

*Old Greenwich
Presbyterian Church*

The First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township



**14th Sunday after Pentecost
Rally Day
Outdoor Worship Service**

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RALLY DAY SONG

Pastor Mary Beth & Friends

After the song, kids are dismissed to Memorial Hall with Elder Melissa Hixon for Rally Day activities!

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Ps. 40-1-3, 50) and OPENING PRAYER

Jacqueline Miller, Lay Reader

I waited patiently for the LORD, who inclined to me and heard my cry.

God drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

God put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

Many will see and fear and put their trust in the LORD.

You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you.

Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted!

Together, let us pray:

Loving God, we listen for you in silence, in music, in your Word, in your creation. We listen for you in one another. You play in ten thousand places. We pray for open hearts to hear you. In Christ we pray, Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

"In the Midst of New Dimensions"

2238

- see insert

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Please remain standing for our confession. God is alive and is among us, but we so often fail to recognize new life in ourselves and in this world. We are sinful. We cannot see. So let us tell the truth about ourselves, confessing our sin before our Living God:

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Forgive us, O God, by the power of your Spirit, to live as love commands. Bound to Christ, set us free from our sinful ways so we may serve you with gladness. As Jesus gives his life with humility and courage, give us strength to serve you faithfully and fearlessly. We pray these things in Jesus' holy name, amen.

*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

We are forgiven in Christ! And Christ gives us peace. Alleluia! But we cannot keep this peace 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 (in unison)

Light up your Word, Holy Spirit. Silence in us any voice but your own. We are listening, Lord. Come into our hearts. Come into our lives. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING – 1 Timothy 1:12-17

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners - of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

"Prayer for Our Time"

- Joseph Martin

SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 15:1-10

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.'

So, he told them this parable: 'Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.

'Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost." Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Get Lost"

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 (in unison)

Loving God, thank you that we are not lost. Thank you that, in you, we are found – over and over and over again. We pray that you would bless these gifts we give back, so that they may bless this whole wide world. In your gracious name we pray, Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"Amazing Grace"

280, vv. 1, 4, 5

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

The Lord hath promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.

*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).

RALLY DAY 2022

Join us for **GOD'S GROCERY GAME!!!**

Sunday, September 11, 2022

10 – 11 am in Memorial Hall



We will race to go shopping and fill snack bags for Norwescap!

Hope to see you there!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

On **Sunday, September 11, 2022**, we celebrate the **14th Sunday after Pentecost** and **Rally Day** 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, at the top of the homepage.

If you have any questions, or need assistance, please contact: Tim Newbrough at 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;
- ◆ Sunday worship service will be held outside (weather permitting) on September 11.
- ◆ 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. 11 - Team 2; Sep. 18 - Team 3

TODAY'S FLOWERS are given by Sandy and Fritz Hamlin in loving memory of Fritz's parents, Fran and Fred Hamlin.

TODAY'S LAY READER is **Jacqueline Miller**. An eighth grader at Phillipsburg Middle School, Jacqueline has attended OGPC since before her baptism on Father's Day in 2009. She is a member of this year's Confirmation class after attending ten years of Sunday School. Jackie loves to be creative - art is a favorite hobby - and she is most comfortable on a Field Hockey field, working on new skills and improving the fundamentals of the game. Jacqueline is a Girl Scout, a NJHS member, and lacrosse player, as well. She has made great friendships and experiences at OGPC while growing her faith!

INSPIRING GOOD: FAMILY FUN WITH A TWIST! Our Christian Education Committee and The Greenwich Nursery School are so excited to partner in offering fun activities for the whole family (all ages welcome)! First event is **Grow-a-Row**, which will be **this Thursday, September 15**, where we will be helping harvest food for families in need. An email was sent out on 8/9 with a link for registration... please contact pastormarybeth@gmail.com if you'd like it sent out again! Tell your friends and neighbors!!

A **CHORAL WORKSHOP** with Joe Martin is being held **this Saturday, September 17**, at Blakeslee United Methodist Church, 5693 PA 115, Blakeslee, PA 18610, from 11 am to 4:30 pm.

The day will culminate in a Piano/Choral Concert at 7:30 pm.

You can register for the workshop at a cost of \$45 by calling Julie at 570-332-8141 or email her at jaykay42156@gmail.com

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 **next Sunday, Sept. 18, 11:30 am to 12:45 pm**. Please contact Pastor Mary Beth at 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 **next Sunday, 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=IwAR0gih55RBC71Phfdt_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 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 <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 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 or Pastor Mary Beth at 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

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: **Bob & Trudy Frey; the Burlaka family, immigrants from Ukraine, who are staying with Ernie & Kathy Maso's niece; Amy Collins, friend of the Reinholds;** 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

Church Office e-mail address: oldgreenwich@ogpc.org

The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy	pastor@ogpc.org / 515-979-9681
Kathleen Scala, Admin. Asst.	oldgreenwich@ogpc.org / 908-479-4449
Harry & Joan Pursel, Sextons	Tom DiGiovanni, Music Director /Organist
Betsy Gaston, Ass't Music Dir./Choir Director	Lisa Gray, Clerk of Session
Katie Rienzo, Treasurer and Financial Secretary	Francis Rienzo, Media/Comm. Dir
	Tom DiGiovanni, Leader, <i>Sonshine Singers</i>