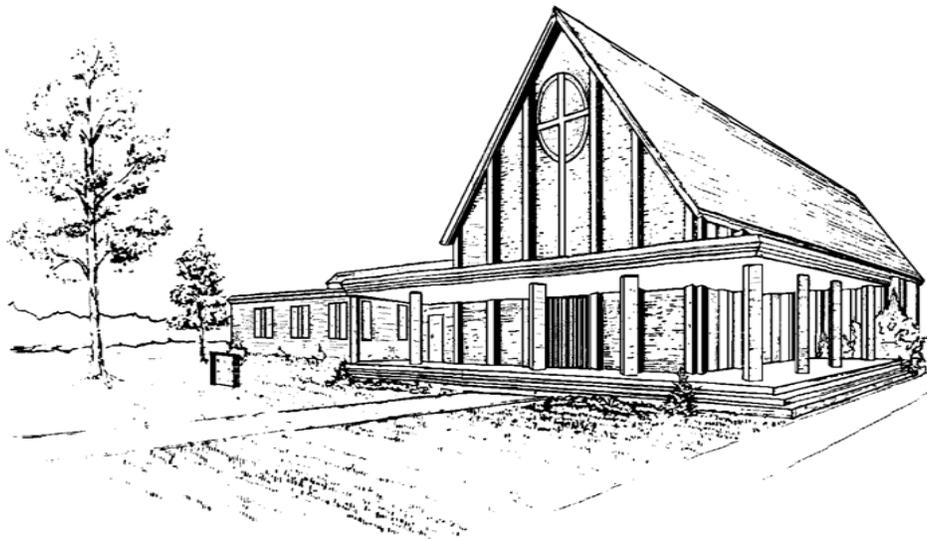


**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
GREENLAWN**



**Service of Worship**  
**Sunday, December 16, 2018**  
**Third Sunday in Advent**

**SERVICE OF WORSHIP**  
**Gaudete Sunday**                      **10:30 AM**                      **December 16, 2018**  
**Third Sunday in Advent**

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**CHIMES**

Bill D'Andrea

**HYMNS**

*Joy to the World* (Hymn No. 40, verses 1-2)

*Wait For the Lord* (5X)

*Wait for the Lord*

*His day is near.*

*Wait for the Lord*

*Keep watch, take heart.*

**PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

Elder Susan Perrotta

God of our salvation, You straighten the winding ways of our hurting hearts and smooth the paths made jagged by hurting people. We thank you for John's witness to the Light, the One who always does his best work in the dark. Help us to hear John's call to repentance. Help us also to hear his word of promise about the One who comes to earth, both at the start of things and at their end, as Prince of Peace. Amen.

**PRELUDE**

*Joy to the World*

arr. Franklin Ritter

**BRINGING IN THE LIGHT**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Pastor Fred Woodward

Please fill out "Ritual of Friendship & "Concerns of Our Church Family"

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES:** Lisa, Andrew, Emily, Sam, & Max Vaughan

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent means coming.

We are preparing ourselves for the days when the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks.

**People: Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.**

The wolf shall lie down with the lamb,

The leopard shall lie down with the kid.

**People: The calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.**

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom;

**People: All: Like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.**

\* HYMN No. 9

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (Adapted from Isaiah 12:2-6)

Elder Susan Perrotta

Leader: Surely God is our salvation. We will trust, and will not be afraid.

People: **For the Lord God is our strength and our might, and has become our salvation.**

Leader: With joy we will give thanks to the Lord and call on God's name.

People: **We will sing you our praises, O God, for you have done glorious things.**

All: **Let us worship God.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Pastor Fred Woodward

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Gracious God, as we prepare for the coming of your Son, clear away everything that gets in the way of our relationship with You, our neighbors and ourselves.

Forgive us the untruths we share with others, and still more, the lies we tell ourselves. Release us from the grievances we persist in carrying and the jealousies we continue to nurture. Disentangle us from our choking resentments and deliver us from the shackles of fear. Free us for the love of our enemies, beginning with the enemy we disown in ourselves. Remind us that You love us just the way we are right now, right here, but love us too much to leave us that way.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*RESPONSE**

*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.*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

**Zephaniah 3: 14-20**

pg. 987

Elder Susan Perrotta

**HYMN No. 466**

*O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

**OFFERTORY**

*While By My Sheep*

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Tune: Jüngst A traditional German melody

**RESPONSE**

*Doxology*

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above the heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Elder Susan Perrotta

**SCRIPTURE READING**      **Luke 3: 7-18**

pg. 1073

Pastor Fred Woodward

**SERMON**      “The Advent Invitation to Repentance”

Pastor Fred Woodward

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

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, the power, and the glory—forever. Amen

**\*HYMN No. 40**

*Joy to the World* (verses 3-4)

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*SINGING OUR HOPE**

*O Come Let Us Adore Him* (see insert)

**\*POSTLUDE**

*Postlude on Antioch*

arr. John A. Stallsmith  
Tune by G.F. Handel

**Advent**

Advent comes from the Latin word *adventus*, means “coming.” In Advent we prepare for the coming of Christ: the promised coming of the Messiah to the Jews; the coming of Jesus born in Bethlehem; the promised return of the risen Christ in final victory; and the continuing coming of Christ into the hearts and lives of believers and others who are even now on the edge of faith.

