

# *Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church*

**The First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township**



**15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**OUR CHURCH'S MISSION:**  
*To celebrate the love of God  
in all we say and do.*

## 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

September 18, 2022

10 am

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GIVING THANKS FOR KIM MROTEK

\*CALL TO WORSHIP and OPENING PRAYER

Susan Bradlau, Lay Reader

Please stand, in body or in spirit, and join in the Call to Worship which is prayed responsively. When I say, "Hear us when we pray," please respond, "Allelu, Alleluia!"

Answer us when we call, O God! You give us room when we are in distress. Hear us when we pray:

**Allelu, Alleluia!**

Be gracious to us and hear our prayers. We know that you listen deeply. Hear us when we pray:

**Allelu, Alleluia!**

When we are disturbed and scared, hold us in your care. Judge us mercifully in the fullness of your grace. Hear us when we pray:

**Allelu, Alleluia!**

We yearn for you all our days long. And with you, we know we are destined to rest. Hear us when we pray:

**Allelu, Alleluia!**

\*OPENING HYMN

*"Seek Ye First"*

# 333

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and God's righteousness;  
And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, Alleluia!

Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find,  
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, Alleluia!

\*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Please remain standing for our prayer of confession. When you hear me say, "Lord, have mercy upon us," please respond, "Christ, have mercy upon us."

Let us pray.

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we have not loved you with all our whole heart and mind and strength and soul. Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

We have not loved our neighbors as we have loved ourselves. Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Forgive and heal us by your steadfast love, made known to us in the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

\*SILENT CONFESSION with *"Amen"* played

\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

\*GLORIA PATRI

# 579

**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!**

### \*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Please remain standing for the passing of the peace. Christ is among us and is our peace, but we cannot keep it to ourselves. With joy (and honking!), let us pass the peace of Christ to one another!

### TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Elder Jennifer Miller

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Let us pray. Come, Holy Spirit. Come, Holy Breath. Come, Holy Song! Enliven and enlighten your Word today. We are opening ourselves to you. In Christ we pray, Amen.

### SCRIPTURE READING –Psalm 113

Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord; praise the name of the Lord.

Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and for evermore. From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised. The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens.

Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high, who looks far down on the heavens and the earth? He raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people. He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children. Praise the Lord!

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### ANTHEM

*“Invocation”*

- Rollo Dilworth

### SCRIPTURE READING—Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

My joy is gone, grief is upon me, my heart is sick. Hark, the cry of my poor people from far and wide in the land: ‘Is the Lord not in Zion? Is her King not in her?’ (‘Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?’)

‘The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.’ For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt, I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me.

Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has the health of my poor people not been restored?

O that my head were a spring of water, and my eyes a fountain of tears, so that I might weep day and night for the slain of my poor people!

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

“God’s Good Grief”

The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

### MUSICAL REFLECTION

Tom DiGiovanni

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (with 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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### OFFERING

Offertory

\*Doxology

592

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Praise God, all creatures here below!**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly host! Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

Let us pray. You are with us, God, speaking peace, presence and comfort into our grief, into our tears. Open our hearts to hear you, to know you are near. Help us pay attention to our holy tears. Now take what we give back, that our offerings may help heal this grieving world, so in need of your love. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

\*CLOSING HYMN

*"There Is a Balm in Gilead"*

# 394

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole.  
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain.  
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole  
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend,  
And if you lack for knowledge, he'll not refuse to lend.

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole  
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

\*THE SENDING

POSTLUDE

All are welcome to join for fellowship (coffee, tea, juice) outside after worship.  
(With inclement weather, we will have fellowship in Memorial Hall).



On **Sunday, September 18, 2022**, we celebrate the **15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost** at a 10 am outdoor (weather permitting) worship service with preacher, **Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy**. The service will also be streamed via Facebook Live.

To access the service via Facebook, you must have a Facebook account and go to our Facebook page, which is titled *Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church*. Or you can access it from our website at [www.ogpc.org](http://www.ogpc.org), at the top of the homepage.

If you have any questions, or need assistance, please contact: Tim Newbrough at [tnewbro@yahoo.com](mailto:tnewbro@yahoo.com).

