Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

The First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township



2nd Sunday after Pentecost Children's Day Celebrating Graduates

OUR CHURCH'S MISSION: To celebrate the love of God in all we say and do. June 11, 2023 10 am

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.

PRELUDE

SILENT PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

Dearest God, we thank you for the children of our church! The ones that bring joy and sound, music and laughter to our worship. They are the future of our church. Lord, we thank you for the teachers of these children - Lisa, Tricia, Melissa, Pastor Mary Beth, Jennifer and Mike - their dedication to use their wisdom to teach our youth is much appreciated. And Lord, please remember that we all promised at the baptism of the children of Old Greenwich to guide and nurture them by word and deed, with love and prayer, to encourage them to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of His church. We will continue to pray for all youth, teachers, and members of this church. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION - Elder Elise Bates Russell, introduced by Elder Lisa Kolterjahn - Camp Johnsonburg

*CALL TO WORSHIP and OPENING PRAYER - Noah Covenant

Come, all you people, come and worship. God has made a covenant with us.

Come, all creatures of the earth, come and worship. God has made a covenant with all creatures.

Remember the covenant and be thankful. God remembers the covenant and God will save us. God said, "I will be your God." God has promised. God remembers. God is faithful.

God said, "I will lead you in the paths of truth." God has promised. God remembers. God is faithful.

God said, "I will forgive you." God has promised. God remembers. God is faithful.

God said, "My kingdom is near." God has promised. God remembers. God is faithful.

*OPENING HYMN

"I Will Call Upon the Lord"

2002

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

God of the rainbow, you made a covenant with all creatures, promising life and hope. God of pathways, you show us how we should walk. Yet we forget our connection with one another and think that we are the center of the universe. We wander from your paths of truth into paths of deceit and pride. Forgive us and lead us back into the arms of your love.

*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!

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH - Mosaic Covenant - 10 Commandments

Elder Jennifer Miller

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

God of mercy, you promised never to break your covenant with us. In the midst of the multitude of words in our daily lives, speak your eternal Word to us, that we may respond to your gracious promises with faithfulness, service and love. Amen

SCRIPTURE READING - Genesis 2: 15-17 - Edenic Covenant - The Message

The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING - 2 Samuel 7:11-16 - Davidic Covenant

"Furthermore, God has this message for you: God himself will build you a house! When your life is complete and you're buried with your ancestors, then I'll raise up your child, your own flesh and blood, to succeed you, and I'll firmly establish his rule. He will build a house to honor me, and I will guarantee his kingdom's rule permanently. I'll be a father to him, and he'll be a son to me. When he does wrong, I'll discipline him in the usual ways, the pitfalls and obstacles of this mortal life. But I'll never remove my gracious love from him, as I removed it from Saul, who preceded you and whom I most certainly did remove. Your family and your kingdom are permanently secured. I'm keeping my eye on them! And your royal throne will always be there, rock solid." The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

"Take Me to The Alley"

- Gregory Porter Peggy Hannis, Don Hannis, Mike Jagiello, Tom DiGiovanni

SCRIPTURE READING - Romans 4:13-25

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore, his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"A Liberating Faith"

The Rev. Dr. Alex Hendrickson

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Tom DiGiovanni

A CONGREGATIONAL LITANY FOR GRADUATES - taken from re: Worship

We are gathered together to celebrate the accomplishments of members of our community.

One part of your life's journey is complete. You will prepare to begin another phase that will take you to unimaginable places. As you prepare for your next journey, we hope that you remember the ones you leave behind, who have loved and supported you throughout the years.

Use those memories as a beacon to guide you on your path. Don't look back; continue only forward, while using those memories to create a new path.

Because we are made in the image of God, we have been blessed with free will to make choices and decisions.

We give you blessings of good will and love as you journey forth into the world. We thank you for the laughter and fellowship that you have shared with us and pray that as you begin your next journey, you remember the times that we all have shared with you.

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)

We dedicate these offerings, Lord, for the work of the church, and we ask you to use all that we have, and all that we are, in your service. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"Our God is an Awesome God"

2040

*THE SENDING

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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

Announcements

Today, **Sunday**, **June 11**, we celebrate **the 2**nd **Sunday after Pentecost**, **Children's Day** and our **Graduates** at a 10 am worship service with guest preacher, **The Rev. Dr. Alex 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 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: June 11 – Team 4; June 18 – Team 1

TODAY WE ESPECIALLY WELCOME back to the pulpit, **The Rev. Dr. Alexandra Hendrickson**. Alex is the Director of Religious & Spiritual Life and College Chaplain at Lafayette College, Easton, PA. Originally from Arizona, Alex has served as pastor of PC (USA) congregations in a number of states. She currently lives in Easton with her husband and three children.

TODAY WE ALSO WELCOME Elder Elise Bates Russell, who currently serves as the Executive Director of

Johnsonburg Camp and Retreat Center, serving youth, families, non-profit, and corporate groups with leadership development, team building, retreats, outdoor education and missional opportunities. Her education includes a degree from the College of Wooster and a master's in architecture from the University of Michigan. Her passions include leadership development, healthy governance, effective teams, and cultural diversity. Elise enjoys hikes with her family, travel, hearing new ideas, being outdoors and meeting people.

