

**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF GREENLAWN**



**Sunday Service of Worship
December 20, 2020 – The Fourth Sunday of Advent
10:30 a.m.**

**Meeting ID: 997 8744 0701
Passcode: 623169
Dial in: 1 (646) 558-8656**

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December 20, 2020 - 10:30 a.m.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

“A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols”

This Service tells the story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus. It is told in nine short Bible readings from Genesis, the Prophetic Books, and the Gospels, and is interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols, hymns, and other music.

The original format was based on an Order of Worship for Christmas Eve, 1880, in Cornwall, England. It is said that a key purpose of the Service at that time was to keep men out of the pubs on Christmas Eve!

Our Service is based on the one at The King's College in Cambridge, England, where the nine lessons are read by representatives of the congregation and of the local community.

ORGAN MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

Deacon Barbara Small

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

The Vision 2020 Team

*HYMN # 49

Once in Royal David's City

IRBY

*Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for His bed.
Mary was that mother mild. Jesus Christ, her little child.*

*He came down to Earth from Heaven, who is God and Lord of all.
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall.
With the poor, oppressed and lowly, lived on Earth, our Savior holy.*

PRAYER CONCERNS

Elder Betty Chatfield

BIDDING PRAYER (Adapted from The King's Chapel)

Beloved in Christ, it is our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels; in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child; and let us make this Sanctuary glad with our hymns of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of God's whole world; for peace and good will over all the Earth and for unity and love within the Church, and especially in this, our own community.

And because this would rejoice God's heart, let us remember the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children, those who have lost faith, and those who by sin have grieved God's heart of love.

Finally, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but on another shore and in a greater Light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made Flesh, and with Whom in the Lord Jesus, we are one forevermore. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself taught us:

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 and the power and the glory now and forever. Amen.

The Almighty God bless us with grace. Christ, give us the joys of everlasting life, and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. Amen.

HYMN # 42

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELIS

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant.

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.

Come and behold Him, born the king of angels.

REFRAIN: *O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

*Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning.
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given.
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing. REFRAIN*

*Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above.
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! REFRAIN*

THE FIRST LESSON

The Rev. Mark Tammen

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise, and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.

HYMN # 22 *Angels, from the Realms of Glory* REGENT SQUARE

*Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the Earth.
Ye, who sang Creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born King.*

*All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son.
Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the new-born King.*

THE SECOND LESSON

Kathleen Fitzgerald

Genesis 22:15-18

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the Earth be blessed.

CAROL *Gabriel's Oboe* Andrew Segale, Alto Saxophone

THE THIRD LESSON

Althea Segale

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The Prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.

HYMN # 38 *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* CAROL

*It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old.
From angels bending near the Earth, to touch their harps of gold.
"Peace on the Earth, good will to all, from Heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.*

*For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold,
When peace shall over all the Earth its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.*

THE FOURTH LESSON

Larry Foray

Isaiah 11:1-3a, 4a, 6-9

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

HYMN # 48

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ES IST EIN ROS

*Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung
Of Jesse's lineage coming by faithful prophets sung.*

It came a floweret bright

Amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind.

With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.

To show God's love a-right

She bore for us a Savior when half spent was the night.

OFFERING SENTENCES

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 44

O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray.

Cast out our sin and enter in. Be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell.

O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Our best we give to You, loving God, for You have given Your best to us in the mystery of the Incarnation. May our offerings proclaim the Good News in ways that will be received with joy. Thank You for all the ways You have provided for us. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 53

GREENSLEEVES

What Child Is This?

What Child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing.

Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

THE FIFTH LESSON

Gerry Parrinello

Luke 1:25-35, 38

The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Mother, Mary

CAROL

Mary, Did You Know?

Debbie Eitel

THE SIXTH LESSON

Kathleen Giroux

Luke 2:1, 3-7

Luke Tells of the Birth of Jesus

HYMN # 60

Silent Night, Holy Night

STILLE NACHT

*Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child! Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in Heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from Heaven afar. Heavenly hosts sing, "Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!"*

*Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light.
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace.
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.*

*Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light.
With the angels let us sing, "Alleluia to our King!
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!"*

THE SEVENTH LESSON

Mike Kulsziski

Luke 2:8-16

The Shepherds Go to the Manger

HYMN # 59

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night

CHRISTMAS

*While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around, and glory shone around*

*"Fear not," said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled minds.
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and humankind, to you and humankind."*

*"To you, in David's town this day is born of David's line
The Savior, who is Christ the Lord.
And this shall be the sign, and this shall be the sign."*

*"The heavenly Babe you there shall find to human view displayed,
All humbly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid, and in a manger laid."*

*Thus spoke the seraph, and forthwith appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who this
Addressed their joyful song, addressed their joyful song.*

*“All glory be to God on high, and to the Earth be peace.
Good will to all from highest Heaven
Begin and never cease, begin and never cease.”*

THE EIGHTH LESSON

Supervisor Chad Lupinacci

Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi Are Led by the Star to Jesus

*HYMN # 66

We Three Kings

KINGS OF ORIENT

*We three kings of Orient are bearing gifts we traverse afar.
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.*

