

**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF GREENLAWN**



**Sunday Celebration of Worship
July 7, 2024 – Celebration of American Independence
10:30 a.m.**

**Meeting ID: 873 3089 9585
Passcode: 192961**

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THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENLAWN

**July 7, 2024 – 10:30 a.m.
Independence Day Sunday**

On July 4, 1776, our forbearers bravely advanced the cause of freedom and liberty by declaring this nation's independence and sovereignty, stating that all her people possessed the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness given by our Creator. It is appropriate, therefore, as we celebrate our nation's 244th birthday, that we give thanks to that Creator for our liberties, and pray for continued blessings upon our country, our government, and our fellow citizens.

GATHERING MUSIC

THE RINGING OF THE BELL
Hago

Dan Charnews / Tyler

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Our ancestors came from all places and all peoples
So that we can gather here today.

Some traveled across the ice. Others came later in boats.

Still others walked or forged rivers. Some arrived in planes.

They found a land blessed.

Blessed with mountains and valleys, rivers and oceans,

Fertile earth, deep woods, and promising cities.

It was here that dreams were born.

Dreams of freedom from all oppression.

Dreams of hope for their children.

Dreams of people in community under God.

And so the dream continues.

We pray for continued blessings;

One nation, under God, indivisible,

With liberty and justice for all.

HYMN # 561

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

AMERICA

My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing.

Land where my fathers died. Land of the pilgrims' pride.

From every mountainside let freedom ring.

My native country, thee, land of the noble free, thy name I love.

I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and templed hills.

My heart with rapture thrills like that above.

Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees sweet freedom's song.

Let mortal tongues awake. Let all that breathe partake.

Let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to Thee, Author of Liberty, to Thee we sing.

Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light.

Protect us by Thy might, Great God, our King.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we know we have let You down in many ways. We have not lived up to Your high intentions for us. You send us out as ambassadors of peace, and instead, we pick fights with our sisters and brothers. You commission us to travel light, and we become bogged down with our possessions. You ask us to help ease the burdens that others carry, but we add to them. Patient God, please forgive 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

A PRAYER FOR PEACE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace!

Where there is hatred ... let me sow love.

Where there is injury ... pardon

Where there is doubt ... faith.

Where there is despair ... hope.

Where there is darkness ... light.

Where there is sadness ... joy.

*O Divine Master, grant that we may not so much
seek to be consoled as to console.*

To be understood ... as to understand.

To be loved ... as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive.

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.

And it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life. All this we pray in Jesus' name, saying, "Our Father ..."

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.*

OFFERING SENTENCES

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

From our present abundance, we offer our gifts to You, Generous God, so that the hungry might be fed, the broken might find healing, and the grieving might be comforted. Amen.

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Deut. 10:17-21
Hebrews 11:8-16
Matthew 5:43-48

SERMON "Liberty and Justice for ALL!" Rev. Dr. Van Cleef

COMMUNION HYMN *This Is My Song* FINLANDIA

*This is my song, O God of All the Nations.
A song of peace for lands afar, and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is.
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine.
But other hearts in other lands are beating
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.*

*My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
And sunlight beams on clover leaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
And skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
O hear my song, thou God of All the Nations,
A song of peace for their land and for mine.*

*This is my prayer, O Ruler of All Nations.
Let Thy reign come, on Earth Thy will be done.
In peace may all Earth's people draw together,
And hearts united learn to live as one.
O hear my prayer, Thou God of All the Nations.*

Myself I give Thee. Let Thy will be done.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

O God, You made us in Your own image and redeemed us through Jesus, Your Son. Look with compassion on the whole human family. Take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts. Break down the walls that separate us. Unite us in bonds of love, and work with us to accomplish Your purposes on Earth, that in Your good time, all nations and peoples may serve You in harmony around Your heavenly throne. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

HYMN # 262

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

NATIONAL HYMN

*God of the Ages, Whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies
Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.*

*Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way.
Lead us from light to never-ending day.
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine.
And, glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.*

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

*God bless America, land that I love.
Stand beside her, and guide her
through the night with the light from above.
From the mountains to the prairies, to the oceans white with foam.
God bless America, my home sweet home.
God bless America, my home sweet home.*

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND JOYS

What a Fun Ice Cream Social!

Thank you to Debbie Eitel for organizing last Sunday's Ice Cream Social during coffee hour. Thank you also to Arlissa Dean and Diane Kirchhoff for their assistance. And, to Alex Kirchhoff, who made the delicious brownies!

Summer Services Will Continue to Be at 10:30 a.m.

Many people have said that it would be difficult for them to attend a 10:00 a.m. Service. Therefore, Session has voted to continue our 10:30 Service time year-round. Services will take place in our air-conditioned Parlor.

Summer Yard Sale – Saturday, August 17

People have been most generous in donating items to our Church Fair. Our downstairs storage area looks like Fibber McGee's closet!

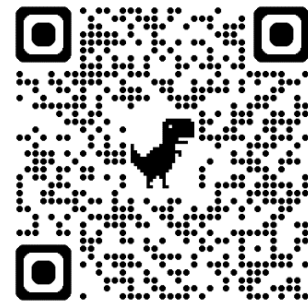
Therefore, we have scheduled a summer yard sale for Saturday, August 17 to try to clear some space. We are not going to have vendors, but if you would like a table to sell some of your own stuff, please see Pastor Ann.

Church Fair – Saturday, September 21

This is the big event we all look forward to every year. We'll have our own stuff for sale, there will be vendors, food, and our Health Fair will be incorporated into the festivities. Mark your calendar, and stay tuned for 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 should pop up. The "Donate" button is on the opening page.



Food Pantry

Now that school is out, our Little Food Pantry is being heavily used. In fact, it gets emptied just about every day. We need everything – please pick up a few things when you go grocery shopping. Thank you.

Summer Get-Together at the “Greenport Parsonage”

Save the date! Pastor Ann would like to invite her Church Family to the “Greenport Parsonage” for a Summer Get Together on *Saturday, August 3, at 3:00 p.m.* Details to come – please mark your calendar!

Pastor's Phone Number

Pastor Ann is giving up her land line at home, as the only people who seem to be using it are robo-callers. So, please delete (631) 477-0329 from your devices. Her cell-phone number is (631) 275-3461. Texts are welcome.

Brahms' Requiem

Please let Pastor Ann or Marian Adams know if you are interested in learning the Brahms ' " Ein Deutches Requiem" to be sung in German on Oct.27. Since there's only one rehearsal with the entire group on Oct.26, we have a lot to do on our own.

Instructions in German pronunciation will begin late July or early August (date to be determined by attendees). Music sectionals (alto /soprano) will start later in August.

Fundraising Concerts for New Organ

Here is the tentative concert schedule:

Sunday, October 27, 3:00 p.m.

"Brahms - A German Requiem"

Frances C. Roberts, Conductor

Dress Rehearsal Saturday, October 26, 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 17, 3:00 p.m.

"Baroque to Broadway (With a Few Stops In Between)"

With Barbara Fusco and Melissa Maravell

STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Ann M. Van Cleef
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Worship Accompanist

Leonora Knight

Fellowship Director

Debbie Eitel

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Gary Prentiss

Treasurer

James Dean

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Irene Lang

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Larry Foray