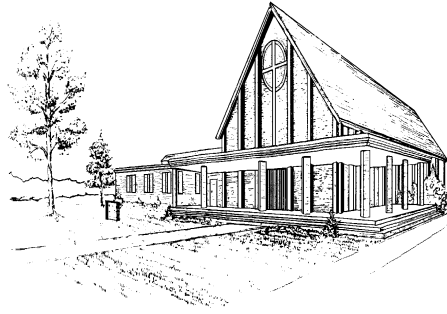


## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**



### **Sunday Service of Worship December 4, 2011 10:30 am Second Sunday of Advent**

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

497 Pulaski Road  
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[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 4, 2011     10:30 A.M.**  
**Second Sunday of Advent**  
**Communion Sunday**

**CHIMES**

Bill D'Andrea

**PRELUDE** *Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine*

"Resonet in Laudibus," Traditional Berman carol, Arr. David Paxton

**BRINGING IN THE LIGHT**

Acolytes Briana Rexon and Amanda Segale

**PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

Briana Rexon

Gracious God, you led the people of Israel out from their oppression in Egypt, and promised them a messenger to guard them in the wilderness along the way to the land you had prepared for them. Through your prophet Malachi, you warned of God's judgment against the sins of Israel, called for repentance, and sent a messenger who would prepare the way before you. Through your prophet Isaiah, you promised comfort for your people, a return to the exiles along a superhighway leveled by angels. Through the wilderness preaching of another messenger, John the Baptist, you announced one who would baptize us not just with water, but also with the Holy Spirit.

Merciful God, prepare our hearts to receive him now and when he comes again, for he is our Lord now and forever. Amen.

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Pastor Fred Woodward

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

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES**

The Lee 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.

**(Unison) 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.

**(Unison) The calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #8**

*Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim*

**CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 85)**

Briana Raxon

Leader: You showed favor to your land, O LORD; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

**People: You forgave the iniquity of your people and covered all their sins.**

Leader: I will listen to what God the LORD will say; he promises peace to his people, his saints- but let them not return to folly.

**People: Surely his salvation is near those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.**

Leader: The LORD will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest.

**People: Righteousness goes before him and prepares the way for his steps.**

**All: Let us worship God!**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Pastor Fred Woodward

**CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)**

Gracious God, we confess that we have failed to prepare the way for Christ's entry into our world, and into our everyday lives. In our wilderness wanderings, we have failed to look for him among the least among us, and we have not heeded his voice. In our murmuring and complaint, we have become tiny islands of self-concern, and have neglected the neighbors you has given us to love.

Help us to heed the warning of John the Baptist to repent and to do your will in earnest. Bring an end to our spiritual exile, and comfort us with the comfort that you alone can bring.

**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 40:1-11**

**pg. 754, lg. print pg. 1119**

Elder Roger Kaufmann

**HYMN** *Comfort, Comfort You My People* (see insert)

**TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**ANTHEM**

***Awaken Us, O Lord*** Mark Hayes (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 Roger Kaufmann

## SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:1-8

pg. 1045, lg. print pg. 1551

Pastor Fred Woodward

## SERMON "The Gospel That Begins in the Wilderness"

Pastor Fred Woodward

## COMMUNION HYMN No. 218 (verse 1, 3)

*We Come As Guests Invited*

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### EUCHARISTIC LITANY

Leader: God be with you.

**People: And with your spirit.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to God: Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: Great and wonderful are your deeds O God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, O Ruler of the ages. We give you thanks, for you have created all things, and by your will they exist. You have delivered your people from bondage, and you have given to us Jesus Christ, Lamb of God, Savior of the world, who has won for us the victory over sin and death and all evil.

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of love and majesty.**

**The whole universe speaks of your majesty, O God Most High.**

Leader: Glory be to you, O Christ, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed for God people from every tribe, tongue, people and nation and made them a nation of priests to serve our God.

**People: The Lamb who was slain is worthy to receive power, wisdom and might; honor, glory and blessing.**

**All: Spirit of God, touch our lives deeply, and make us truly yours; and bless these gifts of bread and wine. O Living Christ, bright morning star of this darkened world, come and be our guest. Name us, mark us,**

and claim us as your own. Free us from bondage to the powers of this world. Glory be to you! Amen.

## INVITATION

## WORDS of INSTITUTION and the DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (All)

God Almighty, who was, who is and ever shall be, we praise you that in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ, your promises given by the prophets were fulfilled and the day of our deliverance has dawned. We rejoice in hope as we look for the triumph of his kingdom when he shall come again.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Elder Roger Kaufmann

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

## 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    *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry* (see insert)

\* CHALLENGE AND BLESSING

\*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.



Christmas Cantata "Behold the Child"

Saturday 12/10

Next Sunday 12/11, 3rd Sunday of Advent, Deacons' Sunday

9 AM EBENEZER WESLEYAN CHURCH  
WORSHIP SERVICE CE

10:30 am Worship Service /Installation of New Officers

12 pm Adult Bible Study

6:30 pm Friendships of Women

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 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 / 4 / 11**

- ◆ **The flowers on the Lord's table** are given to the glory of God.
- ◆ **The Youth Group Annual Coat Drive: Jackets For Jesus** Please donate any old, clean, gently worn coats or jackets. Check the back of your closets for any you no longer wear! All sizes welcome - Infant through Adult, male & female. Get a warm fuzzy feeling by donating a coat and helping to keep someone warm this winter! See collection box in the church hallway. **Final collection day is next Sunday, December 11.** Thank You !
- ◆ **Poinsettia orders are due by Tuesday, December 13, 9am.** Please fill out the order form enclosed.
- ◆ **JOY AND GRACE CIRCLES' CHRISTMAS PARTY** -All women of the Greenlawn Presbyterian Church are cordially invited to the annual **Christmas Party and Luncheon, 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!
- ◆ **BECKY DODGE** is recuperating after knee surgery at Carillon Rehab. Center, 830 Park Ave, Huntington, NY 11743 631-271-5800, Room 301, private # 630-0384.
- ◆ **NEW ADDRESS: MRS. EMILY OSBORNE** 227 SOUTH FULTON AVE., LINDENHURST, NY 11757
- ◆ **NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR MARGARET LEE** 631-923-2249
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **Friendships of Women** Womens' Bible Study meets Sunday 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm in the Parlor. All women welcome!

#### **MINISTRIES WEEK OF 12 / 4 / 11**

**GREETERS:** Greeting us today before the service are Bob and Gloria Arelt.

**ASSISTING IN THE PULPIT** this morning is Elder Roger Kaufmann.

**SESSION LISTENING POST:** Elder Alan Lawrence, 757-1245, 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 is Susan Perrotta.

**ELDER ON CALL:** Elder Margaret Lawrence, 757-1245, 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. A check for **\$30 (please note the change in price)** should be made to Greenlawn Presbyterian Church. *To order flowers in November, please call the church office, 261-2150. Barbara Small will collect the money.*

**Prayers of the People**

**Your prayers make a difference!**

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

Kayla Marine

Maria Hottinger

Kim Dodge

Michele Roberts

Troops Worldwide

Peoples of Haiti & Japan

Hurricane, Earthquake, Tornado & Flood ravaged Cities & People