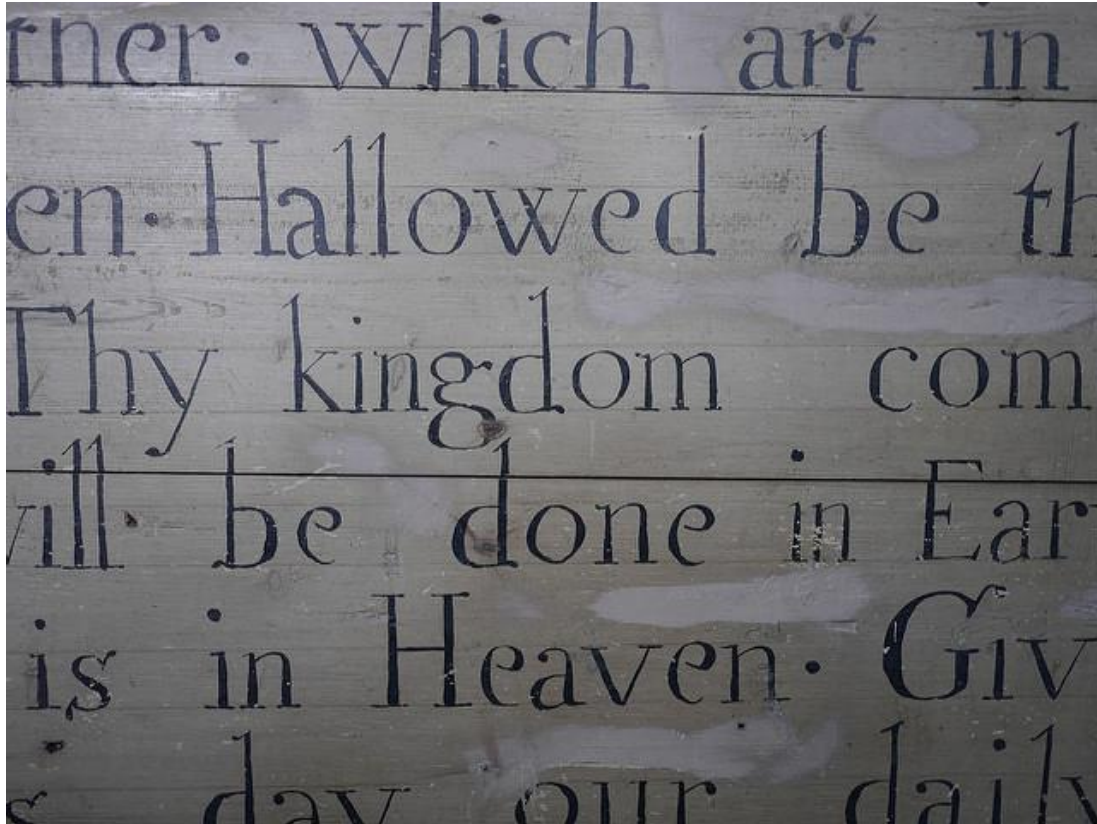


Old Greenwich
Presbyterian Church

The First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township



7th Sunday after the Epiphany

OUR CHURCH'S MISSION:

**To celebrate the love of
God in all we say and do.**

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cathy Ahart

INTROIT

"Awesome God" 3x

2040

- with Congregation and *Rejoicing Rhythms*

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Ps. 119, excerpts) and OPENING PRAYER Children and Youth, Lay Readers
 With my whole heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments.

I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you.

I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways.

I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

Beloved in Christ, together, let us pray:

Almighty God, give us grace to love what you command, and desire what you promise; that in all the changes and chances of this uncertain world, our hearts may be surely fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever, Amen!

*OPENING HYMN

"Amazing Grace"

280, vs. 1,2,4

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

People of God, let us remain standing, and confess our sin to our loving, living God. Let us pray:

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Grant unto us, O God, the fullness of your promises. Where we have been weak, grant us your strength; where we have been confused, grant us your guidance; where we have been sinful, grant us your forgiveness; where we have been dead, grant us your life. Apart from you, O Lord, we are nothing. But in you and with you, we can do all things.

*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 it to ourselves! With joy, let us pass the peace of Christ to one another!