On June 15, 2022, Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church's Session (board of elders) updated our worship schedule and protocols to be:

- ♦ Masks are recommended indoors, but are optional for worship leaders, congregation, and small groups;
- ♦ Social distancing, as much as possible, is recommended in the sanctuary and other indoor spaces;
- ♦ Further, we strongly recommend:

⇒ Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines

⇒ Get tested if you have symptoms

(Additional precautions may be needed for people at high risk for severe illness.) While we remain a mask-optional church campus, the CDC recommends wearing masks as a precautionary measure while indoors while rates in our region remain high. We will have hand sanitizer and masks available to those who feel more comfortable wearing one.

Anyone not feeling well should avoid large gatherings and remain at home to care for their own well-being. The health and safety of our church community are the responsibility of all.

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:** The Pastor or the Administrative Ass't, or both, will be in the church Monday through Thursday, 9 am – 1 pm.  
Offices are closed on Fridays.

**USHER TEAM SCHEDULE:** Sept. 18 - Team 3, Sept. 25 - Team 4

**BOOK CLUB!** Elder George Bradlau and Pastor Mary Beth are at it again! We are starting another **Book Club!** All are welcome to join us beginning on Thursday, Oct. 20, going for 5 weeks, every Thursday, until Nov. 17. The time frame will be from 6:00pm-7:30pm. We will be reading *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury. You can start reading now!

**Paint and Sip Fundraiser for Presbyterian Women!** Join in the fun on Sunday, October 16 from 2-4! The event is hosted at Old Greenwich. Cost is \$40. Bring your own favorite adult beverage. Please see Lisa Gray if interested.



Are you ready to make it official and learn more about us and what it means to be a member here? Lucky you! Old Greenwich's next **NEW MEMBER CLASS** is **TODAY, Sunday, Sept. 18, 11:30 am to 12:45 pm**. Please contact Pastor Mary Beth at [pastormarybeth@gmail.com](mailto:pastormarybeth@gmail.com) if you'd like to take part and become *part of* Old Greenwich.



If you have a child or grandchild in middle or high school, go tell them that there is some amazing **SHARED YOUTH MINISTRY** happening here at Old Greenwich!

All middle and high school kids (and their friends and neighbors!) are invited to join with College Hill Presbyterian Church (501 Brodhead St, Easton PA) every first and third Sunday from 6:00 to 7:30 pm for dinner, prayer, and games! The first activity is **this evening, September 18, at 6 pm** with a spaghetti dinner, a devotion and "Sardines."

If you have questions, or would like to carpool, please contact Pastor Mary Beth. Yay for shared ministry! We are not alone!

**GREENWICH TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY DAYS!** Let's get out there and tell folks about this amazing church!! Can you join us on **Saturday, September 24**, at Thomas Stewart Park? The event runs from **1 – 6 pm**, and you can be part of one of the shifts! Or perhaps you'd like to offer some crafts or games? If interested, please see Pastor Mary Beth, or one of the members of our Membership Committee: Lori Metz, Jen Miller or Barb Frinzi.

**LOVE IN ACTION:** The Burlaka family, immigrants from Ukraine, are being hosted in the US by Ernie and Kathy Maso's niece's family. Click on the link below to read their stories.

[https://patch.com/new-jersey/bridgewater/bridgewater-family-welcomes-ukrainian-mom-daughters-live-them?utm\\_source=share-mobile&utm\\_medium=web&utm\\_campaign=share&fbclid=IwAR0qih55RBC71Phfdt\\_miG51u6edOGHC0R5jhcOtEC8h6LavrtRg6BUuyt8](https://patch.com/new-jersey/bridgewater/bridgewater-family-welcomes-ukrainian-mom-daughters-live-them?utm_source=share-mobile&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=share&fbclid=IwAR0qih55RBC71Phfdt_miG51u6edOGHC0R5jhcOtEC8h6LavrtRg6BUuyt8)

