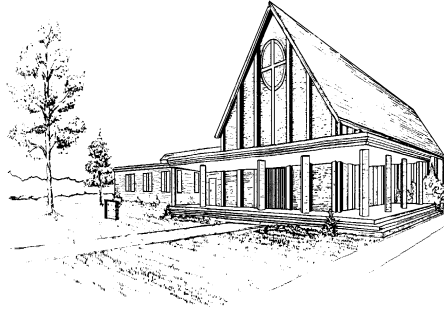


## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**



**Sunday Service of Worship  
December 11, 2011 10:30 am  
Third Sunday of Advent: Gaudete Sunday  
Installation of Church Officers  
Deacons' Sunday**

The Reverend Frederick H. Woodward, Pastor  
Debbie Eitel, Youth Director  
Catherine Mahler, Director of Music  
Michele Roberts, Bookkeeper

497 Pulaski Road  
Greenlawn, NY 11740

Phone: 631-261-2150 Fax: 631-261-0348

<http://www.greenlawnpresbyterianchurch.org>  
[fpcgreenlawn@optonline.net](mailto:fpcgreenlawn@optonline.net) / [pastorwoody@optonline.net](mailto:pastorwoody@optonline.net)

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

**Sunday Service of Worship**  
**December 11, 2011 10:30 A.M.**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**Deacons' Sunday**

**CHIMES**

Bill D'Andrea

**PRELUDE**

*Sweet, Holy Child*

Arr. by Marilyn Ham (*Sweet Little Jesus King with Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*)

**BRINGING IN THE LIGHT**

Acolytes Mark Polcer and Matthew Polcer

**PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

Michelle Perrotta

God of our salvation, you straighten the winding ways of our hearts and smooth the paths made rough by sin. We praise you that your servant John came baptizing and calling for repentance. Help us to hear his voice of judgment so that we may also rejoice in his word of promise, and be found pure and blameless in that glorious Day when Christ comes again to rule the earth as Prince of Peace. Amen.

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Pastor Fred Woodward

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

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES**

The Ames family

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.**

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.**

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

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

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 87**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

**CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Isaiah 61)**

Michelle Perrotta

Leader: We will delight greatly in the LORD; our soul rejoices in our God.

**People: For he has clothed us with garments of salvation and arrayed us in a robe of righteousness.**

Leader: For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow,

**People: So the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.**

**All: Let us worship God.**

## SONGS OF PRAISE

*Emmanuel* (see insert)

*Lift Up Your Heads* (see insert)

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Fred Woodward

## CONFESSION OF SIN (unison)

Gracious God, we ask for your mercy and forgiveness for our part in everything that seems to be going wrong in our lives, for the grievances we continue to carry, for the jealousies we have nurtured, and for the resentments that we have been unable to give up.

Forgive us if we have hurt and offended others, or treated them unfairly. Forgive us for failing to keep our promises, and for not keeping true to our word. Forgive us even more for failing to keep true your Word, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As we prepare for the coming of your Son, clear away everything that gets in the way of our relationship with you, and everything that weakens our testimony to the good news that is ours in Jesus Christ.

## 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

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

pg.780, lg. print pg. 1157

Elder Betty Chatfield

### HYMN No. 77

*O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

## TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### ANTHEM

*A Child is Born* / Laura K. Rosser (see insert)

Chancel Choir

### 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 Betty Chatfield

### SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:6-8, 19-28

pg. 1109, lg. print pg. 1645

Pastor Fred Woodward

### SERMON "From the Wilderness to the Witness Stand"

Pastor Fred Woodward

## **INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS**

*Being installed this morning for the office of deacon are Arlissa Dean, Rebecca Dodge, Kathleen Gerlach and Susan Perrotta. Being installed this morning for the office of elder are Bob Arelt, Betty Chatfield, and Roger Kaufmann*

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Elder Roger Kaufmann

*Worshipers briefly share joys and concerns as part of their offering to God of their prayers of supplication, intercession, and thanksgiving.*

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

Pastor Fred Woodward

## **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. 86**

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

## **BENEDICTION**

## **\*SINGING OUR HOPE**

Hymn No. 322, Verses 1, 4

**Our hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
We dare not trust the sweetest frame  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name  
On Christ the solid Rock we stand  
All other ground is sinking sand  
All other ground is sinking sand.**

**When He shall come with trumpet sound  
O may we then in Him be found.  
Dressed in His righteousness alone  
Faultless to stand before the throne.  
On Christ the solid Rock we stand  
All other ground is sinking sand  
All other ground is sinking sand.**

## **POSTLUDE**

*Christmas Montage*

Arr. Teresa Wilhelmi



**Christmas Eve Services, Saturday, December 24, 2011**

7:00 pm Family Service  
11:00 pm Candlelight Service

**Christmas Day Service, Sunday, December 25, 2011**

12 Noon Christmas Service

**Calendar for the Week of 12 / 11 / 11**

**Today, Sunday 12/11, 3rd Sunday of Advent, Deacons' Sunday**

9 AM EBENEZER WESLEYAN CHURCH  
WORSHIP SERVICE CE  
10:30 am Worship Service /Installation of Church Officers  
12 pm Adult Bible Study  
6:30 pm Friendships of Women  
7 PM EBENEZER WESLEYAN CHURCH  
WORSHIP SERVICE CE

**Monday 12/12, January Steeple Chimes due 10 am**

**Tuesday 12/13 7:30 Committee Meetings**

**Wednesday 12/14 2 pm Pastor Fred's Lectionary Bible Study**  
**7:30 pm Session Meeting**

**Thursday 12/15 1 pm Joy and Grace Circle Christmas Party**  
**7 PM EBENEZER WESLEYAN BIBLE STUDY CE**  
**8 pm Choir**

