

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
Carol Hymn Sing Sunday **10:30 AM** **December 15, 2019**
Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)

Music and Meditation at 10:15 am
*Come away from rush and hurry this Advent season
as we prepare for the birth of the Christ Child*

CHIMES Deacon Barbara Small

GATHERING HYMNS

No. 20 *Watchman, Tell Us of the Night* (Verses 1, 3)
No. 9 *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (Verses 1, 3)

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Elder Susan Perrotta

God of our salvation, thank You that You straighten the winding ways of our hearts and smooth the paths made rough by sin. Thank You for your servant John. Help us to hear his voice of judgment so that we may also rejoice at his word of promise.

Deliver us from the despair the Baptist experienced when he asked whether Jesus really was the One who was to come. Remind us that we do not wait in vain, that help is on the way, and that the peace that passes understanding finally shall prevail.

PRELUDE *Joy to the World* arr. Franklin Ritter

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 41** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (Verses 1, 3)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Fred Woodward

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

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Leader: 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.**

Leader: 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.**

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

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

HYMN No. 53
HYMN No. 38

What Child Is This? (Verses 1, 3)
It Came Upon the Midnight Clear (Verses 1, 4)

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 146)

Elder Susan Perrotta

Leader: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God.

People: **Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever.**

Leader: The Lord sets prisoners free, opens the eyes of the blind, and lifts up those who are bowed down.

People: **The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!**

All: **Let us worship God.**

HYMN No. 44
HYMN No. 49

O Little Town of Bethlehem (verses 1, 4)
Once In Royal David's City (verses 1,4)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Fred Woodward

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Gracious God, we sometimes get frustrated that the Messiah You sent to save us hasn't fixed everything that's broken in our lives or in our world. Like John the Baptist, we sometimes find ourselves asking, "have we been barking up the wrong tree? If Jesus really is the One who was to come, what gives?"

Lead us into deeper trust. Meet our restlessness with your peace, and our relentless demand for answers with your Answering Presence.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE HYMN No. 31

Hark the Herald Angels Sing (Verse 1)

HYMN No. 47
HYMN No. 60

Still, Still, Still
Silent Night (verses 1, 4)

OLD TESTAMENT READING:

Isaiah 35: 1-10

pg. 749

Elder Susan Perrotta

HYMN No. 63

As With Gladness Men of Old (Verses 1, 4)

WEEKLY MESSENGER

Sunday, December 15, 2019

www.greenlawnpresbyterianchurch.org

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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 Lydia and Gary Mott.
- **FELLOWSHIP HOUR:** Assisting with Fellowship Hour today are Carolyn Brockett and Kathleen Remauro.
- **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 15th is Susan Perrotta.
- **DEACON ON CALL** for the month of December is Kathie Gerlach (631-261-0308). 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. **There is an on-going need for mac and cheese, paper towels, pancake mix, syrup, soups, and bar soap.** 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)

“Advent,” 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.

Gaudete Sunday (“Rejoice” or “Joy” Sunday) is the third Sunday of Advent and recalls Paul’s counsel to the believers at Philippi, “*Rejoice* in the Lord always. I will say it again: *Rejoice!*” (Phil. 4:4). On Gaudete Sunday, the faithful not only express adoration for “the One who is to come,” but also worship and hail that One with rejoicing.

Today is the last day to order poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary for Christmas. Please see Corinne Burdett to place your order.

Advent and Christmas Worship Schedule

Our in-worship **Carol Hymn Sing** Sunday will take place on this morning. .

This afternoon at 5:00 PM we will celebrate our **Living Nativity**, followed by a **Community Dinner**. If you would like to volunteer to help in any way with this annual event, there is still time. Please see Debbie Eitel. Rehearsal will be this afternoon at 3:00 pm.

On Saturday, December 21st we will meet at the church at 4:00 pm and go **Christmas Caroling**. Please let Debbie know if you plan to attend.

Our church will celebrate **Christmas Eve worship** at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 24th.

Sunday Music and Meditation at 10:15 AM

Come away from rush and hurry this Advent season as we prepare for the birth of the Christ child with Sunday worship in the sanctuary fifteen minutes earlier, at 10:15AM. The Call to Worship will be at the usual time of 10:30AM.

Warm, gently used coats and jackets, hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, and new socks are being collected again this year. **“Jackets For Jesus”** can be left in the large box in the hall outside the office. All donations will go to the Family Service League.

Coffee Time Karaoke ~ The Christmas Edition

Sunday, December 22 @ 11:30 a.m. in the Narthex,
directly following worship service. Sing your favorite Christmas carols & holiday songs while enjoying yuletide refreshments and sharing fellowship together.

PRAYER CONCERNS

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

Our church members and their individual struggles; Barbara; Bob VC; Frances W.; Steve S.; Caregivers; Cassell; Gloria A.; John; Kathy; Kayla; Karen; Maria H.; Mike P.; Mike W.; Rich G.; Stephen; Tom B.; Pastor Tim and Nancy; 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 15, 2019	Music and Meditation	10:15 am
	Worship/Sunday School	10:30 am
	Living Nativity Rehearsal	3:00 pm
	Living Nativity	5:00 pm
	Community Dinner	6:15 pm
Monday	Steeple Chimes Deadline	
Tuesday	Session Meeting	7:30 pm
Wednesday	Bible Study @ the home of Diane Hartmann 5 Court Dr., Hunt. Sta.	2:00 pm
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday	Christmas Caroling	4:00 pm
Next Sunday, December 22, 2019	Music and Meditation	10:15 am
	Worship/Sunday School	10:30 am