**Gaudete Sunday**

Gaudete Sunday (“Joy Sunday”) is the third Sunday of Advent and is so named from the beginning of the reading from Philippians in this lectionary year: “Rejoice” (Phil. 4:4). This text, and its association of other readings on the theme of joy, is why the third Advent candle is pink.

# WEEKLY MESSENGER

**Sunday, December 16, 2018**

www.greenlawnpresbyterianchurch.org  
facebook.com/First-Presbyterian-Church-of-Greenlawn

*Pastor Fred Woodward may be reached by cell phone at 631-626-3702*

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- **The flowers on the Lord's table** are given to the Glory of God.
- **GREETERS:** Greeting us today before the service is Betty Chatfield.
- **FELLOWSHIP HOUR:** Assisting with Fellowship Hour today is Claire Proctor.
- **ASSISTING IN WORSHIP** this morning is Elder Susan Perrotta.
- **USHERING TEAM NO. 6**, led by Linda Rixon, assists us in worship today.
- **ELDER ON CALL:** If you have a concern about the church or the life of the congregation, please speak with our "Elder On Call". Our Elder On Call for the week of December 16th is Margaret Negrelli.
- **DEACONS ON CALL** for the month of December are Debbie Eitel (718-463-3003) and Corinne Burdett (631-261-4636). If you or someone you know has a spiritual, physical, or financial need, the Deacon on Call will try to help you! Just call the Deacon or call the church office. All information will be kept confidential.
- **NEEDS REQUESTS:** If you know of someone in need, please fill out the blue form & place in the box located by the food pantry.
- The Board of Deacons is grateful to all of our church members who have helped to keep our pantry shelves stocked. **Currently there is a need for toilet paper, paper towels, cereal, canned fruit, pasta and sauces.** Cash donations can also be used by the Deacons to fill in items that need to be purchased.
- **FLOWERS FOR THE CHANCEL** We would encourage any and all to donate flowers for memorials, birthdays, anniversaries, etc. A check for **\$35** should be made to Greenlawn Presbyterian Church. To order flowers, please call Corinne Burdett (631-261-4636), our flower coordinator, or the church office (631-261-2150).
- Copies of **God With Us**, Christmas reflections from *Our Daily Bread*, can be found on the table outside the church office.

Join us for Advent meditation on three Mondays of Advent leading up to Christmas (12-3, 12-10, and 12-17). It's easy to remember: three December Mondays, at 3:33 PM in the sanctuary.

You don't have to have experience. You don't have to master anything. You don't have to be "spiritual." It's enough that we come with the intention of consenting, as best we can, to the presence and action of God.

*Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that I am. Be still and know. Be still. Be.*



**ANNUAL LIVING NATIVITY**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH**

**5:00 PM**

**COMMUNITY DINNER ~ 6:00 PM**

December 16th      **Advent Activities After Worship**  
Carol Sing-a-long

**JACKETS FOR JESUS**

**Please donate any gently used  
coats and jackets.  
Collection box in hall by church office.**

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

***Please lift up the  
following in prayer:***

Our church members and their individual struggles; Evelyn S.; Alan L.; Bill M.; Baby Cordelia Rose; Baby Jesse; Brandon P.; Camille F.; Cassell; Diane H.; Dottie H.; Eli; Elizabeth R.; Gloria A.; Jack F.; Jamie W.; Ed & Cathy C.; Kayla; Matthew W.; Maria H.; Nadia M.; Patti C.; Rosie P.; Terry H.; Tom D.; Tom M.; Pastor Tim; please pray for God's comforting and healing presence for all; all in Nursing homes; shut-ins and care-givers; our Pastor; our church members and their families; missionaries around the world; our Armed Forces and their families; our nation and its leaders; all in harm's way of terrorists; victims of natural disasters and those without basic conveniences; the homeless and the hungry; and please pray for all who need His help.

Today, December 16, 2018	Choir Worship/Sunday School <b>Dress rehearsal</b> <b>Living Nativity</b> <b>Community Dinner</b>	10:00 am 10:30 am <b>3:00 pm</b> <b>5:00 pm</b> <b>6:00 pm</b>
Monday	<b>Steeple Chimes Deadline</b>  <b>333 Advent Meditation</b>	  <b>3:30 pm</b>
Tuesday	Session Meeting	7:30 pm
Wednesday	Bible Study @ the home of Diane Hartmann 5 Court Dr., Hunt. Sta.	2:00 pm
Thursday		
Friday	<b>Caroling</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>
Saturday		
Next Sunday, December 16, 2018	Choir Worship/Sunday School/	10:00 am 10:30 am