

**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENLAWN**

**July 5, 2020 – 10:30 a.m.  
Independence Day Sunday**

*On July 4, 1776, our forbearers bravely advanced the cause of freedom and liberty by declaring this nation's independence and sovereignty, stating that all her people possessed the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness given by our Creator. It is appropriate, therefore, as we celebrate our nation's 244<sup>th</sup> birthday, that we give thanks to that Creator for our liberties, and pray for continued blessings upon our country, our government, and our fellow citizens.*

WELCOME

GATHERING MUSIC

CALL TO WORSHIP

Our ancestors came from all places and all peoples  
So that we can gather here today.

*Some traveled across the ice. Others came later in boats.*

*Still others walked or forged rivers. Some arrived in planes.*

They found a land blessed.

*Blessed with mountains and valleys, rivers and oceans,*

*Fertile earth, deep woods, and promising cities.*

It was here that dreams were born.

*Dreams of freedom from all oppression.*

*Dreams of hope for their children.*

*Dreams of people in community under God.*

And so the dream continues.

*We pray for continued blessings;*

*One nation, under God, indivisible,*

*With liberty and justice for all.*

HYMN # 561

*My Country, Tis of Thee*

AMERICA

*My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing.*

*Land where my fathers died. Land of the pilgrims' pride.*

*From every mountainside let freedom ring.*

*My native country, thee, land of the noble free, thy name I love.*

*I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and templed hills.*

*My heart with rapture thrills like that above.*

*Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees sweet freedom's song.  
Let mortal tongues awake. Let all that breathe partake.  
Let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.*

*Our fathers' God, to Thee, Author of Liberty, to Thee we sing.  
Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light.  
Protect us by Thy might, Great God, our King.*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Gracious God, we know we have let You down in many ways. We have not lived up to Your high intentions for us. You send us out as ambassadors of peace, and instead, we pick fights with our sisters and brothers. You commission us to travel light, and we become bogged down with our possessions. You ask us to help ease the burdens that others carry, but we add to them. Patient God, please forgive us. 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.*

### A PRAYER FOR PEACE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace!

***Where there is hatred ... let me sow love.***

Where there is injury ... pardon

***Where there is doubt ... faith.***

Where there is despair ... hope.

***Where there is darkness ... light.***

Where there is sadness ... joy.

***O Divine Master, grant that we may not so much  
seek to be consoled as to console.***

To be understood ... as to understand.

***To be loved ... as to love.***

For it is in giving that we receive.

***It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.***

And it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life. All this we pray in Jesus' name, saying, "Our Father ..."

### 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.*

## OFFERING SENTENCES

The First Presbyterian Church of Greenlawn  
497 Pulaski Road  
Greenlawn, NY 11740

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

*From our present abundance, we offer our gifts to You, Generous God, so that the hungry might be fed, the broken might find healing, and the grieving might be comforted. Amen.*

## THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Deut. 10:17-21  
Hebrews 11:8-16  
Matthew 5:43-48

SERMON                      “Liberty and Justice for ALL!”                      Rev. Dr. Van Cleef

COMMUNION HYMN                      *This Is My Song*                      FINLANDIA

*This is my song, O God of All the Nations.  
A song of peace for lands afar, and mine.  
This is my home, the country where my heart is.  
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine.  
But other hearts in other lands are beating  
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.*

*My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,  
And sunlight beams on clover leaf and pine.  
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,  
And skies are everywhere as blue as mine.  
O hear my song, thou God of All the Nations,  
A song of peace for their land and for mine.*

*This is my prayer, O Ruler of All Nations.  
Let Thy reign come, on Earth Thy will be done.  
In peace may all Earth's people draw together,  
And hearts united learn to live as one.  
O hear my prayer, Thou God of All the Nations.  
Myself I give Thee. Let Thy will be done.*

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*O God, You made us in Your own image and redeemed us through Jesus, Your Son. Look with compassion on the whole human family. Take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts. Break down the walls that separate us. Unite us in bonds of love, and work with us to accomplish Your purposes on Earth, that in Your good time, all nations and peoples may serve You in harmony around Your heavenly throne. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

HYMN # 262

*God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand*      NATIONAL HYMN

*God of the Ages, Whose almighty hand  
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band  
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies  
Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.*

*Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way.  
Lead us from light to never-ending day.  
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine.  
And, glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.*

### BENEDICTION

#### CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

*God bless America, land that I love.  
Stand beside her, and guide her  
through the night with the light from above.  
From the mountains to the prairies, to the oceans white with foam.  
God bless America, my home sweet home.  
God bless America, my home sweet home.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND JOYS

#### TO THE KITCHEN FOR COFFEE!

Meeting ID: 984 5175 3501

Password: 035680

Dial in: 1 646 558 8656 US (New York)