**SUPPORT OGPC WHILE SHOPPING ON AMAZON!** OGPC is registered as an Amazon Smile non-profit organization and when you shop through the Amazon smile portal linked below, 0.5% of the sale is donated to OGPC. Use the link below to connect to Old Greenwich using the portal or go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) and search for Old Greenwich (make sure you select the one in New Jersey!). Each time you shop using the smile.amazon.com portal, a portion of the sale is donated to OGPC. Do your Amazon shopping and support OGPC at the same time - what could be better? If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Katie Rienzo at [khrienzo@yahoo.com](mailto:khrienzo@yahoo.com) <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-1613653>

**SUNDAY FLORAL DEDICATIONS:** The cost to purchase arrangements for the communion table is **\$20 each**. You may sign up for dedicated flower arrangements to honor or remember loved ones. Please contact Trish Millon via cell: 908-319-5061 or email: [trishbrad00@aol.com](mailto:trishbrad00@aol.com) to place an order and arrange dedication. Please place order *only one to two weeks prior* to the date which you would like the dedication to appear in the bulletin. (Orders placed months ahead leaves too much chance they will get lost or forgotten!)

**HOME COMMUNION:** If you would like to receive home communion or know of someone who would, please contact Deacon Moderator, Walt Campbell, at [campbellw47@yahoo.com](mailto:campbellw47@yahoo.com) or Pastor Mary Beth at [pastormarybeth@gmail.com](mailto:pastormarybeth@gmail.com)

**DAILY DEVOTIONALS:** The Worship/Music/Spirituality Committee continues to coordinate daily devotionals as they have become such a positive message to us during this pandemic. We invite anyone from the congregation to share their own inspiring devotional. Please send directly to Anita Campbell at [souptime2222@gmail.com](mailto:souptime2222@gmail.com)

**NAMES ON THE PRAYER LIST** will remain for four weeks. The first week, the names will be **bolded**. The last week, the names will be italicized. If you would like a name to remain longer or would like a name added, please email the church office. If you do not have internet access, please call the office with your request.

Please pray for: **The family and loved ones of Gunnar Bickhardt, 4 year old, who died on Sept 1. Prayers especially for his parents Lillian and Justin, and brothers Bryce and Oliver. Also prayers for Deb Fairchild Wilson's family, who is close with Gunnar's family, especially Deb's daughter Tara and Tara's sons Braden and Bruce;** Bob & Trudy Frey; the Burlaka family, immigrants from Ukraine, who are staying with Ernie & Kathy Maso's niece; Amy Collins, friend of the Reinhards; friend of Carol Lee Doeringer, Sue Rake, diagnosed with the return of cancer; Caleb Frey, who had a procedure done on 8/30. We pray that it results in rapid and effective treatment of his relapsed brain tumor; Julia Deemer, recovering from a fall; Dylan Wayne (confirmation class of 2022), who had ACL and meniscus surgery; the Millon's friend, Rose, who is at Warren St Luke's with congestive heart failure; Praise God for Marcia Taylor's daughter's friend, Yael, who has had an amazing recovery after a terrible car accident; George Bradlau, recovering from surgery; Lisa Kolterjahn, recovering from surgery; Stephen Toman, Christine Lee's boyfriend's uncle. He may have blood cancer, which is what his sister, Nancy Hetman, is battling now; Skip Adams' son, Zachary; Bob Tintle; the citizens of Ukraine; Pastor Mary Beth's parents and family; Bob and Trudy Frey's friends, Nancy Hummer and Ian Arnot; Debbie Mowrey; our homebound members; those serving in our Armed Forces; those affected by the Corona virus and their families around the world; all experiencing the effects of extreme weather conditions around the world

**Visit our Church's Web Site at: [www.ogpc.org](http://www.ogpc.org)**  
Church Office e-mail address: [oldgreenwich@ogpc.org](mailto:oldgreenwich@ogpc.org)

The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy  
Kathleen Scala, Admin. Asst.  
Harry & Joan Pursel, Sextons  
Betsy Gaston, Ass't Music Dir./Choir Director  
Katie Rienzo, Treasurer and Financial Secretary

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Francis Rienzo, Media/Comm. Dir  
Tom DiGiovanni, Leader, *Sonshine Singers*