

**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF GREENLAWN**



**Sunday Celebration of Worship**  
**November 24, 2024 – The Twenty-seventh Sunday after Pentecost**  
**10:30 a.m.**  
**Thanksgiving Sunday**

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

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

**497 Pulaski Road**  
**Greenlawn, NY 11740**  
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<http://greenlawnpresbyterian.com/>

**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENLAWN**  
**November 24, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.**  
**The Twenty-seventh Sunday after Pentecost – Thanksgiving Sunday**

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

To the thanksgiving table of plenty,

***Come thankful people, come!***

To the kitchen, where familiar hands prepare with love,

***Come thankful people, come!***

To the farm where calloused hands plant and tend,

***Come thankful people, come!***

To the rich earth where roots stretch and seeds grow,

***Come thankful people, come!***

To this service of worship of the God of Creation

***Come thankful people, come!***

HYMN # 559

*We Gather Together*

KREMSER

*We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing.  
He chastens and hastens His will to make known.  
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.  
Sing praises to His name, He forgets not His own.*

*Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,  
Ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine.  
So from the beginning the fight we were winning.  
Thou, Lord, wast at our side. All glory be Thine.*

*We all do extol Thee, Thou leader triumphant,  
And pray that Thou still our defender wilt be.  
Let Thy congregation escape tribulation.  
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*You know the truth about us, O God, better than we know ourselves. We have gathered the bounty of Your Earth to fill our bank accounts, struggling to get ahead, blinded by greed. We have not stopped to gaze with wonder at the birds of the air or the flowers of the field. We have not paused to listen to one another or to walk with Christ among outcasts and sinners. We turn away from the prompting of the Holy Spirit, choosing to worry rather than to praise. Turn us around, we pray, that we might receive forgiveness and enter into a time of true thanksgiving. 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 2025 PLEDGES

*We dedicate our pledges to You, O God. Help us to use them to glorify You, to be vessels of Your work in this world. Guide our leaders as they prepare us financially for the upcoming year. Help us to see that we are all ministers, called into the Body of Christ. Use us in Your service, as we pray over these pledges, blessing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

(During the singing of *Give Thanks*, you are invited to place your pledge card in the offering plate on the Communion Table. If you have already sent your pledge in, or if you don't have your pledge card with you, you are invited to come up and briefly place your hand on the edge of the plate.)

### DEDICATION HYMN THANKS

*Give Thanks*

GIVE

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

*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!*

PRAYER CONCERNS

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:

*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

*We have bread, so we will share. We have pure water, so we will give to dig wells for others. We have faith, so we will tell others of the great things You have done, O God. These sacred moments of giving acknowledge Your ownership of all our possessions. We seek to answer Your call to responsible stewardship and faithfulness in mission. We are Your heralds and apostles. Thank You, God. Amen.*

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

4:4-9

Philippians

John 6:25-35

HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Ann M. Van Cleef

“Don't Worry. God Is Good.”

HYMN # 551

*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

*Come, ye thankful people, come. Raise the song of harvest home.  
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.  
God, our maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God's own temple, come. Raise the song of harvest home.  
All the world is God's own field. Fruit unto God's praise to yield.  
Wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.*

*First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.  
Lord of Harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.*

*For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home.  
From each field shall in that day all offenses purge away.  
Give the angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,  
But the fruitful ears to store in God's garner ever more.*

*Even so, Lord, quickly come to Thy final harvest home.  
Gather Thou Thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin.  
There forever purified, in Thy presence to abide.  
Come, with all Thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home.*

## BENEDICTION

### CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 555

*Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices.  
Who, from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.*

## **JOYS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Maravell Concert Was a Rousing Success**

Melissa Maravell gave us a wonderful concert last Sunday afternoon. We had 82 people in attendance. In addition to bringing delight to an appreciative audience, the concert raised \$2,540 for our organ fund.

