Road, make a right on Tabor Road just before the firehouse. Cemetery is a few hundred feet on the left, behind the firehouse.)

**Memorial Service:** Wednesday, December 13, 12:00 noon, First Presbyterian Church, Greenlawn

**Repast:** Immediately following Service, CE Hall.

### **Christmas Tea**

We had a wonderful Christmas Tea yesterday. Many thanks to Jill Wilson and her team for all of the hard work that went into this event.

### **Christmas Fair**

Our Christmas Fair will take place next Saturday, December 9, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We will need a few people to help on Friday, December 8. We will also need people on Sunday, December 10 to help pack up and move boxes downstairs to room # 1. Thank you.

### **The Little Food Pantry**

The Little Food pantry is being used heavily by our community. We are grateful to God that we are able to be of help.

As we enter the colder months, we remember that there will be times that we cannot put canned food out, as it will freeze and explode.

We are in need of canned chicken, meats, and canned vegetables such as spinach, carrots, mixed vegetables, potatoes, asparagus, green beans and peas. We are also in need of assorted varieties of canned beans. The Little Food Pantry, which is available to our community 24 / 7. Thank you for your generosity. And thank you, Kathy Gerlach, assisted by Louise Miller, for spearheading this project.

### **Volunteering at Northport Veteran's Hospital**

The Veteran's Hospital in Northport is looking for volunteers, particularly for people who are willing to drive one of their vans. (No special license required.) Information may be found on the church bulletin board.

### **Looking Forward:**

There are a lot of good things happening here at First Presbyterian.

- Sunday, December 17: Our *Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols* in the style of The King's Chapel, Cambridge, England. 10:30 a.m. Guest readers from the community are needed. The choir will sing, and we will have one or more guest musicians.
- Sunday, December 17: Christmas tree Lighting and Community Carol Sing, 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday, December 24: Our Advent IV Service will take place at 10:30 a.m. Our lovely Candlelight Christmas Eve Service is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.

### **STAFF**

#### **Pastor**

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

#### **Worship Accompanist**

Leonora Knight

#### **Custodian**

Gary Prentiss

#### **Financial Secretary**

Betty Chatfield

#### **Webmaster**

Irene Lang

#### **Administrative Assistant**

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



Order Your  
Poinsettias

It's that time of year again.  
Orders are now being taken for the Christmas Flower Memorials.  
If you wish to place an order, please fill in the order form below.

Given By:

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In Loving Memory Of:

---

In Honor Of:

---

Cost: \$12 each

Number of flowers ordered: \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline: Sunday, December 10.

Please make checks payable to the Church and specify for "Flower Fund."

This form may be placed in the offering plate on Sundays, or mailed to the church office:

FPC Greenlawn / 497 Pulaski Road / Greenlawn, NY 11740 Thank you!