If you are new or visiting, we welcome you to Old Greenwich! If you would like the Pastor to contact you, please fill out the Welcome card found in the pew holders.

If anyone has a prayer request, there is room on the reverse of the card for you to enter your requests. Please place the cards in the Offering plate.

ANTHEM

"Over My Head"

- African American spiritual

-adapted for *Rejoicing Rhythms* by Betsy Gaston

Over my head, I hear music in the air (3x)
 There must be a God somewhere!

Under my feet, I feel the earth spinning 'round (3x)
 There must be a God somewhere!

~ Instrumental Interlude ~

With my hands, I play the rhythm of life (3x)
I know there's a God somewhere!

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Elder Don Hannis

*HYMN

"How Firm a Foundation"

361, vs.1,2

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Eternal God, whose Word silences the shouts of the mighty: Quiet within us every voice but your own. By your Spirit, speak to us through your Holy Scriptures, so that we may receive the grace we need to shine Christ's love to the world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING – Psalm 39

I said, 'I will guard my ways that I may not sin with my tongue; will keep a muzzle on my mouth as long as the wicked are in my presence.' I was silent and still; I held my peace to no avail; my distress grew worse, my heart became hot within me. While I mused, the fire burned; then I spoke with my tongue: 'Lord, let me know my end, and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting my life is. You have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as nothing in your sight. Surely everyone stands as a mere breath.

Surely everyone goes about like a shadow. Surely for nothing they are in turmoil; they heap up, and do not know who will gather. 'And now, O Lord, what do I wait for? My hope is in you. Deliver me from all my transgressions. Do not make me the scorn of the fool. I am silent; I do not open my mouth, for it is you who have done it. Remove your stroke from me; I am worn down by the blows of your hand. 'You chastise mortals in punishment for sin, consuming like a moth what is dear to them; surely everyone is a mere breath.

'Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear to my cry; do not hold your peace at my tears. For I am your passing guest, an alien, like all my forebears. Turn your gaze away from me, that I may smile again, before I depart and am no more.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING – Mark 6:5-15

And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, 'Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.' So, they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, 'John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason, these powers are at work in him.' But others said, 'It is Elijah.' And others said, 'It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"The Discipline of Prayer"

The Rev. Dr. Brett Hendrickson

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)

O God, we thank you that we can come to you with anything – that you love us just as we are, but too much to leave us this way. Take now these gifts we give back to you. May you use them in the world, starting right here where people are hurting. In Christ we pray, Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

464

*THE SENDING

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"The Trees of the Field"

2279

POSTLUDE

All are welcome to join for fellowship (coffee, tea, juice) in Memorial Hall following the worship service.



On **Sunday, February 19, 2023**, we celebrate the **7th Sunday after the Epiphany** at a 10 am worship service with **guest preacher, The Rev. Dr. Brett Hendrickson**. The service will be streamed on our Facebook Live feed at "Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church." (You need a Facebook account to access the Facebook Live feed.)

To view past worship services, please visit our YouTube page at "Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church." You can also find our YouTube page services by visiting our website at www.ogpc.org, and scrolling down on the home page to "Watch a Service."

WELCOME BACK TO OUR GUEST PREACHER: This week, we welcome back **The Rev. Dr. Brett Hendrickson** as our guest preacher. Rev. Hendrickson is an associate professor of religious studies at Lafayette College in Easton, where he studies and teaches on religion in the Americas, Mexican American religion, healing, and cross-cultural religious change. He is especially interested in Latino popular religious devotions, the history of religion in the U.S. Southwest, religion and healing, and religion in public life. Rev. Hendrickson has lived in a variety of places including Arkansas (where he grew up), New York City, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Kentucky, Illinois, and Buenos Aires, Argentina. He lives in Easton with his wife, the Rev. Alex Hendrickson, and their three lovely children.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Offices are closed this Monday, February 20, for Presidents Day.

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: Feb. 19 – Team 4; Feb. 26 - Team 1

The **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING** supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People – all of which work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Go to <https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/oghs/> for more info.

