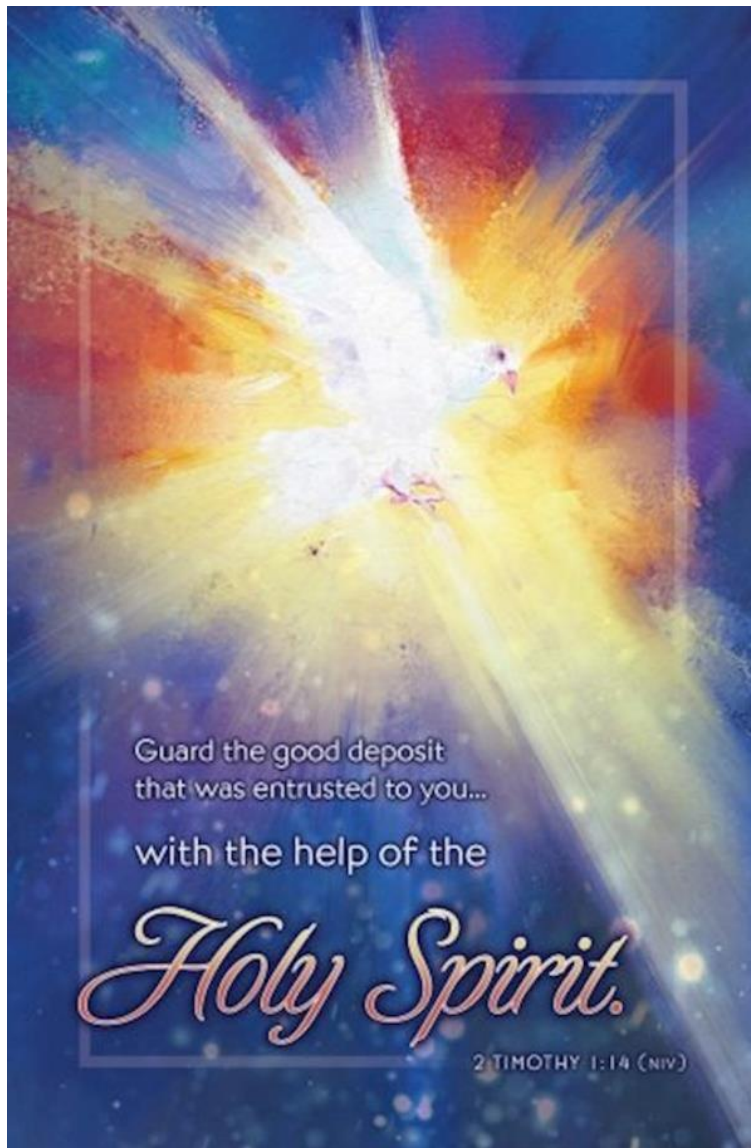


Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

The First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township



**Pentecost
Confirmation Sunday**

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 to enter them. Please place the cards in the Offering plates later in the service.

MINUTE FOR MISSION – Pentecost Offering

- Elder Al Marino

INTROIT

"Where the Spirit of the Lord Is"

2119

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 104, excerpts)

Jacqueline Miller

O God, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground.

May the glory of God endure forever! I will sing to God as long as I live!

I will sing praise to my God while I have being!

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

People of God, let us pray together:

God our Creator, earth has many languages, but your Gospel proclaims your love to all nations in one heavenly tongue. Make us messengers of the good news that, through the power of your Holy Spirit, all the world may unite in one song of praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever! Amen!

*OPENING HYMN

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

455

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Jacqueline Miller

The Holy Spirit is alive and is among us, but we so often fail to recognize this new life. Please remain standing, and together, let us join in our prayer of confession:

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Jacqueline Miller

Almighty God, you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples, creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith. We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as people made one in Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit and fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*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

Mia Ahart DiGiovanni

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Elder Jennifer Miller

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Mia Ahart DiGiovanni

O Holy Spirit, through your Word, may your boldness transform us; your gentleness lead us; and your gifts be our goal and our strength, now and always. Amen!

SCRIPTURE READING – Acts 2:1-8, 11-13

Mia Ahart DiGiovanni

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? In our own languages, we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“The Battle Hymn of the Republic”

- arr Steffe-Wilhousky

SCRIPTURE READING – Acts 2:14-21

Ellie Mardis-LeCroy

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. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ‘In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Church Is for Nobodies”

The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

MUSICAL REFLECTION - PART I

Tom DiGiovanni

UNITING WITH THE CONGREGATION – 2023 Confirmands - **Mia Ahart DiGiovanni, Ellie Mardis-LeCroy, Jacqueline Miller, Madison Wayne, Adam Wolfe and Connor Wolfe**

Pastor Mary Beth and Deacon Mike Lemons

Through baptism, we enter the covenant God has established. In that covenant God gives us new life; in that covenant, we are guarded from evil and nurtured by the love of God and God’s people!

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? **I do, with God’s help.**

Who is your Lord and Savior? **Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**

Will you be Christ’s faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love? **I will, with God’s help.**

Will you devote yourself to the church’s teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers? **I will, with God’s help.**

*THE 2023 CONFIRMAND CLASS STATEMENT OF FAITH

Written by the 2023 OGPC Confirmation Class
along with Pastor Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy and Deacon Mike Lemons

We believe

That God is all powerful,

That God loves everyone,

That God forgives everyone:

Our Higher Power.