Many thanks to Melissa, who donated her talents; to Debbie Eitel for setting up chairs and purchasing food; to Arlissa and Jim Dean and Larry Foray who worked in the kitchen, brought food, and helped with set-up and take-down of furniture; and to our Organ Committee (Marian Adams, Fran Roberts, and Ann Van Cleef) whose work made this concert possible.

### **Christmas Tea**

Have you made reservations for our 3-course Christmas Tea yet? It will take place on Saturday, December 7, from 1 – 3 p.m. You can “dress up” with hats and gloves, or just come as you are. Men are invited, too. (Top hats, spats, and canes are optional!) Please see Jill Wilson to reserve your seat. Tickets are \$30.

### **Christmas Fair**

Our Christmas Fair will take place on Saturday, December 14, from 9 – 3 in CE Hall *and* downstairs in the Sunday School wing.

### **Christmas Tree Lighting**

Mark your calendar! On Sunday, December 15, at 5:00 p.m., we will have a special community event: we will light our Christmas tree outside, sing some Christmas carols, and then come inside for some hot chocolate and Christmas cookies. Please plan to attend, and invite a friend.

### **God's Creation Calendars**

God's Creation 2025 Wall Calendars are still available at a bargain price of \$7. Please see Debbie Eitel.

### **Christmas Eve Service at 4 p.m.**

By informal vote of the congregation, we have decided to move our Christmas Eve Service to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 24. This earlier hour will ensure that people won't have to drive home in complete darkness.

### **The Little Food Pantry**

The Little Food Pantry is in need of rice, black beans, stuffing, boxed potatoes, gravy, canned peas, canned yams, cranberry sauce, and Campbell's tomato and chunky soups.

Our outdoor food pantry continues to be a blessing to the neighborhood, and is heavily used. Thank you to all of the "Pantry Angels" who continue to donate generously to our food pantry. You are very much appreciated.

### **Required Minimum Distributions**

RMDs are a wonderful thing as far as having a little more spending money is concerned. But there are some downsides. (1) You have to pay taxes. (2) You might possibly be bumped up into the next tax bracket. (3) As far as Medicare is concerned, your Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount, IRMAA for short, which is a fee you pay on top of your Medicare Part B and Part D adjustments, could rise if you make a yearly income above the annual thresholds.

You may want to prayerfully consider making a year-end gift to your church directly from your RMD. This will keep your taxes down, and will benefit the church. Thank you for considering this.

### **Medicare Expert**

If you missed meeting Heidi Peborde the Medicare Expert Speaker who was here in October, you are in LUCK! You can still contact her and have her look at your specific situation and get her advice **FREE** of charge. She will cover the options that are available for you. Her e-mail address is [hpseniorins@gmail.com](mailto:hpseniorins@gmail.com). Her phone number is **631-553-8776**. The deadline for Medicare coverage changes is Dec 7.

### **Coffee Hour Hosting**

All Sundays in December are available for Coffee Hour hosting. Arlissa, Susan, and Debbie are doing more than their share of hosting, and we are very appreciative. Can we have some other folks step in and host? Thank you!

## **Church Membership**

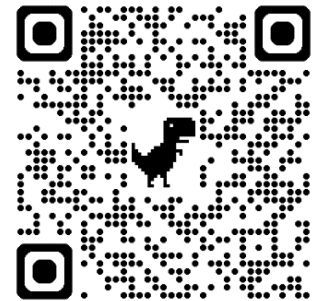
Are you a friend of our church who has faithfully been attending worship? Would you like to become a member of The First Presbyterian Church of Greenlawn? Please see Pastor Ann about joining; we would like to have a “New Members Sunday” sometime this fall.

## **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.



## **STAFF**

### **Pastor**

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

### **Worship Accompanist**

Leonora Knight

### **Financial Secretary**

Betty Chatfield

### **Administrative Assistant**

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

### **Fellowship Director**

Debbie Eitel

### **Benevolence Secretary**

Susan Perrotta

### **Building Use Manager**

Larry Foray

### **Treasurer**

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