*O – star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.*

*Born a king on Bethlehem’s plain, gold I bring to crown Him again.
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign.*

*Frankincense to offer have I. Incense owns a Deity nigh.
Prayer and praising we are raising, worshiping God Most High.*

*Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom.
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.*

*Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice.
Alleluia, Alleluia sounds through the Earth and skies.*

*O – star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.*

A STORY:

“Silver Magic”

Dr. Ann Van Cleef

(By Cheryl K. Pierson, from *Classic Christmas*, Edited by Helen Szymanski)

THE NINTH LESSON

Joe Senatore

John 1:1-12

John Unfolds the Mystery of the Incarnation

CAROL

Little Drummer Boy / Peace on Earth

The Choir

*Come, they told me, pa rup-a-pum-pum.
A new-born King to see, pa rup-a-pum-pum.*

Our finest gifts we bring, pa rup-a-pum-pum. Rup-a-pum-pum. Rup-a-pum-pum.

Come, they told me, pa rup-a-pum-pum. (Peace on Earth. Can it be?)
A new-born King to see, pa rup-a-pum-pum. (Years from now, perhaps we'll see.)

Our finest gifts we bring, pa rup-a-pum-pum. (See the day of glory.)
To lay before the King, pa rup-a-pum-pum, (See the day when men of good will)
Rup-a-pum-pum, Rup-a-pum-pum. (Live in peace, live in peace again.)

So, to honor Him, pa rup-a-pum-pum, (Peace on Earth,)
When we come. (Can it be?)

Every child must be made aware. Every child must be made to care.
Care enough for his fellow man to give all the love that he can.

Little baby, pa rup-a-pum-pum. (Peace on Earth. Can it be?)
I stood beside Him there, pa rup-a-pum-pum. (Years from now, perhaps we'll see.)
I played my drum for Him, pa rup-a-pum-pum. (See the day of glory.)
I played my best for Him, pa rup-a-pum-pum, (See the day when men of good will)
Rup-a-pum-pum, Rup-a-pum-pum. (Live in peace, live in peace again.)

Then He smiled at me, pa rup-a-pum-pum. (Peace on Earth.)
Me and my drum. (Can it be?) Peace on Earth. Can it be?

BENEDICTION

*HYMN # 40

Joy to the World!

ANTIOCH

*Joy to the world! The Lord is come. Let Earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare Him room, and Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven and nature sing, and Heaven, and Heaven and nature sing.*

*Joy to the world! The Savior reigns. Let us our songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*No more let sin and sorrow grow, nor thorns infest the ground.
He comes to make His blessings flow far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness, and wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.*

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Participants in Today's Service

Readers:

Reader 1: Rev. Mark Tammen General Presbyter, Presbytery of Long Island
Reader 2: Kathleen E. Fitzgerald Retired, US Internal Revenue Service
Reader 3: Althea Segale Professional Musician; Retired Music Educator
Reader 4: Larry Foray Senior Systems Analyst
Reader 5: Gerry Parrinello ... Retired Educator; President, Project Nicaragua & Beyond
Reader 6: Kathleen Giroux Occupational Therapy; Girl Scout Leader
Reader 7: Mike Kulsziski Junior Past Governor of The Huntington Moose Lodge
Reader 8: Chad Lupinacci Supervisor, Town of Huntington
Reader 9: Joe Senatore Administrator of the Huntington Moose Lodge

Pastor The Rev. Dr. Ann M. Van Cleef
Director of Music Leonora Colletti
Prayer Concerns Betty Chatfield
Greeter at the Door Arlissa Dean
The Church Bell Ringer Barbara Small

Special Music:

Organ Leonora Colletti
Soprano Ann Van Cleef
Alto Saxophone Andrew Segale
Mezzo Soprano Debbie Eitel

Choir:

Sopranos Debbie Eitel, Meg Lawrence
Altos Arlissa Dean, Ann Van Cleef
Baritones Larry Foray, George Santos, Robert Van Cleef

The Vision 2020 Team:

Leonora Colletti

Debbie Eitel

Larry Foray

STAFF

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Leonora Colletti

Fellowship Director

Debbie Eitel

Custodian

Gary Prentiss

Treasurer

James Dean

Financial Secretary

Betty Chatfield

Benevolence Secretary

Susan Perrotta

OUR SERVING BOARDS

SESSION

Class of 2020

Susan Perrotta
Diane Kirchoff
Ruth Satterlee

Class of 2021

Betty Chatfield
Debbie Eitel

Class of 2022

DEACONS

Class of 2020

Corinne Burdett
Larry Foray – Moderator

Class of 2021

Arlissa Dean
Kathleen Gerlach

Class of 2022

Gary Prentiss
George Santos

Christmas Eve Services

Please join us on Christmas Eve at one of our services: 4 p.m. or 7 p.m. Reservations are strongly recommended. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the hall.

Food Pantry

Do you know of people who might be hungry this season? We have a free food pantry in front of the church that is available 24/7. Please help us spread the word.

Sunday, December 27

We will continue our Christmas celebration with “A Service of Carols and More Carols” on Sunday, December 27. Please join us at 10:30 a.m.