

**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF GREENLAWN**



**Celebration of Worship
February 16, 2025 – 10:30 a.m.**

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

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<http://greenlawnpresbyterian.com/>

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February 16, 2025 – 10:30 a.m.

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RINGING OF THE BELL Dan Charnews /Tyler Hago/ Glenn Jahier

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed are those who trust in God,
Who delight to meditate on God's law.

***We long to hear the Word of God
And let the Word shape our lives.***

Blessed are all who seek the realm of God,
Who hunger to find meaning in their lives.

***We intend to give our best to our Creator,
Bearing fruit in all that we say and do.***

Blessed are the ones who serve God with joy,
Who risk all they have in faithfulness and in hope.

***We come now to worship and find new life,
To receive healing and empowerment for our journey.***

*HYMN # 376 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* HYFRYDOL

*Love, divine, all loves excelling, Joy of Heaven, to Earth come down.
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, all Thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion. Pure, unbounded love Thou art.
Visit us with Thy salvation. Enter every trembling heart.*

*Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit. Let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning. Alpha and Omega be.
End of faith, as its beginning. Set our hearts at liberty.*

*Finish, then, Thy new creation. Pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see Thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee.
Changed from glory into glory, till in Heaven we take our place.
Till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.*

*Those who are willing and able are invited to stand.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sovereign God, we confess that we have chased after wealth and temporal security while neglecting matters of the spirit. We put our trust in things and in the empty promises of sinners. We even deceive ourselves, shaping our words and actions to please the crowd. Turn us around, God, so we can learn to trust You and find strength in the giving of ourselves. 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.*

DEDICATION OF SOUPER BOWL OF CARING OFFERINGS

Dear God, as we dedicate these offerings of soup, we remember those who are less fortunate and struggling with hunger. We pray for Your provision in their lives, and we thank You for the opportunity to help those in need. May we be reminded of our responsibility to care for the poor and to share generously. Help us to be a voice for the voiceless and to act with compassion toward those who are suffering. "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in." Bless this food, bless the people who so generously gave, and bless those who will be receiving. In Jesus' name we pray, 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

Thank You, God, for the consolation You offer, the hunger You satisfy, and the healing You produce in those who respond to Your love. You have touched our lives in ways that make us rich. Now, we ask that You use what we have shared to provide fulfillment in the loves of others. Enlist our best efforts in the extension of Your realm, that our offering may bear fruit daily. Amen.

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Psalm 1
Luke 6:17-26

HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER

SERMON “Blessed Are the Poor? Really?” Rev. Dr. Ann Van Cleaf

*HYMN *In the Garden* GARDEN

*I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses.
And the voice I hear falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.*

REFRAIN:

*And He walks with me and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own.
And the joy we share as we tarry there none other has ever known.*

*He speaks, and the sound of His voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing.
And the melody that He gave to me within my heart is ringing. REFRAIN:*

*I'd stay in the garden with Him though the night around me be falling.
But He bids me go through the voice of woe. His voice to me is calling. REFRAIN:*

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: *Give Thanks*

*Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.*

*Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.*

*And now let the weak say "I am strong."
Let the poor say "I am rich" because of what the Lord has done for us.*

*Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son. Give thanks.*

POSTLUDE

JOYS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You for Your Caring Last Week

Thank you for your kindness toward the Baiting Hollow folks last week. They did not have a “Plan B” in place for snowstorms, and were delighted to be able to join us for Zoom worship.

“Souper Bowl” of Caring

Our “Souper Bowl of Caring” project concludes today. Thank you so much for your generosity!

Valentine’s Day

We’re going to celebrate Valentine’s Day today with a special coffee hour. We have some pictures on display, and we’ll play “Guess Who?” and have fun telling one another that we haven’t changed a bit in the past 60 years! (Ha-ha!)

Our resident Karaoke DJ, Larry Foray, will be on hand to lead us as we sing love songs to one another.

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. We are especially in need of breakfast cereal. Thank you.

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.



Annual Meeting

“The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of the First Presbyterian Church of Greenlawn will take place today, Sunday, February 16, immediately following the Service of Worship, in the Sanctuary of the church.

“The purpose of said meeting is to receive the Annual Report, to receive the 2025 budget, to elect church officers, and to conduct other business as necessary.”

St. Patrick’s Day Dinner

Last year’s St. Patrick’s Day Dinner was successful beyond our wildest dreams, so we’re doing another one this year on Saturday, March 22 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. The menu, featuring corned beef & cabbage, potatoes, carrots, Irish soda bread, beverages, coffee, and dessert, will be prepared by our resident chef, Gary “O’Prentiss.” Entertainment will be provided by the fabulous Mulvihill – Lynch Irish Dancers

You may purchase tickets at \$30 during coffee hour from Priscilla “McJahir” or Debbie “McEitel.” Hurry before they are all sold!

Outreach Team to Meet Today

The Outreach Team will meet today after coffee hour. New members are always welcome.

Next Week – We Celebrate Five Years

Next Week we will celebrate Pastor Ann's 5th year anniversary with us. She will talk about her own faith journey as part of the sermon. After Worship, we will adjourn to CE Hall for a luncheon catered by Chef Gary.

California Wildfires

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is still accepting donations to help those impacted by the California wildfires.

To give by phone, call 800-728-7228, ext. 5885. To send a check, please designate "California Wildfires" on the memo line and mail to: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) P. O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. Your faithful giving is deeply appreciated.

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Larry Foray

THE SESSION

Susan Perrotta, Recording Clerk

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Debbie Eitel
Larry Foray
Susan Perrotta

Class of 2025

Marian Adams
Bill Becker
Gary Prentiss

Class of 2026

Arlissa Dean
Kathleen Gerlach