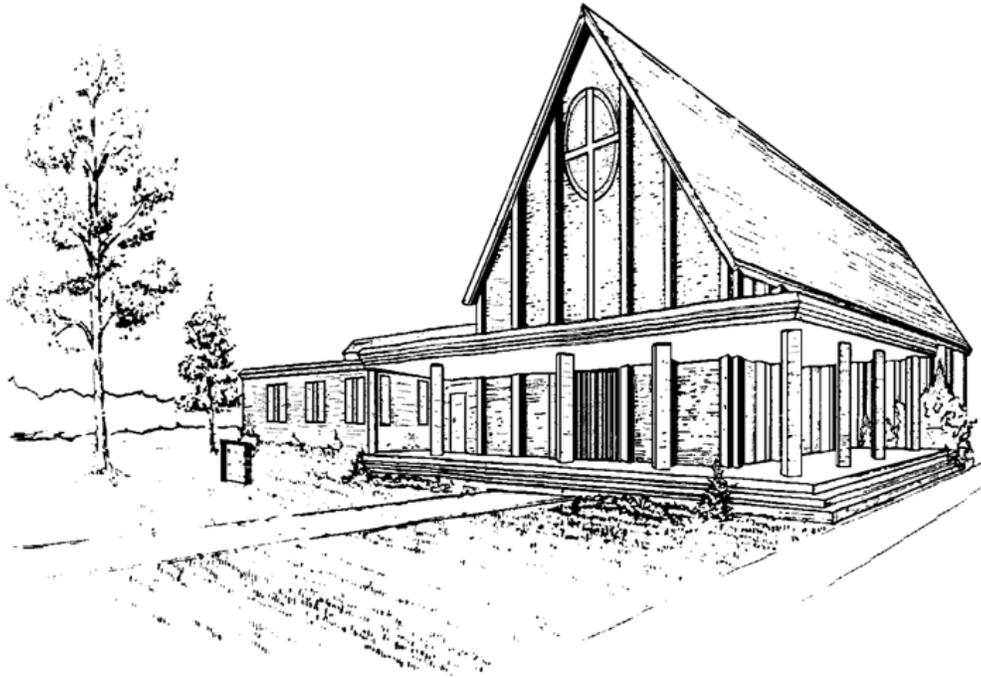


**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
GREENLAWN**



Service of Worship

December 9, 2019

Deacon Sunday

Second Sunday in Advent

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

CHIMES

Bill D'Andrea

SONGS OF PRAISE

Emmanuel, Emmanuel ; When God Is A Child

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Deacon David Hammer

Gracious God, You led your people out from their oppression in Egypt, and promised them a messenger to protect them in the wilderness on the way to the promised land. Your prophet Malachi, calling for repentance and warning of your judgment, promised a messenger who would prepare the way before You. Through your prophet Isaiah, You promised comfort for your people, a return to the exiles along a superhighway leveled by angels. Through the wilderness preaching of your messenger, John the Baptist, You announced the Advent of One who would baptize us not just with water, but also with the Holy Spirit.

Merciful God, prepare our hearts to receive him, both now and when He comes again, for He is our Lord now and forever.

PRELUDE

The Advent of Our God

Edward Broughton

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

Janice, Julie and Tyler Hago

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.

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.

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

* HYMN No. 477

Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

CALL TO WORSHIP

Deacon David Hammer

Leader: Jesus said, "Come to me all who are weary"- weary of spending, weary of wanting and of running out of things to want, weary of feeling neither joy nor excitement, weary even of weariness.

People: **Save us Jesus.**

(continued next page)

Leader: Jesus said, “Come to me all who are weary”- weary of not having enough; weary of not being good enough; weary of being taken for granted, of being lonely, afraid, sick, or cut off from others.

People: Save us Jesus.

Leader: Jesus said, “Come to me all who are weary” – weary of dealing in violence and being victims of it, of being hurt and of hurting others.

People: Come Lord Jesus into our lives this Advent Season. Give us rest from our weariness; give us peace and save us.

All: Advent’s promise is that God’s mercy and steadfast love will surround us, and we shall pay it forward in sharing our love with others. Advent’s promise is for *right now*. Let us live into our hope.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Pastor Fred Woodward

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Being baptized today is Owen Bennett Weiner, son of Debra Penfield Weiner and Brad Weiner.

