

*Old Greenwich
Presbyterian Church*

The First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township



**3rd Sunday of Easter
Sacrament of Baptism**

*Esperanza Jane Ahart
daughter of Edward & Daniela Ahart*

**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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

"All Hail King Jesus"

2069
trad. Honduran

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God of Life, submitting to death, you conquered the grave.

God of Life, lifted upon the cross, you draw all people to yourself.

God of Life, raised from the dead, you restore all of creation.

God of Life, throughout these fifty days of Easter, we proclaim the marvelous mystery of your death and resurrection.

For all praise is yours, now and through eternity!

Let us worship the God of Life! Alleluia!

*OPENING HYMN

"Morning Has Broken"
"Baptized in Water"

469, vs 1, 2
492, vs 3

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will, and walk in your way, to the glory of your 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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM of Esperanza Jane Ahart, daughter of Edward & Daniela Ahart, granddaughter of Edward & Cathy Ahart and Mariano Escamilla & Paulina Gonzalez

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED (TRADITIONAL)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

QUESTIONS TO THE PARENTS

QUESTION TO THE CONGREGATION

Do you, as members of the Church of Jesus Christ and this congregation, promise to love, encourage, support and nurture this child, **Esperanza Jane Ahart**, in the faith that we have received, supporting her that she may learn in all times, and sharing with her the good news of the Gospel, in all that you do or say, so helping her to know and follow our Lord Jesus Christ?

We do.

BLESSING OVER THE WATER & BAPTISM

WELCOME

Esperanza Jane Ahart has been received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church through baptism. God has made her a member of the household of God, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ. Let us welcome the newly baptized!

With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's church to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ!

*HYMN

"Here I Am Lord"

525, vs 1

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Elder Jennifer Miller

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Come, Holy Spirit, and illumine your Word for your people. We are waiting. We are listening. And we want to act. Come, Holy Spirit. Through Christ we pray, Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING – Acts 2:14a, 36-41

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Therefore, let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

"Born of the Water, Born of the Spirit"

- Nate Gustafson

SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 24:13-33a

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening, and the day is now nearly over.' So, he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.

Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Out of Context"

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

"The Commission"

Kathleen Gooley

*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, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the simple acts of walking beside them on a dusty road, and in the breaking of the bread. Open the eyes of our faith that we may see Christ in all his redeeming work, perhaps especially where we least expect it. Take the gifts we give back to you now, and bless them so that we may be a blessing to this whole world. In Christ we pray, Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"As a Fire is Meant For Burning"

2237

*THE SENDING

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Sent Out in Jesus' Name"

2184

POSTLUDE

All are welcome to join for lunch and a display of baptismal outfits
in Memorial Hall following the worship service!



On **Sunday, April 23, 2023**, we celebrate **3rd Sunday of Easter** and the **Sacrament of Baptism** 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 23 - Team 1; April 30 – Team 2

YOU'RE INVITED! Come join us **today** 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!

COME SEE BEAUTIFUL ART... right down the hall! Did you know that we have an art group that meets every Tuesday? (Anyone can join!) And did you know that they have begun displaying some of their breathtaking work in Trinity Wing (right next to the pastor's office)? Come check it out! It's our mini art gallery!

NJ CONSERVATORY PRESENTS: Mozart's Requiem and J.S. Bach's Cantata No. 80 (*A Mighty Fortress*) NJ Conservatory Symphonic Chorus accompanied by its Symphonic Orchestra performs at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, 246 Woodport Rd., Sparta, NJ **today, April 23, at 4 pm** - Edwin Foster, Director
Prices: \$45, \$40, \$35. Student discount 30%. Call 973-402-2004 for tickets. No children under 8 years old.

Hunterdon County Safe Communities Coalition – an organization that develops programs and strategies to help address issues like substance abuse, mental health, etc. – is hosting a **"FAMILY DINNER AND DIALOGUE"** this **Tuesday, April 25, at 6 pm** at Raritan Valley Community College. To sign up, go to:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1420919292068911>



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. We meet at **6 pm to 7:25 pm** on Thursdays through May 25. 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.

TIME'S RUNNING OUT! Payment deadline is Sunday, April 30 to purchase tickets to the **Saturday, July 29**, Iron Pigs baseball game at Coca Cola Park. Tickets in the Club Level (access to air conditioning) and elevator access to the level is \$17/person. Kids two and under are free if they sit in their parent's lap. Fireworks after the game (weather permitting). Call or email Anita Campbell at 908-479-4737 or souptime2222@gmail.com. Cash or checks accepted (made out to either "Anita Campbell" or "Walter Campbell."



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 30 from 9:30 to 9:50 am** and will perform in worship on May 14. See Tom DiGiovanni for more information!

ULTIMATE YOUTH NIGHT: April 30, from 3 – 5 pm. Bring your 5th-8th grade child to this time of faith, fun, and fellowship! This event is open to all churches, and even friends who don't belong to any church. Leadership is provided by the trained staff of Camp Johnsonburg. And it's **FREE!** Come to the First Presbyterian Church of Hackettstown's Chapel, 291 Main Street, Hackettstown NJ 07840, where deepening faith will be fun! Questions? Call 908-852-2349 or email office@campiburg.org

"FISH 'N CHYPS" YOUTH ACTIVITIES (middle and high school) Our youth ministry partnership with College Hill Presbyterian Church will have its **last meeting on Sunday, May 7, 6 – 7:30 pm**, and **what we will be doing is a "mystery!"** At College Hill Presbyterian (501 Brodhead St, Easton PA). Questions? Please see Pastor Mary Beth or email her at pastormarybeth@gmail.com.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN meet monthly on the third Tuesday at the church in the room next to 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

THE 34TH RARITAN RIVER MUSIC FESTIVAL Tributes: The Legacy of Musical Traditions presents The Mohawk Trail Piano Trio (violin, cello, piano) featuring "Musical Monuments: Masterpieces by Arensky and Price" here at Old Greenwich on **Saturday, May 20, at 7:30 pm**

In-Person and Online Recorded Broadcast Family Viewing (YouTube Premiere link will be provided to view Sunday through Wednesday following each concert).

Tickets available through the web site: www.RaritanRiverMusic.org. For more information: 908-213-1100 or info@RaritanRiverMusic.org. If you purchase a ticket for the venue and decide for any reason to stay home, the festival will exchange that ticket for the link to the online recorded broadcast for that concert.

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: **friend of Kathleen Scala, David Kokinda, recovering from spinal surgery; Cynthia Healy's goddaughter, MaryBeth & her daughter, Melanie, for healing; Carol Lee Doeringer's heart health; Fritz & Sandy Hamlin's grandchildren, Crystal & Greg, on the passing of their grandmother, Ann Stone;** friend of Carol Doeringer, Millie Miller, who is recovering from eye surgery and facing a second eye surgery; Gail, Diane and Josie, all who died recently, and their families; friends of Dottie Davidson, Anna, whose brother died on 4/8, and Sami, who recently lost her husband; Howard Bell's wife, Sharon, who is in Abington Manor; Tricia Marino's mother, Margaret Matthews, as she recovers from surgery; the family of Jeff Brown, Al & Lorraine Brown's son, who died on 4/2 - especially for Jeff's sons, Liam and Ryan, for comfort and a peace beyond understanding; *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; 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*

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