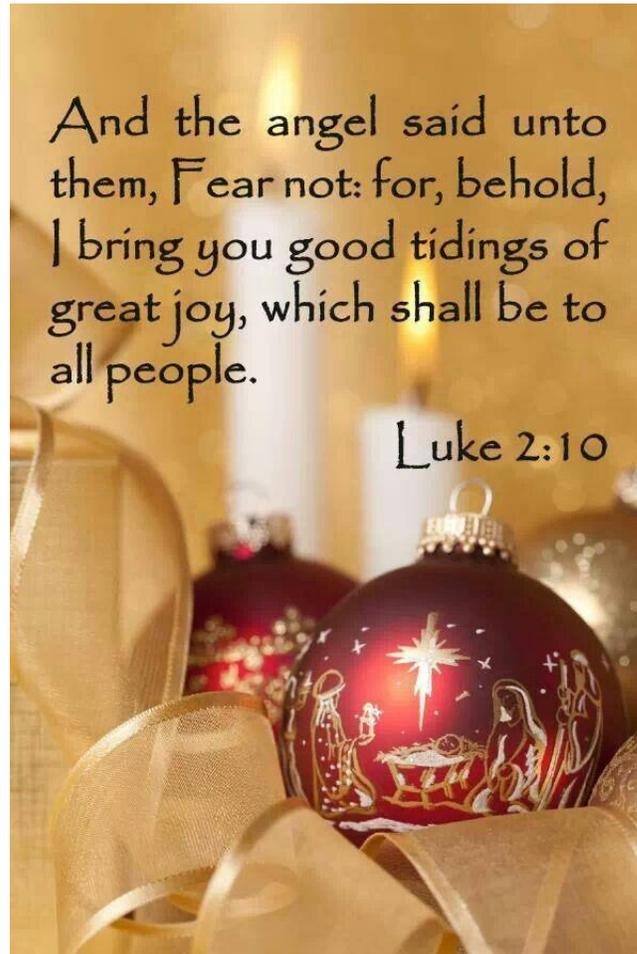


The United First Presbyterian Church
of Amwell at Larison's Corner



The Reverend Courtney B. Cromie, Pastor

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www.larisonscorner.org

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP SERVICE
CHRISTMAS SUNDAY December 26, 2021 11 AM
Minister: The Reverend Courtney B. Cromie

GREETING & WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Have you heard the glorious news?

People: **Jesus Christ is born! Emmanuel, God is with us!**

Leader: Indeed, wonder of wonders, the Word has become flesh and dwells among us.

People: **And we have seen Christ's glory, full of grace and truth!**

Leader: Glory to God in the highest,

People: **And on Earth peace among all whom God favors!**

All: **Let us worship the newborn child!**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

HYMN "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King: peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies; with th'angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb: veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity, pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*) – God of Joy, we come to celebrate again the arrival of Love Incarnate here in our very midst. Your glorious arrival is enough to cause the forests to sing for joy, yet we still find reasons to complain and sigh. Your light of salvation is bright enough to illuminate every corner of our lives, yet we still find ourselves shrouded in worry and doubt. Your gift of Love is big enough for the whole world, yet we still find ourselves resentful that your love extends to those whom we deem to be unworthy. God, you invite us into the light of the stable where the overlooked and forgotten have gathered to celebrate the miracle of your love. Give us the strength and courage to join you at the manger. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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.

HYMN “Go Tell it On The Mountain”

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills, and ev'rywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born. / Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills, and ev'rywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills, and ev'rywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo, above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills, and ev'rywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills, and ev'rywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS / WAVING THE PEACE

A TIME FOR THOSE WHO ARE YOUNG

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 61:1-2 - The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn.

GOSPEL SCRIPTURE: John 1:1-5, 9-14 - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Philippians 2:5-11 - Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

HOMILY – “The Gift of The Maji”

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

DOXOLOGY - Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

HYMN “The First Noel”

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Upcoming Birthdays/Anniversaries: TOMORROW - Lysa Reiter, December 27; Claus Jorgensen, December 28; Dan Fleming, January 1; Judy Grignon, January 1; Bill Heilman, January 7

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

HYMN “Good Christian Men, Rejoice”

Good Christian Men, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today. Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian Men, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this! He has opened heavenly door, and men is blessed forevermore. Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian Men, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall. Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

BENEDICTION

WELCOME TO LARISON’S CORNER! We are pleased you are here with us. We hope you feel the warmth of God's love in our fellowship and worship. It is our hope that you return again soon. Until then, may God bless you and keep you in the palm of his hands. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP INSIDE every Sunday at 11 AM! - Worship is live-streamed on Facebook at 11 AM; Recordings of worship available at a later date.

THOMAS LAMBERT FUND UPDATE - Thank you for your donations to The Thomas Lambert Fund. \$800 in Gift Cards were included in baskets for families in our community through The Ladies' Auxiliary and Kirkpatrick Church. This annual collection honors the life and legacy of beloved member, Thomas Lambert. We pray for these families and ask God to bless them.

PER CAPITA – In support of our Presbytery, NE Synod Staff & Mission, and The General Assembly Staff & Mission, our church is asked submit “dues/or per capita” equal to \$34.50 per member. Please mark it for Per Capita *There is a category in Tithely for Per Capita*

SHARE YOUR RESOURCES WITH LARISON'S CORNER –

As we buy others gifts to celebrate the birth of Jesus, let us remember the wise men who brought gifts fit for a king to lay at Jesus' feet. May we also lay our finest gifts before our Lord for the work and ministry of Larison's Corner.

Ways to Give:

1. Leave a gift in **the worship offering** via cash or check;
2. **Mail in a gift** via check to Larison's Corner Church, PO Box 348, Ringoes, NJ 08551;
3. Give Online through “Tithely” You can make an online gift, by visiting our website link at: <https://larisonscorner.org/contributions/>. You may also give on Facebook in our “about” section or by clicking here: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=4558529> - Once you are in Tithely, you can set up a one-time gift, ongoing gifts, or a special gift. **Give today by using your camera on your cell phone over the image to the right and following the link to make your donation.*



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Session

(Session meetings are the second Tuesday at 7:30 pm)

Class of 2021

Betty Jane Biache
Ruth Chiesa

Class of 2022

Dianne Fleming

Class of 2023

Lysa Reiter
Lois Riggs
Charlie Rogers

Other Ordained Elders

David Bond

Bill Heilman

Paula Melbourn

Donna DeVico

Arlene Knaub

Jodi Reed

Judy Grignon

Marlene Lambert

Board of Trustees

(Board of Trustees meets the first Tuesday at 7:30 pm)

Class of 2021

Kyle Bond

Class of 2022

John Chiesa

David Everitt

Class of 2023

Bill Kurylo

Treacy Weeks

Corner Club

President - Lois Riggs / Vice President – Kathy Kovacs

Secretary - Ruth Chiesa / Treasurer - Barri-Lynn Everitt

The Reverend Courtney B. Cromie, Stated-Supply Part-Time Pastor

Luke Kirby, Treasurer / **Deborah Kacerek-Cooley**, Assistant Treasurer

Lois Riggs, Clerk of Session

Sue Mannino, Organist Emeritus