

**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF GREENLAWN**



**Celebration of Worship
March 9, 2025 – 10:30 a.m.
The First Sunday in Lent**

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

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The First Sunday in Lent

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

Dan Charnews /Tyler Hago/ Glenn Jahier

CALL TO WORSHIP

God, you are our refuge.

*You are the shore in sight,
You are hands that reach out,
You are the ground on which to rest.*

God, you are our strength.

*You are the life we long for,
You are the refusal to give up,
You are the keys of home we carry with us.*

God, you are our help in time of trouble.

*We call on You from the ruins and the rubble,
We call on You from the wildness and the deep,
We call on You to meet us in this place! Amen.*

*HYMN # 81

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

ST. FLAVIAN

*Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray,
Teach us with Thee to mourn our sins, and close by Thee to stay.*

*As Thou with Satan didst contend, and didst the victory win,
O give us strength in Thee to fight, in Thee to conquer sin.*

*And through these days of penitence, and through Thy Passiontide,
Yea evermore, in life and death, O Lord, with us abide.*

*Abide with us, that so, this life of suffering over past,
An Easter of unending joy we may attain at last!*

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that when we read about Your temptations, we excuse ourselves. We reason, we are not You. Of course, You passed the test, we say. You're God, right? But we mere mortals have no expectation that we can withstand evil like You did. But we are reminded that You are not only Savior; You are example. You faced the temptation and overcame. In the wilderness, You remained faithful and continue to do so. Forgive us when we have not resisted, but yielded to temptation. Forgive us for loving power and prestige more than You. Help us to choose a life rooted in Your word and grace. This we pray in Christ's name. 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:

*Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord.
Incline Thine ear to us, and grant us Thy peace. Amen.*

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

Holy God, we dedicate these expressions of gratitude and thanksgiving to You and Your glory. May the use of these expressions welcome the recipients of these blessings to know Your lovingkindness. This, we pray, in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

A GIFT FROM THE CHOIR

The Women's Choir

You Raise Me Up

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Luke 4:1-13

HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER

SERMON

“Wonder or Wander?”

Rev. Michael Hafele

*HYMN # 83 *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High* DEO GRACIAS

*O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how passing thought and fantasy,
That God, the Son of God, should take our mortal form for mortals' sake.*

*For us baptized, for us He bore His holy fast and hungered sore.
For us temptations sharp He knew, for us the tempter overthrew.*

*For us to evil power betrayed, scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed,
He bore the shameful cross and death, for us, gave up His dying breath.*

*For us He rose from death again. For us He went on high to reign.
For us He sent the Spirit here to guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.*

*All glory to our Lord and God for love so deep, so high, so broad.
The Trinity who we adore forever and forevermore.*

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:
EDELWEISS

TUNE:

*May the Lord, Mighty God bless and keep you forever.
Grant you peace, perfect peace, faith in every endeavor.
Lift up your eyes and see His face, and His grace forever!
May the Lord, Mighty God bless and keep you forever.*

POSTLUDE

JOYS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome Rev. Michael Hafele and The Westhampton Presbyterian Church Pastoral Search Committee

The Westhampton Presbyterian Church is nearing the end of its search for a new Pastor. One of the last steps of this process is the Neutral Pulpit, where the Search Committee observes the potential new Pastor in a church that is unfamiliar to both the Search Committee and the Candidate. This morning, we are pleased to be a part of this process.

Lenten Challenge

Last Sunday, Pastor Ann challenged our congregation to a "40 Days, 40 (or more) Items" project for Lent. Each day in Lent, remove one or more items from your house, which you don't use or don't wear any more. Toss them, give them to someone, or donate them to our Thrift Shop. "Stuff" that clutters up our surroundings tends to distract us and even add stress to our lives. Without that "stuff," we can make more room in our lives for God. I will be posting my own progress each day on FaceBook.

Ann will be posting her own progress on her Facebook page, and invites you to "friend" her if you have not already done so. Her Facebook name is Ann Abbate Van Cleef.

Lay Worship Assistants

Starting in April, we will be using Lay Assistants to lead the Call to Worship, the Call to Confession, and the Assurance of Forgiveness. We will do this each Communion Sunday. Arlissa Dean will be coordinating this: please see her if you are interested.

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!

Finance Committee to Meet Today

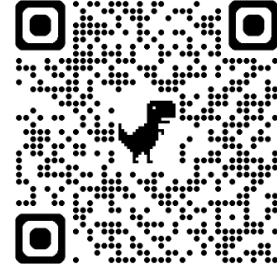
The Finance Committee will meet today, March 9, in the Parlor after coffee hour.

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; if you go to Aldi or Lidl, you will find they have cereal at an extremely reasonable price. 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.



Our Annual Theatre Outing

Our annual outing to see the Harborfields High School Spring Musical will take place on Wednesday, March 26. There is a dessert and coffee reception at 5:00 p.m., and the show, “*Mean Girls*,” starts at 6:00. The show is free, but tickets are required. There will be a signup sheet during coffee hour; please sign up so Pastor Ann can get tickets for you.

STAFF

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Betty Chatfield

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Susan Perrotta

Webmaster

Irene Lang

Building Use Manager

Larry Foray

THE SESSION

Susan Perrotta, Recording Clerk

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Bill Becker
Gary Prentiss

Class of 2026

Arlissa Dean
Kathleen Gerlach

Class of 2027

Debbie Eitel