We believe

**That Jesus is the Son of God,
Human God,**

For us.

That, Jesus, our Teacher,

Died for us.

Was resurrected for us.

We believe

That the Holy Spirit is God,

Like a Ghost of God,

Ethereal, like wind,

Like a verb,

Red, like fire.

We believe

That, though not everyone chooses the Church,

Our church is open for everyone.

That our church – welcoming us, teaching us –

Is a big family:

My Family.

We believe.

Help, God, our unbelief.

Amen.

***WELCOME**

Deacon Mike Lemons

As your new family, we welcome you to the ministry and mission of this part of the body of Christ! From this day forward, may the bonds of Christian love between us be strengthened and deepened, and may we stir one another up to love and good works, that together we may fulfill the purposes to which God has called us.

PRAYER

MUSICAL REFLECTION - PART II

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)**

Ellie Mardis-LeCroy

Great God, we thank you for your Holy Spirit, for the gift of Pentecost, and for your deep and abiding love for all of us. Take now these gifts, and along with them, take our very lives, that we may serve as you serve, give as you give, and love as you love. In your Holy Name we pray, Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

"Here I Am, Lord"

525

***THE SENDING**

POSTLUDE

All are welcome to join for fellowship and a celebration of our confirmands (cake!, coffee, tea, juice) in Memorial Hall following the worship service.



Today, **Sunday, May 28**, we celebrate **Pentecost Sunday** and the **Sacrament of Confirmation** at a 10 am worship service with preacher, **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.

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: May 28 – Team 2; June 4 – Team 3

NEW MEMBER CLASS: Are you ready to make it official and learn more about what it means to be a member here? We are holding a New Member class **today, May 28**, from **11:15 am to 12:30 pm**. Zooming into the class is also an option. Please contact Barb Frinzi at frinzi3@msn.com or Pastor Mary Beth at pastormarybeth@gmail.com to learn more..

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE! Upcoming chimes rehearsal in Memorial Hall from **9:30 to 9:50 am** on **June 4**. Dedication of bells and performance in worship on June 4. See Tom DiGiovanni for more information!

CALLING ALL GRADUATES: If you or a family member is graduating, please provide graduate's name, (who related to - children or grandchildren of), where they are graduating from and their future plans. We will be honoring all graduates at the worship service on **Sunday, June 11**. The information can be emailed to the church office by Wednesday, June 7, at noon, oldgreenwich@ogpc.org, or write it down and place in the offering plate no later than Sunday, June 4.

2023 REGISTRATION OPEN FOR SUMMER KIDS CLUB CO-HOSTED BY GNS AND OGPC!

This program is partially subsidized by Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church and Greenwich Nursery School to make it accessible to all. Reserve your spot today as our max is 25 kids per session.

Dates: Tuesdays - June 13 – rabbits; June 27 – sheep; July 11 – llama; July 25 – donkey; August 1 – cow; and August 8 – "baby unicorn"

Time: 10 am - 12 pm **Ages:** 2-8 years old **Cost:** \$12/session/child or \$60/all sessions//child

NOTE: Parent/guardian should plan to stay on-site for the program. If you have more than one child, there will be volunteers available to help, as needed.

Questions? Email director@greenwicznursery.com or call 908-479-6886, 9 am - 1 pm, Mon. - Fri.

IRON PIGS TICKETS ARE HERE! If you purchased tickets to the July 29 game, please see Anita Campbell to pick up your ticket packet. We want to avoid mailing tickets since the packets are thick and don't want to take the chance of the tickets getting lost in the mail. Anita will be in church this Sunday, but not the following Sunday, June 4. Please contact Anita via email at souptime2222@gmail.com or by phone (landline) 908-479-4737 to arrange for pick-up.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN meet monthly on the **third Tuesday** at the church in the room next to the pastor's office **at noon**. We are 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

COME SEE BEAUTIFUL ART... right down the hall! Did you know that we have a watercolor 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!

LAY READERS NEEDED: Please visit our website and 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.

SUMMER CAMP REGISTERING NOW! There are six one-week overnight sessions for kids in 1st-12th grades from June to August. 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

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 family of Mary Frances Bortz-Graham, who died on 5/20; the family of Robert Jones, Rev. David Jones' father, who died on 5/22; Pastor Mary Beth's cousin John, who was in a car accident and has much healing ahead of him. Prayers also for Holly, his mother, and their whole family; Derard Sanchez, who is having complications following recent eye surgery; the family of former GNS teacher, Barbara Purcell, who died recently; the family of Lane Michael Claypool, who died on 5/6; *healing for Melissa Hixon's family, Melissa's cousin Karen died of cancer on 4/28; healing prayers for Fritz Hamlin; prayers of healing for Carol Lee Doeringer, who has been in the hospital with heart issues; Fritz & Sandy Hamlin's daughter-in-law, Robin Schnell, prayers for healing and comfort; Carl & Ginny Guthardt; Bob & Trudy Frey; Stephen Toman; Skip Adams' son, Zachary; Bob and Trudy Frey's friends, Nancy Hummer and Ian Arnot; Debbie Mowrey; our homebound members; those serving in our Armed Forces; the citizens of Ukraine; those affected by the Corona virus and their families; all experiencing the effects of extreme weather conditions around the world*

"BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS"
WE ARE A GUN-FREE CHURCH AND CHURCH GROUNDS.

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