APOSTLE’S CREED (see insert)

HYMN No. 304

Jesus Loves Me

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

O God, in whom all hearts find welcome: we confess how hard it is to welcome the baby Jesus into our hearts, and how much harder still to welcome the Christ who comes to transform our lives and our world.

Like the harried innkeeper who relegated Mary and Joseph to the back barn, we push the Christ child to our lives’ perimeter. We compartmentalize our lives and keep Jesus at a safe distance.

We want to give of ourselves, but we sense sometimes that we really have very little to share. And when we, like the innkeeper, do share the little that is left over of us, we congratulate ourselves for our generosity.

O God, in whom all hearts find shelter, redeem our busy and breathless lives. Help us who feel we have no time welcome the One who has all the time in the world for us.

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

Malachi 3:1-4

pg. 1001

Deacon David Hammer

HYMN No. 5

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

OFFERTORY*Savior of the Nations, Come*

arr. Douglas

E. Wagner

Tune: Nun Komm Der Heiden Heiland

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**

Deacon David Hammer

SCRIPTURE READING**Luke 1: 5-25; 57-79**

pg. 1069

Pastor Fred Woodward

SERMON “The Gestation of Praise in the Womb of Silence”

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**When Old Zechariah Saw What God Had Done***(MUELLER, “*Away in a Manger*, No. 25)***BENEDICTION*****SINGING OUR HOPE*****Come Let Us Adore Him******POSTLUDE*****People, Look East***

arr. Stephen L. Aber

Tune: Besancon (Traditional French melody)

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.

WEEKLY MESSENGER

Sunday, December 9, 2018

www.greenlawnpresbyterianchurch.org

facebook.com/First-Presbyterian-Church-of-Greenlawn

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

- **The flowers on the Lord's table** are given to the Glory of God.
- **GREETERS:** Greeting us today before the service are Carol and Bob Eitel and family.
- **FELLOWSHIP HOUR:** Assisting with Fellowship Hour today are members of the Board of Deacons.
- **ASSISTING IN WORSHIP** this morning is Deacon David Hammer.
- **USHERING TEAM NO. 5**, led by Craig Satterlee, 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 9th is Diane Kirchhoff.
- **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 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.

As We Think and Talk about the Global Refugee Crisis

As we think and talk about refugee crisis *as Americans*, we pray to remember the words of Emma Lazarus etched on the welcome symbol of the Statue of Liberty, "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free. The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless tempest-tossed, to me: I lift my lamp beside the golden door.' As we think about the refugee crisis *as children of God*, we pray to remember the words of scripture, "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." (Hebrews 13:2). As we think about the refugee crisis *as Christians*, we pray to remember the refugee we call the Christ who comes incognito in the least among us.

A Note about Today's Third Hymn

The hymn, "When Old Zechariah Saw what God Had Done," is the work of Presbyterian pastor and hymn writer Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, and is used with limited permission. Carolyn is the author of *Gifts of Love: New Hymns for Today's Worship* (Louisville: Geneva Press, 2000) and *Songs of Grace: New Hymns for God and Neighbor* (Nashville, Discipleship Resources, 2009).

Advent Activities After Worship

December 9th
December 16th

Song Title Translation
Carol Sing-a-long



**ANNUAL LIVING NATIVITY
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH ~ 5:00 PM ~ COMMUNITY DINNER ~ 6:00**

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.; Kay G.; Kayla; Matthew W.; Maria H.; Patti C.; Rosie P.; Terry H.; 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.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Today, December 9, 2018	Choir Worship/Sunday School/ Deacon Sunday Deacon Meeting	10:00 am 10:30 am 11:30 am
Monday	333 Advent Meditation	3:30 pm
Tuesday	Committee Meetings	7:30 pm
Wednesday	Pastor Fred’s Happy Hour Bible Study	2:00 pm
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday	Set up Living Nativity	10:00 am

Next Sunday,	Choir	10:00 am
December 16, 2018	Worship/Sunday School/	10:30 am
	Living Nativity	5:00 pm
	Community Dinner	6:00 pm