

Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

The First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township



**Palm Sunday
Communion Sunday**

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

Welcome, all! If you have a prayer request, there is room on the reverse of the Welcome Card (found in the pew holders) for you to write your requests. 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 with your contact info. You may place the cards in the offering plate later in the service.

PRELUDE

Jazz Quartet

- Danielle Wertz, voice; Roy Ben Bashat, guitar;
Hannah Marks, bass; Evan Hyde, drums

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

- Rollo Dilworth

Jazz Quartet and OGPC Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Zech. 9:9-10)

OGPC Children & Youth, Lay Reader

Please join in the Call to Worship, which is prayed responsively. Please wave your palms when you shout "Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!" and continue waving them throughout our Opening Hymn!

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

For lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey!

Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations!

Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

His dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth!

Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

*OPENING HYMN "Siyahamba' ekukhanyeni kwenkos" / "We Are Marching in the Light of God"

First verse: Choir only

All remaining verses: Congregation!

"Siyahamba" is a Zulu chorus that emerged out of a rural Protestant congregation, possibly in the former Natal province of South Africa. The chorus probably existed in an oral form for years, although the authors of the melody and of the Zulu lyrics are unknown. The lyrics, with their biblical imagery of walking in the divine light, is likely inspired by Methodist or Pentecostal hymns. Although "Siyahamba" has been associated with the anti-apartheid movement in south Africa, it was not composed originally as a protest song. However, after its introduction to Europe and the US by Anders Nyberg in the 1980s, it has been used in the international effort to end the regime of racial discrimination in South Africa. Nowadays, "Siyahamba" is viewed both locally and internationally as a liberation song.

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Please remain standing for our confession. People of God, though we shout our loud *Hosannas* today, we know that the way ahead for Jesus is dark. Let us now confess some of the ways we fall short of Jesus' great love for us in our everyday lives. When you hear me say, "Lord, have mercy upon us," please respond, "Christ, have mercy upon us."

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (prayed responsively)

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

Tom DiGiovanni

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*GLORIA

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*Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.
Gloria, gloria. Amen, Amen.*

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Elder Jennifer Miller

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Come, Holy Spirit, Holy Truth, Holy Life. Light up your Word for us today, so we will hear you speak. And then we will follow you, and we will not be afraid. In Jesus we pray, Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING – Matthew 21:1-5, “Message” Translation

When they neared Jerusalem, having arrived at Bethpage on Mount Olives, Jesus sent two disciples with these instructions: “Go over to the village across from you. You’ll find a donkey tethered there, her colt with her. Untie her and bring them to me. If anyone asks what you’re doing, say, ‘The Master needs them!’ He will send them with you.” This is the full story of what was sketched earlier by the prophet: Tell Zion’s daughter, “Look, your king’s on his way, poised and ready, mounted On a donkey, on a colt, foal of a pack animal.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING – Matthew 21:6-11, “Message” Translation

The disciples went and did exactly what Jesus told them to do. They led the donkey and colt out, laid some of their clothes on them, and Jesus mounted. Nearly all the people in the crowd threw their garments down on the road, giving him a royal welcome. Others cut branches from the trees and threw them down as a welcome mat. Crowds went ahead and crowds followed, all of them calling out, “Hosanna to David’s son!” “Blessed is he who comes in God’s name!” “Hosanna in highest heaven!”

As Jesus made his entrance into Jerusalem, the whole city was shaken. Unnerved, people were asking, “What’s going on here? Who is this?” The parade crowd answered, “This is the prophet Jesus, the one from Nazareth in Galilee.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*HYMN

“Guide My Feet”

Guide my feet, while I run this race (3x)

For I don’t wanna run this race in vain

Hold my hand, while I run this race (3x)

For I don’t wanna run this race in vain

I’m your child, while I run this race (3x)

For I don’t wanna run this race in vain

SERMON

“Hosanna!”

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 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 (tune: #94, "O Waly Waly")

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)

Lead us, O God, in the way of Christ. Though we shout our loud *Hosannas* today, we know that we are headed for Calvary in the days ahead. May these gifts enable us to take up our cross and follow you, to love you above all else, and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

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*THE SENDING

POSTLUDE

Jazz Quartet

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



On **Sunday, April 2, 2023**, we celebrate **Palm Sunday with Communion** 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 by visiting our website at www.ogpc.org, and scrolling down on the home page to "Watch a Service." To find prior live streams, click on the "Live" tab in YouTube.

OGPC IS GUN FREE: On January 16, 2023, the Session (leadership board) of Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church voted unanimously to establish our church's land and facilities to be a gun free zone. For more information, please visit our website: <https://www.ogpc.org/we-are-a-gun-free-church/>.