And... for more information on the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program, especially in light of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria, please go to <https://highlandspresbytery.org/2023/02/09/prayer-for-earthquake-victims-in-syria-and-turkey/>

Old Greenwich **NEW MEMBER CLASS! Today's class has been cancelled.**

Do you want to learn more about us and what it means to be a member here? Lucky you! We are offering a class **next Sunday, February 26, from 11:15 am to 12:45 pm**. Just come to the class if you are interested in becoming a member. If you cannot attend on Feb. 26, please contact Pastor Mary Beth at pastormarybeth@gmail.com or Barb Frinzi at frinzi3@msn.com if you are interested!

The Community Outreach Committee thanks all who donated to the Souper Bowl soup collection.

SHOWER OF CARDS: Julia Deemer, one of our Special People who is homebound, will be turning 90 years old on Monday, February 20. We would like to let her know that her Old Greenwich family is thinking of her by showering her with birthday cards. Please be one of many who sends a card to her at:

Julia Deemer
260 Sitgreaves Street
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE! All folks of all ages are welcome to join our intergenerational drumming group *Rejoicing Rhythms*, led by Betsy Gaston... AND/OR our intergenerational chimes group, *The Greenwich Ringers*, led by Tom DiGiovanni. See schedule below! Each session **meets right before worship, 9:30 - 9:50 am**. This is a great way to make a joyful noise, no matter your age or musical experience! Questions? Please see Tom DiGiovanni, Betsy Gaston, or Pastor Mary Beth!

Drumming: Feb 19 + performance, May 7 & 21, June 4 + performance

Chimes: March 5 & 19, April 16, April 30 + performance

"FISH 'N CHYPS" YOUTH ACTIVITIES (middle and high school) Our youth ministry partnership with College Hill Presbyterian Church will meet every first and third Sunday, from 6 – 7:30 pm, until May 7. **We meet tonight, 2/19, for frozen hot chocolate and Pictionary.** Meetings are held at College Hill Presbyterian (501 Brodhead St, Easton PA). Note that in 2023, there will be no dinner provided. Questions? Please see Pastor Mary Beth or email her at pastormarybeth@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY PAINTING GROUP: Do you prefer images over words? If so, there's a place for you! Our watercolor painting group meets **every Tuesday at 10 am** in the Resource Room (next to Kathleen's office). We have experts to beginners... all are welcome, church and community members alike!! Want to learn more? Please email the church office at oldgreenwich@ogpc.org.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN meet **monthly on the third Tuesday** at the church in the room behind the pastor's office **at NOON (note time change)**. The study is for beginners who want to know more about the bible and those of us seeking a better understanding in the company of other women. We will be using *Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments*, written by The Rev. Eugenia Gamble, who mentored Pastor Mary Beth during one of her internships (pastor plans to join us!). It gives a more mature understanding of those commandments most of us memorized in Sunday School. The author calls them "Love Letters" (not rules) to keep us in relationship with God. There is a companion DVD where Eugenia gives her thoughts on the chapter that will be used. We will be delving into it as if you haven't read the chapter, so come. Even if you haven't read chapter one, it's OK to attend the **first meeting on February 21**, or any of the meetings. The study can be ordered at Presbyterianwomen.org or call/text Lisa Gray to get it - 973-476-4720 or email her at Lisa_A_Gray@outlook.com.

ASH WEDNESDAY is this Wednesday, **February 22**. There will be a **7 pm** service which will include singing by the choir and disposition of ashes. We hope you will join with us as we begin the holy season of Lent.

PW LENTEN BOOK STUDY: If you're looking for a way to deepen your Lenten journey with other women, using a book study called *Meeting Jesus at the Table*, by Cynthia Campbell and Christine Fohr... here's how. It

will begin **Thursday, February 23, at noon**, and will be a one-hour meeting on Zoom. This group was formed originally from women who attended the PW Bible Study Workshop held at Stony Point Center. It has spread out to any interested women. Email / text [Lisa A Gray@outlook.com](mailto:Lisa_A_Gray@outlook.com) / 973-476-4720 to be sent the Zoom link.