TODAY'S FLOWERS are in honor and celebration of Phil & Trish Millon's 23rd wedding anniversary on June 10.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

Carolyn Brown, daughter of Christine & David Brown and granddaughter of Al & Lorraine Brown, will graduates from Warren Hills High School and will be attending Drew University studying secondary education / mathematics

Roman Ippoldo, grandson of Barb & Charlie Frinzi, graduated 8th grade at New Hope Solebury Middle School. He will attend LaSalle College High School in the fall

Rocco Ippoldo, grandson of Barb & Charlie Frinzi, graduated from Germantown Academy High School. He will attend Franklin & Marshall College in the fall & will major in engineering or investment banking

Luca Frinzi, grandson of Barb & Charlie Frinzi, graduated from Lehigh University with a BS in Finance. He will continue his education for another year at Lehigh to receive his master's degree in engineering & technical entrepreneurship

Jonathan Sterling Davidson, Dottie Davidson's son, received his Master of Education from Eastern University, St. Davids, PA and is a teacher in the Allentown School District

Francis Rienzo, son of Katie & Justin Rienzo, is graduating with high honors from Phillipsburg High School and will continue his education at Georgetown University

Mimi Rienzo, daughter of Katie & Justin Rienzo, is graduating from Phillipsburg High School and was Most Valuable Player for her golf team for the second year in a row. Mimi will be attending SUNY Cortland, where she'll play on the women's golf team

Jacqueline Miller, daughter of Jeff & Jennifer Miller, is graduating from Phillipsburg Middle School. Jackie will attend Phillipsburg High School in the fall and looks forward to joining the field hockey team

Ava Hixon, daughter of Daniel & Melissa Hixon, is graduating from Phillipsburg High School and will be attending Raritan Valley Community College to study business

Sophia Walker, Ernie & Kathy Maso's granddaughter, graduated from Freedom High School and will be going into nursing at St. Luke's

Ella Walker, granddaughter of Ernie & Kathy Maso, will be going to Penn State to study engineering

Kayla Schankel, Christine Mette's granddaughter, graduated from Freedom High School as an honor roll student, with over 145 hours of community service. She will be attending the University of Maryland with a double major in biology and psychology. She is planning on pursuing a career in genetic counseling.

IRON PIGS TICKETS ARE HERE! If you purchased tickets to the July 29 game, please see Anita Campbell to pick up your ticket packet. Please contact her via email at souptime2222@gmail.com or by phone (landline) 908-479-4737 to arrange for pick-up.

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, volunteers will be available, as needed. ?'s - director@greenwichnursery.com / 908-479-6886

OUTDOOR WORSHIP IS BACK! We will be worshipping outside on **June 25**, **July 23**, **July 30**, **August 20**, and **August 27**. On July 23 we will have our annual Blessing of the Animals service.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be held **Monday, August 7, through Friday, August 10 from 5:30 – 8 pm,** with **dinner included!!** Our theme this year is *Stellar,* where we will launch on a cosmic quest, shining Jesus' light to the world! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Lisa Kolterjahn at 973-809-2991 or lkolterjahn88@gmail.com.



You've packed your sunscreen and that new book you've been looking forward to reading... there's just one more thing... As you head off into your summer adventures, please continue to support the mission and outreach of Old Greenwich by sending in your offering, even if you're out of town. If you'll be missing a service or two, you can donate before you leave, donate for the month with one check, mail your offering to the

church, give online through ogpc.org or automate your payments through your financial institution. Your offering helps us to stay on track with our financial commitments and helps OGPC to continue offering the many wonderful things we have planned over the summer, including our vibrant outdoor services, blessing of the animals, special music and Vacation Bible School just to name a few!

LAY READERS NEEDED THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER: 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.

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 <u>Love Carved in Stone</u>: A <u>Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments</u>, 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 <u>Lisa A Gray@outlook.com</u>

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!

SUMMER CAMP AT JOHNSONBURG REGISTERING NOW! There are six one-week overnight sessions for kids in 1st-12th grades from June to August. For more information, visit www.campiburg.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: all suffering from the effects of wildfires in Canada; all suffering from the dam collapse in the Ukraine; the family of Sharon Bell, who died on 6/5, especially her husband, Howard, and children Amy Katherine and Edward; the family of Sharon Bell, who died on 6/5, especially her husband, Howard, and children, Amy Katherine and Edward; Kathleen Scala's friend, Ruth, diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer; Joel Farr, diagnosed with stage 4 brain and lung cancer; Jack Adams and family, Thomas Finnegan and Patty Tocci, friends of Dottie Davidson; 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; prayers of healing for Carol Lee Doeringer, who has 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 – BUILDINGS AND 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 Kathleen Scala, Admin. Asst. Harry & Joan Pursel, Sextons Betsy Gaston, Ass't Music Dir./Choir Dir. Katie Rienzo, Treasurer and Fin. Secy pastor@ogpc.org / 515-979-9681 oldgreenwich@ogpc.org / 908-479-4449 Tom DiGiovanni, Music Dir./Organist Jennifer Miller, Clerk of Session Francis Rienzo, Media/Comm. Dir.

Tom DiGiovanni, Leader, *Sonshine Singers & Greenwich Ringers*Betsy Gaston, Leader, *Rejoicing Rhythms* drummers