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: April 2 – Team 2; April 9 - Team 3

GREENWICH ARTS SERIES: Jazz Comes (back) to Church!

Welcome to New York City-based jazz musicians Hannah Marks (bass), Danielle Wertz (voice), Roy Ben Bashat (guitar) and Evan Hyde (drums) as they lead us in worship and song today!

EASTER FLOWERS! EASTER FLOWERS! It's not too late to purchase an Easter flower or two to flood Old Greenwich's beautiful sanctuary with signs of NEW LIFE on Easter Sunday (April 9!). You can use your smart phone with this QR code to purchase! (Just open your photo app and hover over the image). Dedications will be printed in the Easter bulletin. Printed order forms are available from the Ushers. **Deadline for orders is tomorrow, April 3.**



"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, 6 – 7:30 pm, until May 7. **We meet tonite, April 2**, 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.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES: April 6 - Maundy Thursday 7 pm
April 7 - Good Friday 7 pm
Children's Holy Week event - April 8 - Holy Saturday 10 am



Join us to share the evening with friends and enjoy interesting and in-depth discussions of Maya Angelou's, *"I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings."* This candid and poetic memoir is an American classic, banned in places for its honest depiction of a black women's childhood in 1930s-40s America, but beloved by millions of readers.

Together, let's find out why the caged bird sings. **Starting Thursday, April 20, we will meet at 6 pm to 7:25 pm** on successive Thursdays. Come on in and see what the buzz is all about. All are welcome. See Pastor Mary Beth or Elder George Bradlau if you have any questions.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN meet monthly on the third Tuesday at the church in the room behind the pastor's office **at NOON**. 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. 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.

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE! Chimes! Do you want to play the chimes? All are welcome, no matter your age! We will rehearse in Memorial Hall on **April 2, 16, and 30 from 9:30 to 9:50 am**, and will perform in worship on May 14. See Tom DiGiovanni for more information!

YOU'RE INVITED! Come join us on **Sunday, April 23** during fellowship for a **BAPTISMAL OUTFIT SHOW**. Explore the fashions, read the stories and step back in time, appreciating the celebrations that the sacrament inspires. Lunch will be served... bring a friend to share in the festivities!

To ensure that we have enough outfits to make the show worthwhile, will you please **drop this tear off sign-up sheet in the offering plate** to allow us to exhibit your baptismal outfits. Any questions, please contact Lori Metz, 610-972-7900.

Name _____

Phone _____ Number of outfits to display _____

SUMMER CAMP REGISTERING NOW! Johnsonburg is a place where all may gather and all are welcomed in God's beautiful creation...and registration is now open! As New Jersey's only Presbyterian summer camp, Johnsonburg has been the highlight of summer for thousands of kids for 63 years. There are six one-week overnight sessions for kids in 1st-12th grades from June to August. J'burg programs have tons of activities, and camp counselors are carefully hired, screened, and trained to be great role models for campers. Summer camp has been shown to increase social and emotional wellness in children and youth, as well as teaching them to be more independent and helping them to make friends. Compliment the faith-building you are doing in church and at home with what will be your child's favorite week of the summer. For more information, visit www.campjburg.org/summer-camp

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.

HOME COMMUNION: Want 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

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.

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 or call the church office.

Please pray for: **the victims and families of the Covenant School shooting in Nashville, TN; continued healing for John Oakes, who was hospitalized the week of 3/20, but is now home; gratitude for Leni Voorhees and Dorothy Purdy being unharmed by their car hydroplaning on 3/23;** the family of Paul Dineen, especially his wife, Judy, brother-in-law of Susan Bradlau, who died on 3/22; Lisa Gray's brother, Neil, who had spinal surgery on 3/24; Rob Todd's mother Noi Todd, who has Parkinson's; Al Marino, who had knee surgery on 3/21; *MaryWills LeCroy, prayers for healing from grief, and for peace that passes all understanding; Sandy Frey's father, Glen Stalder, for Connie Prye, Sandy's sister, and for David Jamison, Sandy's brother-in-law; prayers of thanksgiving and continued healing for Caleb Frey whose tumor has reduced by 60%; Marie Makis Reph and her son Gavin, who was in a head on motorcycle accident and is in ICU; Carol Lee Doeringer's friend Donald who is struggling with forgiveness, Desiree who is undergoing chemotherapy and her son Julian. who needs pancreatic surgery to survive; prayers for Debbie Smith and her family and her father, Ralph Seifert, who has been struggling with health issues; Carl & Ginny 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; all experiencing the effects of extreme weather conditions around the world*

Visit our Church's Web Site at: www.ogpc.org

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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