LENTEN POETRY GROUP: Elders Katie Rienzo and Abbie Conlon, along with Pastor Mary Beth, are thrilled to offer a poetry group for our church and community during the season of Lent. We will explore themes such as grief, love, redemption, doubt/faith, beauty, and identity through poetry. We will meet **every Thursday during March (2, 9, 16, 23 and 30) from 6:30 pm to 7:25 pm**. Each session stands on its own, so come to one, two, or more sessions! This is a class for beginners, so no expertise expected! **OPEN TO THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY! INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS!** Questions? Please email Mary Beth at pastormarybeth@gmail.com.

LAY READERS NEEDED TO SIGN UP!!: We know... you've thought, "Ah, good, I'll sign up for Lay Reader when I get home today." But things got busy, and you never got to it. We understand... Maybe you can bring the bulletin home today with this notice circled as a little reminder to use our website to sign up to be a Sunday morning lay reader! Go to ogpc.org, click on the "Music & Worship" tab, and on the drop-down menu, click on "Sign up to be a Lay Reader." It will bring up Sunday dates and you enter your name for the week you'd like to be lay reader. You will receive a Lay Reader Bulletin via email on the Thursday prior to the Sunday you are scheduled, so you will be able to go over everything in advance. Questions? Please see Lisa Kolterjahn or email her at lkolterjahn88@gmail.com.

SIGHT & SOUND THEATER TICKETS: Reservations have been made for the Miracle of Christmas Show in Lancaster, PA for 12/2/23 at 3 pm. Adults - \$84.55; children - \$39. Please pay Barbara Frinzi, ASAP, by check or Venmo (@Barbara-Frinzi). Please give checks to Cathy Ahart or Jen Miller who will forward to Barb.

You're invited to the **7th ANNUAL IRON PIGS BASEBALL GAME** outing on **Saturday, July 29, 2023, 6:35 pm**, at Coca Cola Park, Allentown, PA. Tickets are \$17 per person (*includes a \$2 credit to be applied toward a food or merchandise purchase within the park*). ALL payments while in the park are cashless, meaning debit or credit cards only. Children ages 2 and under are free if they sit in their parents' lap. There will be access to air conditioning; \$5 per car for parking; park is handicap accessible and very kid-friendly; ample parking with shuttle service from distant lots. (Carpooling is strongly suggested); fireworks featured directly after the game (weather permitting). All OGPC members, their families and friends can attend. Contact Walter or Anita Campbell with any questions. 908-479-4737 / souptime2222@gmail.com
Cash or checks payable to "Anita Campbell" or "Walter Campbell." **PAYMENT DEADLINE** - Sunday, April 30,

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 Robert Todd at Robert_Todd@icloud.com / 908-235-9322 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, Mike Lemons, at ML12504@gmail.com or Pastor Mary Beth at pastormarybeth@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: **Sue Rutan, who is having knee surgery this week; Bill Lee, who is having knee surgery this week;** Charlotte Pickell's mother-in-law, Shirley Parrish, recovering from surgery; victims of the earthquake in Turkey & Syria and their families, as well as rescuers and medical workers; healing for Sue Beacht, recovering from surgery on 2/2, and for husband, Tom, and their daughter, Bridget, as well; Alison Ahart, for healing from surgery; the family of Gerry Ihrie, who died on 2/4; the family of Tom LeCroy, Pastor Mary Beth's Dad, who died on 2/4; Lisa Kolterjahn, recovering from surgery; the family of Bob Tintle, who died on 1/30; the family of Marcia Taylor's Aunt, Jean Meckley, who died on 1/31; Cooper Marino's Aunt Lourdes, on the sudden death of her husband, Bob; Melissa Hixon's cousin, Karen, recently diagnosed with pancreatic

cancer; Carl & Virginia Guthardt; brother-in-law of Kathleen Scala, Marc Cottone, who continues to have multiple surgeries on his ankle and foot; Bob & Trudy Frey; Stephen Toman, Christine Lee's boyfriend's uncle, and his sister, Nancy Hetman; Skip Adams' son, Zachary; the citizens of Ukraine; 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 Dir./Organist

Betsy Gaston, Ass't Music Dir./Choir Dir.

Jennifer Miller, Clerk of Session

Katie Rienzo, Treasurer and Fin. Secy

Francis Rienzo, Media/Comm. Dir.

Tom DiGiovanni, Leader, *Sonshine Singers & Greenwich Ringers*

Betsy Gaston, Leader, *Rejoicing Rhythms* drummers