

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENLAWN



Sunday Service of Worship
January 8, 2023 – “Celebrating the Epiphany”
10:30 a.m.

Meeting ID: 810 6717 5509
Passcode: 757038

Dial in: 1 (646) 558-8656

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Greenlawn, NY 11740
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<http://greenlawnpresbyterian.com/>

[Facebook.com/First-Presbyterian-Church-of-Greenlawn](https://www.facebook.com/First-Presbyterian-Church-of-Greenlawn)

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GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

Dan Charnews

CALL TO WORSHIP

Have you seen the star? Have you heard the Good News?
God, who created all things, has come to Earth.

We have heard of a baby born in Bethlehem.

We have seen evidence that God is with us.

Have you allowed God to reign in your life?
Have you laid your gifts before the Holy Child?

We have noticed the generous travelers from the East.

They inspire in us a willingness to share.

God’s call for us is for justice, beyond generosity.
Are you ready for God’s eternal purpose in Christ?

We have been afraid to trust God completely.

Yet, we want to respond to God’s dreams for us.

HYMN # 63

As with Gladness Men of Old

DIX

*As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold.
As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright.
So, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to Thee.*

*As with joyful steps they sped to that lowly manger bed,
There to bend the knee before Him whom Heaven and Earth adore.
So may we with willing feet ever seek Thy mercy seat.*

*As they offered gifts most rare at that manger rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin’s alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our Heavenly King.*

*Holy Jesus, every day, keep us in the narrow way.
And, when Earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds Thy glory hide.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Just and righteous God, we tremble before Your all-knowing awareness of us. You have blessed us with abundance we have not counted and riches we have not fully appreciated. Our gratitude is found wanting before Your judgment. Our attention to the needs of the poor and oppressed is less than You desire. Forgive us for misplaced anger and callous disregard of ways we trample others. We seek redemption from oppression and violence to embrace new life in Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 68 (Verse 1)

*What star is this, with beams so bright, more lovely than the noonday light?
'Tis sent to announce a newborn King, glad tidings of our God to bring.*

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 # 68 (Verse 2)

*'Tis now fulfilled what God decreed, "From Jacob shall a star proceed."
And lo! The Eastern sages stand to read in Heaven the Lord's command.*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 3

*O Jesus, while the star of grace impels us on to seek Your face,
Let not our slothful hearts refuse the guidance of Your light to use.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We bring our wealth to praise You, God. You have provided all the riches of our abundance. We are thankful for Your revelation in Jesus Christ that gives us Good News to share. May this offering accomplish the mission You give to each one of Your people. Amen.

A GIFT OF MUSIC
Rasizzi

Catarina

Gesu Bambino

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 60:1-6
Matthew 2:1-12

HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER

SERMON
Cleef

“They Went Home Another Way”

Rev. Dr. Van

*HYMN # 66

We Three Kings

KINGS OF ORIENT

*We three kings of Orient are bearing gifts we traverse afar.
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.*

*O – star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.*

*Born a king on Bethlehem’s plain, gold I bring to crown Him again.
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign.*

*Frankincense to offer have I. Incense owns a Deity nigh.
Prayer and praising we are raising, worshiping God Most High.*

*Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom.
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.*

*Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice.
Alleluia, Alleluia sounds through the Earth and skies.*

*O – star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.*

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

*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 silent vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.*

JOYS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Guest Soloist

This morning, we welcome back Catarina Rasizzi, a private student of Leonora Knight. Catarina is a freshman at Flagler College in St. Augustine, FL and is majoring in special education. Thank you for sharing your music with us, Catarina!

Annual Reports

If you are responsible for submitting an Annual Report, please get it to Leonora by Friday, January 13. Reports should be submitted in Word format (*Not* pdf, please!) and e-mailed to: fpcgoffice@gmail.com

In-Person Session Meeting Today, January 8

The Session will hold an in-person luncheon meeting today from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Ron Lievendag Funeral Service

The Funeral Service for our dear Ron Lievendag will be held this Saturday, January 14, at 2:00 p.m. The Lievendag family invites everyone to attend.

Annual Meeting Sunday, January 29

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation will be held on Sunday, January 29, immediately following the Service of Worship.

STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Ann M. Van Cleef
pastorannsutton@yahoo.com

Administrative Assistant

Leonora Colletti
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Interim Worship Accompanist

Leonora Knight

Fellowship Director

Debbie Eitel

Custodian

Gary Prentiss

Treasurer

James Dean

Financial Secretary

Betty Chatfield

Benevolence Secretary

Susan Perrotta

Webmaster

Irene Lang

Building Use Manager

Larry Foray

THE SESSION

Susan Perrotta, Recording Clerk

Class of 2022
Diane Kirchhoff
Gary Prentiss

Class of 2023
Arlissa Dean
Kathleen Gerlach
Craig Satterlee

Class of 2024
Debbie Eitel
Larry Foray
Susan Perrotta