

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:30 AM

December 22, 2019

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*

*“...He has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.
He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble.
He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty...”*
(Luke 1:51-53)

CHIMES

Deacon Barbara Small

GATHERING SONG

*Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth
The peace that was meant to be.
With God as our father
Brothers all are we.
Let me walk with my brother
In perfect harmony.*

Let There Be Peace on Earth

*Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take
May this be my solemn vow.
To take each moment
And live each moment
With peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.*

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Elder Debbie Eitel

Who are we, Lord God, that You should come to us? Yet You have visited your people and redeemed us through your Son. You come to us in our waking hours and visit us in our dreams, guiding us always toward that which we are called to be and to do.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Son of David, remove any barriers that we may have erected to keep us from the embrace of your love.

We ask this through Him whose day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

PRELUDE

Angels We Have Heard On High

arr. Mary McDonald

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

In Advent, we look for a sign of God’s presence among us.

The sign that God gives us is the sign of Emmanuel.

The prophet spoke of a young woman who would bear a child by that name.

And the angel told Joseph that Mary's child would save the people from their sin.

We thank you, God, for the sign of Emmanuel. Lead us to its resting place that we too might find God with us. For Mary and Joseph we light our Advent candles this day. For God has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty.

O Child of God, come among us, we pray; "cast out our sin and enter within, be born in our us today." For "the hopes and fears of all the years" are met in You today.

*** HYMN No. 41**

Come All Ye Faithful

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Psalm 80)

Elder Debbie Eitel

Leader: Hear us, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock. Awaken your might; come and save us.

People: **Let your hand rest on the one at your right hand, the son of Man you have raised up for yourself.**

Leader: Then we will not turn away from you. Revive us, and we will call on your name.

People: **Restore us, O Lord God Almighty; make your face shine upon us, that we may be saved.**

All: **Let us worship God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Fred Woodward

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

God of our salvation, forgive us:

that we are impressed by worldly power and authority and miss You in the commonplace stables of our lives...

that we are slow to hear You as You speak to us in dreams and through your unexpected messengers...

that we are slow to heed the angels You have sent to guide us.

Forgive us:

that we are slower still to embrace your good news with great joy...

that we put You on hold during the week while we busily live our lives without You...

that even in Advent we turn You into a Sunday God rather than the God of all our days and years....

In your mercy, forgive us. Send your Spirit to free and renew us so that we may serve your people with goodwill.

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. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 7:10-14

Pg. 721
Elder Debbie Eitel

HYMN

Emmanuel (See insert)

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Do You Hear What I Hear?

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 Debbie Eitel

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 1: 18-25

pg. 1007
Pastor Fred Woodward

SERMON

“Beyond Righteousness”

Pastor Fred Woodward

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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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

***CLOSING HYMN No. 58**

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks (Verses 1-4)

***BENEDICTION**

***SINGING OUR HOPE: Hymn No. 58**

While Shepherds Watched (Verses 5-6)

***POSTLUDE**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

arr. Lani Smith

WEEKLY MESSENGER

Sunday, December 22, 2019

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 Yani and Yulchi Lee and Family.
- **FELLOWSHIP HOUR:** Assisting with Fellowship Hour today is Debbie Eitel.
- **ASSISTING IN WORSHIP** this morning is Elder Debbie Eitel.
- **USHERING TEAM NO. 1**, led by Bob Arelt, 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 22nd is Ruth Satterlee.
- **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.

*“What keeps the wild hope of Christmas alive year after year in a world notorious for dashing all hopes is the haunting dream that the child who was born that day may yet be born even in us” (Frederick Buechner, *A Room Called Remember*, [San Francisco, Harper & Row, 1984, 65]).*

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



Coffee Time Karaoke ~ The Christmas Edition

Today @ 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.



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.

PRAYER CONCERNS

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

Our church members and their individual struggles; Caregivers; Cassell; Gloria A.; John; Kathy; Kayla; Karen; 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 22, 2019	Music and Meditation	10:15 am
	Worship/Sunday School	10:30 am
	Coffee Time Karaoke	11:30 am
	Session Meeting	11:30 am
Monday		
Tuesday	Christmas Eve Worship	7:30 pm
Wednesday	A Blessed Christmas to All!	
Thursday	Church Office Closed	
Friday	Church Office Closed	
Saturday		
Next Sunday, December 29, 2019	Worship/Sunday School	10:30 am