**Friday 12/16, January Steeple Chimes will be folded**

**10:30 am Bible Study**  
**6 pm Youth Group Christmas Caroling**

**Saturday 12/17**      **4 pm**              **Living Nativity Rehearsal**  
                                 4 PM - 9 PM                      EBENEZER WESLEYAN YOUTH  
GROUP MEETS CE

**Next Sunday 12/18, 4th Sunday of Advent, Special Musical Sunday**  
                                 9 AM                      EBENEZER WESLEYAN CHURCH  
                                 WORSHIP SERVICE CE  
**10:30 am**      **Worship Service**  
**12 pm**              **Adult Bible Study**  
**3 pm**              **Living Nativity Rehearsal**  
**5 pm**              **Living Nativity**  
**7 PM**                      EBENEZER WESLEYAN CHURCH  
                                 WORSHIP SERVICE CE

**UPCOMING STEEPLE CHIMES DUE DATE AND FOLDING DATE**

**Materials for the January Steeple Chimes are due by tomorrow, Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am, and will be folded on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, and mailed.**

**Announcements for the week of 12 / 11 / 11**

- ◆ **The flowers on the Lord's table** are given to the glory of God.
- ◆ **The Youth Group Annual Coat Drive "Jackets For Jesus" final collection is today, Sunday, December 11.** Thank You!
- ◆ **Poinsettia orders are due by this Tuesday, December 13, 9am.** Please fill out the order form enclosed.
- ◆ **Strong Men Needed! On Tuesday, December 13th,** strong men are needed to build the set for the **Living Nativity.** Please join us between 6:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. The more helpers, the faster our work is done!
- ◆ **JOY AND GRACE CIRCLES' CHRISTMAS PARTY** -All women of the Greenlawn Presbyterian Church are cordially invited to the annual **Christmas Party and Luncheon, this Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 pm,** at the Greenlawn Presbyterian Church. Please R.S.V.P. by December 1<sup>st</sup>, 631-421-5380
- ◆ **The Living Nativity** -We will be holding The Living Nativity again this year on **December 18<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 pm.** A sign-up sheet will be posted for as many persons as possible to join in. There are no speaking parts, but we need people to be shepherds, towns people, kings, as well a Joseph, Mary, Herod, and soldiers. The more people we have the better it will be. We will also be looking for people who will be able to bake cookies or cakes to be served to the audience after the performance. Gary Prentiss will also be preparing a community dinner for

all the people who show up. Please help us by signing up. Thank you.

- ◆ **The Giving Tree** will be set up November 20<sup>th</sup> to December 18<sup>th</sup>. Let us bring joy to residents at Carillon Nursing Home and others in the community, by showing them they're not forgotten - GOD LOVES THEM AND SO DO WE!
- ◆ **Special Musical Sunday, December 18th** This year, in place of a Christmas Concert, the choir will be offering a Special Musical Sunday. There will be several inspirational Christmas anthems in addition to other musical offerings.
- ◆ **Deacons on Call** If you would like our church to send a card to someone who is ill, facing an operation or just in need of a few encouraging words – please give the name and address to one of the Deacons on Call for this week. They can be found at the Deacons' table in the Narthex each Sunday.
- ◆ **The Friday Morning Bible Study group** meets at 10:30 am in the Parlor. During this time we share ideas and discuss what the Bible says to each of us. All are welcome to join us.
- ◆ **Pastor Fred's Office Hours** You can find Pastor Fred at the church between 11 am and 5 pm Monday through Thursday, though he can be contacted outside those hours for appointments and consultations (631-626-3702). It is still a good idea though to call ahead to make sure that the pastor is not out making visits or attending a meeting.
- ◆ **Come Grow In Christ** The Sunday Adult Bible Study meets at 12:00 Noon.
- ◆ **Becky Dodge** is now at recuperating at home, 631-261-2087.
- ◆ **Friendships of Women** Womens' Bible Study meets Sunday 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm in the Parlor. All women welcome!

### **MINISTRIES WEEK OF 12 / 11 / 11**

**GREETERS:** Greeting us today before the service is Ginny Bailey.

**ASSISTING IN THE PULPIT** this morning is Elder Betty Chatfield.

**SESSION LISTENING POST:** Elder Nancy MacIntyre will be available after Worship in the hall by the office for any who would like to share their ideas or insights about the ministry of the Church.

**COFFEE HOUR:** Assisting with Coffee Hour are the Deacons.

**ELDER ON CALL:** Elder June Spence, 754-2154, will be available during the week to respond to questions or concerns you might have related to the ministry of this church.

**DEACONS ON CALL:** Deacon Becky Dodge, 261-2087, and Deacon Trisha Ames,

273-4061, are here to serve you. 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.

**THERE IS AN ACTIVE PRAYER MINISTRY IN GREENLAWN CHURCH.** Please feel free to call with your request for loved ones, friends, neighbors or yourself. Call Betty Chatfield at 261-8104 or email her at [bbcny22@aol.com](mailto:bbcny22@aol.com).

**NEEDS REQUESTS** If you know of someone in need, please fill out the blue form & place in the box located by the food pantry.

**FLOWERS FOR THE CHANCEL**—Each Sunday flowers beautify the Chancel of our church. We would encourage any and all to donate flowers for birthdays, anniversaries, “in memory of”, etc. Please call Becky Dodge to order flowers, 261-2087. A check for **\$30 (please note the change in price)** should be made to Greenlawn Presbyterian Church.

**Prayers of the People**

**Your prayers make a difference!**

**Please keep the following people in your prayers:**

Kayla Marine  
Maria Hottinger  
The Dodge Family  
Troops Worldwide