

*Old Greenwich
Presbyterian Church*

The First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township



Sacred Tears

**5th Sunday after the Epiphany
Communion Sunday**

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR COMMUNITY – Iron Pigs invitation

INTROIT

"In Unity We Lift Our Song"

2221

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Ps. 50) and OPENING PRAYER

Elder Anita Campbell, Lay Reader

God speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Our God comes and does not keep silence.

God calls to the heavens above the earth, bringing justice to the people.

The heavens declare God's right and just relations for all of the people of the earth.

People of God, together, let us pray:

Almighty God, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: Give us faith to perceive his glory, that being strengthened by his grace, we may be changed into his likeness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

"Fill My Cup"

#350

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Merciful God, we are afraid of what it means to follow your Way in the world. We wonder what it costs us to be disciples of Jesus. Forgive us. Restore in us the confidence to be followers of the One who leads us to the cross, and beyond.

*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 beloved! We are restored! We are forgiven! With all of that, comes a peace that passes all understanding. Let us pass that peace to one another. May the peace of Christ be with you!

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.

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Cathy Ahart

1 O car - pen - ter, why leave the bench where
 2 O car - pen - ter, why leave the tools to
 3 O car - pen - ter, why leave the world of
 4 O car - pen - ter, why leave re - pairs with
 5 O car - pen - ter, who else could do the

wood yields to your art, and take in - stead, to
 car - ry out your plans, and go in - stead to
 ta - ble, bed, and house, to face the em - pire's
 wood and clamp and glue, and rise from death to
 work that you have done? What can we do but

try your skill, the ston - y hu - man heart?
 do God's work with emp - ty, o - pen hands?
 car - pen - try, to lift a Ro - man cross?
 seek in - stead to make the whole world new?
 sing your praise, O Sav - ior, Mar - y's son!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

God of all light, show us your Word as we read the words of Scripture today, so that your will and way can illumine our paths. In Jesus' name we pray, and through the Holy Spirit, Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING – Matthew 5:13-20

'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled underfoot.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

"Lord of the Dance"

- Carter/arr. Rutter

SCRIPTURE READING – Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' So, they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father

gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now, therefore, please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Holy Tears"

The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Tom DiGiovanni

GATHERING AT THE TABLE OF OUR LORD

INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (with 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)

You are with us, God, speaking peace, presence and comfort into our grief. 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

"Now Thank We All Our God"

555

*THE SENDING

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Sent Out in Jesus' Name"

2184

POSTLUDE

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

A stylized, handwritten-style word "Announcements" in a dark grey or black ink, centered on a light grey rectangular background.

On **Sunday, February 5, 2023**, we celebrate the **5th Sunday after the Epiphany** and **Communion Sunday** at a 10 am worship service with **The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy**. 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."

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: Feb. 5 – Team 2; Feb. 12 - Team 3

LOSS OF TWO LONG-TIME MEMBERS:

Bob Tintle, 85, died on January 30. Bob and his wife, Sue, have been members here since 1963.

Condolences can be sent to:

Sue Tintle
197 Richline Hill Road
Stewartsville, NJ 08886-9708

Service will be held at OGPC on Saturday, February 11. Visitation 10 - 11 am; service at 11 am. The family requests donations to Old Greenwich in lieu of flowers.

Jean Meckley, 97, died on January 31. Jean was a member of OGPC since 1938.

Condolences can be sent to:

Marcia Taylor
1913 Richmond Road
Easton, PA 18040

Viewing will be at Doyle-Devlin Funeral Home on Corliss Ave., P'burg on Monday, February 13, from 4 – 6 pm. Service will be held at OGPC on Tuesday, February 14, at 11 am.

The Community Outreach Committee is hosting a **"SOUPER" BOWL COLLECTION**. Congregants are asked to donate canned soup **through February 12**. A collection bin will be in the Green Room.

SIGN UP ONLINE TO BE A LAY READER: Great news! You can now 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.

"FISH 'N CHYPS" YOUTH ACTIVITIES (middle and high school) Our youth ministry partnership with College Hill Presbyterian Church will meet **today, February 5, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm**, (will include dinner on this night) and will continue every first and third Sunday until May 7. We meet at College Hill Presbyterian (501 Brodhead St, Easton PA). Note that in 2023, there will be no dinner provided (except for February 5). Questions? Please see Pastor Mary Beth or email her at pastormarybeth@gmail.com.

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 5, Feb 19 + performance, May 7 & 21, June 4 + performance

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

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN will be meeting 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. Hopefully, you won't be lost. 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.

INSPIRED FUN WITH A TWIST: Children and youth, pre-school through elementary school age, are invited to join us in Memorial Hall on **Friday, February 10, from 6 - 7pm**, for a **Valentine Dance Party!** for Pre-K – third graders. \$5 suggested donation. Proceeds will go toward the purchase of outdoor play equipment for GNS. Please RSVP to Amy at director@greenwichnursery.com.

ALL-CHURCH POTLUCK has been **cancelled** and will be re-scheduled later in the year.

Old Greenwich **NEW MEMBER CLASS!** Do you want to learn more about us and what it means to be a member here? Lucky you! There are two upcoming New Member classes! (You only need to attend one.) The first option is **Sunday, February 19, from 11:15 am to 12:45 pm**. The second option is the following week, **Sunday, February 26, from 11:15 am to 12:45 pm**. Please contact Pastor Mary Beth at pastormarybeth@gmail.com or Barb Frinzi at frinzi3@msn.com if you are interested! Or... simply show up on one of the dates listed above!

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 22, 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. Please email or text 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.

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, 2023.

SIGHT & SOUND THEATER SHOW: Ticket reservations have been made for the Miracle Of Christmas Show in Lancaster, PA for Saturday, December 2, 2023 at 3 pm. Adult price, including 5% discount, is \$84.55 and price for children is \$39. Please pay Barbara Frinzi by the end of January. You can pay her by check or Venmo (@Barbara-Frinzi). If you are paying by check, please give them to Cathy Ahart or Jen Miller who will forward to Barb.

Tickets will be distributed two to three weeks prior to the show. Transportation plans will follow later in the year. We are hoping to carpool to avoid the cost of a bus. If you can drive, please notify Barb by email at frinzi3@msn.com or call her at 908-343-1144. Thank you! It's going to be a great show!

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: **the family of Bob Tintle, who died on 1/30; the family of Marcia Taylor's Aunt, Jean Meckley, who died on 1/31; Pastor Mary Beth's Dad and her family; Cooper Marino's Aunt Lourdes, on the sudden death of her husband, Bob; Melissa Hixon's cousin, Karen, recently diagnosed with pancreatic cancer; Sue Beacht, who had surgery on 2/2;** prayers of thanksgiving for Christine Mette getting good results from tests done in Jan.; *the Maso family on the sudden passing of Ernie's cousin, Jackie Roelant; friends of the Reinhardt's, Peter, for physical healing, and his family, and Don's cousin, Edwin Searle, for healing and strength; 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

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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, <i>Sonshine Singers & Greenwich Ringers</i>	
Betsy Gaston, Leader, <i>Rejoicing Rhythms</i> drummers	