

*Old Greenwich  
Presbyterian Church*

The First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township



**13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Communion Sunday**

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

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Ps. 139 excerpts) and OPENING PRAYER Deacon Walt Campbell, Lay Reader  
O God, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

**You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.**

Even before a word is on my tongue, O God, you know it completely.

**You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.**

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

**I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.**

People of God, together, let us pray:

**Everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being, you have made us for yourself, so that our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Give us clarity of purpose, so that nothing may hinder us from knowing your desires; that in your light, we may see; and in your service, find perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.**

## \*OPENING HYMN

*"Come, Great God of All the Ages"*

# 132

## \*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Please remain standing, and together, let us confess our sin to our all-gracious God. Let us pray:

## \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**God Who Loves, we confess that we are limited by our own sinfulness, failing to respond to your grace and compassion. Have mercy on us. Empty us of our selves and replace our hearts of stone with hearts of flesh. We pray this in Christ's 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

Christ is among us and is our peace, but we cannot keep this peace to ourselves! Let us pass the peace of Christ to one another. May the peace of Christ be with you!

## TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Elder Jennifer Miller

## \*HYMN

*"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"*

# 372

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

**God, you are our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. Through it all, you stand fast. Through it all, your Word stands fast. Open yourself, and your holy Word, to us now. In Jesus we pray, amen.**

## SCRIPTURE READING – Philemon 1-9

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I

always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love - and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### SCRIPTURE READING – Philemon 10-25

I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother - especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

One thing more - prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping through your prayers to be restored to you.

Epaphras, my fellow prisoner-in-Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON

*"In Christ"*

The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

#### GATHERING AT THE TABLE OF OUR LORD

##### INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & 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.**

BLESSING THE BREAD AND THE CUP & COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

#### 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, in Christ, we are truly one. Help us to live that out. Give us courage.**

**Give us vision. We pray that you would bless these gifts we give back, so that they may bless this whole wide world. In your name we pray, Amen.**

#### \*CLOSING HYMN

*"In Christ There Is No East or West"*

# 440

#### \*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).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

On **Sunday, September 4, 2022**, we celebrate the **13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost** and **Communion Sunday** at a 10 am 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;
- ◆ 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:** Sep. 4 - Team 1; Sept. 11 - Team 2

**TODAY'S FLOWERS** are dedicated by Sharon Dachisen in honor of all the teachers throughout the U.S. and to Jennifer Miller in grateful appreciation for her continued dedication to OGPC.

**TODAY'S LAY READER** is **Deacon Walt Campbell**. Walter and his wife, Anita, joined OGPC in April of 2000 after moving to Stewartsville from eastern NJ. He is a retired Mechanical Engineer. He and Anita enjoy visiting their married daughter, Heather, who lives in NY state. Walter is currently serving on the Board of Deacons where he is the Moderator and, on the Scholarship, and Photography committees. He also sings in the Chancel Choir and takes care of the Route 173 church sign. Walter believes OGPC has a bright future under the leadership of Pastor Mary Beth and with a strong music program. He's excited but somewhat cautious about coming out of the COVID pandemic and looking forward to the next Roast Beef Dinner.

### 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!!

**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 **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](mailto:pastormarybeth@gmail.com) if you'd like it sent out again! Tell your friends and neighbors!!

**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.

**READY FOR CONFIRMATION?** What is Confirmation? At Old Greenwich, Confirmation is a year-long class (for middle schoolers) that meets every other Sunday morning (from 9 to 9:40 am). In this class, we explore our faith together... our faith through scripture, through our church history, through our gathered community. We are a small group, praying regularly with and for each other. Do you have a child or grandchild who is interested?? If so, please let Pastor Mary Beth know! [pastormarybeth@gmail.com](mailto:pastormarybeth@gmail.com)

**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.

**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; *Mike Lemons' father, Jim, as he has been suffering with memory issues; the Campells' good friend, Neil Raskin, receiving radiation treatment for prostate cancer; healing for Dave Slack's father, John; Marlin Quick's cousin, Sheryl Trickel and family. Her husband David passed away on 8/9; friend of the Millon's, John Lynch and his family. He fell and broke ribs and punctured a lung; 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*

**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.

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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, *Sonshine Singers*