

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENLAWN



**Celebration of Worship
January 12, 2025 – 10:30 a.m.
The Baptism of Jesus**

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

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<http://greenlawnpresbyterian.com/>

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January 12, 2025 – 10:30 a.m.

The Baptism of Jesus

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sisters and brothers, today we recall:

Jesus came to the waters of baptism.

In baptism, our Creator claims us

And frees us from the powers of hatred and death.

In baptism we are joined to Christ,

And we are joined together in unity recalling:

“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free,

There is neither male nor female, for all are one in Christ Jesus.”

In baptism, the Spirit of God anoints us for ministry

And makes us signs of divine love.

It is the mark of acceptance into the Church, and

The beginning of our growth into Christian faith and discipleship.

Therefore, on this day, the whole Church, the Body of Christ,

Remembers and celebrates.

Let us worship God!

*HYMN # 341

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine

ASSURANCE

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!

Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

REFRAIN: *This is my story, this is my song. Praising my Savior all the day long.*

This is my story, this is my song. Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight. Visions of rapture now burst on my sight.

Angels descending, bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

REFRAIN

Perfect submission, all is at rest. I in my Savior am happy and blest.

Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

REFRAIN

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, the waters of faithfulness run deep, and we have been afraid that they will overwhelm us. The fires of Your Holy Spirit burn brightly, and we fear that we may be consumed if we display too much enthusiasm. We retreat to safe places where we hope to avoid challenges, conflicts, and uncertainty. When we shrink from risks, we miss much that enriches life. We fail to notice Your activity among those who respond to Your leading. Free us, we pray, for service to You. 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

For bringing us safely to this hour, we give You thanks, O God of Wind and Fire. May our offerings honor You. May our lives reflect Your mercy. May our hands bestow on others the blessings we have received. May our prayers unite us with one another and with Christ, in whose name we celebrate the privilege of giving. Amen.

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 43:1-7
Luke 3:15 -17; 21-22

HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER

SERMON

“The Baptism of Jesus”

Rev. Dr. Van Cleef

HYMN # 492

Baptized in Water

BUNESSAN

*Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ – our King.
Heirs of salvation, trusting the promise, faithfully now God’s praises we sing.*

*Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, dead in the tomb with Christ – our King.
One with His rising, freed and forgiven, thankfully now God’s praises we sing.*

*Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ our King.
Born of the Spirit, we are God’s children, joyfully now God’s praises we sing.*

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

The Photograph on the Cover of Today’s Bulletin

The lovely photograph on today’s bulletin cover was taken by Mr. Ted Gramse of Huntington Station at this time last year. A thank you note was sent to him.

“Souper Bowl” of Caring

Our “Souper Bowl of Caring” project begins today. From now through February 9th, members and friends of our church are invited to bring cans of soup to church, and to place them in a shopping cart on the Chancel. Because our Little Food Pantry is located outdoors, we are encouraging folks to include dry soups as well, which can withstand the freezing weather. Thank you for caring!



In-Person Session Meeting Today after Coffee Hour.

The Session will hold an in-person luncheon meeting today after Coffee Hour. This is a planning meeting for 2025.

Thank You

Many thanks to those who helped to “un-deck” the halls last Sunday. Led by Debbie Eitel, the team consisted of: Janice, Julie, Tyler, Linda R., Lisa, Richard, Peggy, Jim D., and Jim Z. “Well done, good and faithful servants!”

Annual Reports

It’s time to start thinking about Annual Reports. If you are responsible for submitting an Annual Report, please submit it by Sunday, January 26. Reports should be submitted in Word format and e-mailed to: pastorannsutton@yahoo.com.

The Little Food Pantry

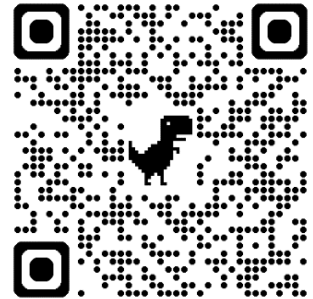
Please remember our Little Food Pantry when you go shopping. We are encouraging folks to donate packaged foods, as canned food tends to explode in the freezing weather. Thank you.

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.



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Larry Foray

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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