

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENLAWN



**Sunday Celebration of Worship
May 18, 2025
The Fifth Sunday of the Easter Season
10:30 a.m.**

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

Dial in: 1 (646) 558-8656

**497 Pulaski Road
Greenlawn, NY 11740
Phone: 631-261-2150**

<http://greenlawnpresbyterian.com/>

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May 18, 2025 – 10:30 a.m.

The Fifth Sunday of the Easter Season

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

Dan Charnews /Tyler Hago/ Glenn Jahier

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come to praise God, all you faithful people!

Come, for God welcomes you and offers to draw close.

Praise to God, who rules over all the Earth.

Praise to God, who is as near as our next breath.

Sun and moon and stars shine in praise to God.

God created them and established for each a place.

God has a place for us in this world.

We have come that God may instruct and equip us.

Mountains and hills, trees and animals praise God.

Let all the rulers of the Earth do so as well.

God provides abundantly for our needs.

God makes of one family all who dwell on Earth.

*HYMN # 487

When Morning Guilds the Skies

LAUDES DOMINI

When morning guilds the skies, my heart awaking cries:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Alike at work and prayer to Jesus I repair:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Or fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is this:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

*Let Earth's wide circle round in joyful notes resound:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Let air and sea and sky from depth to height reply:
May Jesus Christ be praised!*

*Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this the eternal song through all the ages long:
May Jesus Christ be praised!*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We admit, Holy God, that we find it difficult to hear Your promise of new life. Even when we are dissatisfied with our lives, it is easier to cling to what we know than to risk the unknown. You challenge us to accept people who are different from us, but we are not eager to associate with them. You command us to love one another, but some people are not lovable. O God, melt our defenses so we can accept Your love and let it flow through us. Grant us courage to embrace newness, and forgive us, we pray. 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.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

BAPTISMAL HYMN (Insert; please remain seated)

WATERLIFE

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

PRAYER CONCERNS

Elder Betty Chatfield

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Congregational Response # 333: (Please remain seated)

LAFFERTY

*Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.*

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

Thank You, Gracious God, for making Your home with us and claiming us as Your own people. We dedicate ourselves and our gifts toward the New World You are creating among us, a world where peace emerges from mutual respect and honest encounters. May Your love be reflected in our attitudes and actions when we are together and when we are scattered. Amen.

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35

HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER

SERMON “Loving as Jesus Did” Rev. Dr. Van Cleef

*HYMN # 538 *Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing* SICILIAN MARINERS

*Lord, dismiss us with Thy blessing. Fill our hearts with joy and peace.
Let us each, Thy love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.*

*Thanks we give and adoration for Thy Gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of Thy salvation in our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful to the truth may we be found.*

*So that when Thy love shall call us, Savior, from the world away,
Let no fear of death appall us, glad Thy summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever reign with Thee in endless day.*

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

*God be with you till we meet again.
Loving counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd's care enfold you.
God be with you till we meet again.*

*Till we meet – till we meet – till we meet at Jesus' feet.
Till we meet – till we meet – God be with you till we meet again.*

Joys and Announcements

Welcome to the Christian Faith, Charles Richard Hallstein

It is our joy to welcome Charles Richard Hallstein to the Christian faith through the Sacrament of Baptism.

Charles was born on June 13, 2024, to Giovanna and Kyle Hallstein. Proud Godparents include Brendon Hallstein and Irene Bonpietro.

Prayer Garden Committee to Meet Today

That fenced-in area behind the church is a bit of an eyesore, but fear not! We have big plans to turn it into an outdoor worship and meditation area.

Today, we will have a meeting after Coffee Hour to determine the steps we need to take to make this outdoor worship area a reality. Anyone who is interested is invited to attend. We are especially looking for people who have a “green thumb.”

An Invitation to Comedy and Karaoke

You are invited to join us for a night of comedy and karaoke on Saturday, May 31, from 5 to 8 p.m.

The event features “The Squeaky Clean” comedienne Pat Shea, and “Joyful Noise Karaoke” with DJ Larry. Pizza, salad, dessert, coffee, tea, and beverages will be served. Tickets are \$10, payable at the door. A love offering will be received for the talent.

\$10 for dinner and entertainment? This is a great bargain, indeed!

The Little Food Pantry

Kathie Gerlach, our Mission Chair, reports that our Little Food Pantry was totally emptied twice last week, saying “There was absolutely not one item left.” The following foods, in particular, are needed:

- Canned Chef Boy R Dee Ravioli
- Canned chicken
- Canned corned beef hash
- Peanut Butter (Skippy or Jif)
- Grape and strawberry jelly / jam
- Rice

Thank you for your generosity.

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.

New Members

Have you been worshipping with us frequently? Would you like to become a member of our church? We will be having a “New Members Sunday” within the next few weeks. Please see Pastor Ann.

Coffee Hour Schedule

The Coffee Hour sign-up list is on the food table in the Narthex. Thank you to those who have already signed up to host a Coffee Hour. Please consider hosting this important ministry one Sunday. Thank you.

Recycling Plastic

Elwood Library has partnered with a local Girl Scout Troop to complete a Plastic Film Recycling Challenge sponsored by NexTrex. After a group has collected a certain amount of plastic over a specific period of time, they can earn a bench made out of recycled plastic film. We can help. Look for the plastic recycling box in our church hallway.

STAFF

Pastor

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

Administrative Assistant

Leonora Colletti
fpcgoffice@gmail.com

Treasurer

James Dean

Worship Accompanist

Leonora Knight

Fellowship Director

Debbie Eitel

Custodian

Gary Prentiss

Financial Secretary

Betty Chatfield

Benevolence Secretary

Susan Perrotta

Webmaster

Irene Lang

Building Use Manager

Larry Foray

THE SESSION

Susan Perrotta, Recording Clerk

Class of 2025

Marian Adams
Bill Becker
Gary Prentiss

Class of 2026

Arlissa Dean
Kathleen Gerlach

Class of 2027

Debbie Eitel