

Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

The First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township



4th Sunday after Pentecost

New Member Sunday

Outside Worship Service

OUR CHURCH'S MISSION:

**To celebrate the love of
God in all we say and do.**

PRELUDE

Tom DiGiovanni

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION – Deacon Scholarships

Deacon Ernie Maso

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Ps. 86, excerpts)

Elder Anita Campbell, Lay Reader

Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.

Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you; save your servant who trusts in you.

You are my God; be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all day long.

Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication.

In the day of my trouble, I call on you, for you will answer me.

*OPENING HYMN

“God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens”

268, vv. 1, 3

God, who stretched the spangled heavens, infinite in time and place
Flung the suns in burning radiance, through the silent fields of space
We, your children in Your likeness, share inventive powers with You
Great Creator, still creating, show us what we yet may do

As each far horizon beckons, may it challenge us anew
Children of creative purpose, serving others, honoring You
May our dreams prove rich with promise, each endeavor well begun
Great Creator, give us guidance, till our goals and Yours are one

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Please remain standing for our prayer of confession, and, together, let us tell the truth about how we fall short of God’s love for us and for this world:

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Gracious God, we confess that we are limited by our own sinfulness, failing to respond to your mercy and compassion. Let your forgiveness wash all over us. Empty us of our selves and replace our hearts of stone with hearts of flesh. We pray this in Christ’s name.

*SILENT CONFESSION with “Amen” played

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*GLORY TO GOD

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free!
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen!**

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Elder Jennifer Miller

UNITING WITH THE CONGREGATION – **Hope Rupell Duncan, Newall W. Duncan, Tim Lee Gardner,
Barbara Hartzell, Samuel Immanuel, Sunitha John Immanuel**

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 be a faithful member of this congregation, share in its worship and ministry through your prayers and gifts, your study and service, and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

I will, with God's help.

*THE APOSTLES' CREED

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.

*WELCOME

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 FOR ILLUMINATION

Eternal God, whose Word silences the shouts of the mighty: Quiet within us every voice but your own. By your Spirit, speak to us through your Holy Scriptures, so that we may receive the grace we need to shine Christ's love to the world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING – Genesis 21:8-13

The child grew and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So, she said to Abraham, 'Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.' The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, 'Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named after you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING – Genesis 21:14-21

So, Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, 'Do not let me look on the death of the child.' And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, 'What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.' Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Big Blessing"

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

*Doxology

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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)

Loving and Living God, thank you that you see us, each one of us. Thank you that you never give up on us. Thank you that your blessing is big. Thank you that it is always enough. Now bless these gifts we give back to you, that our gifts might bless this whole broken world with your abundant grace. In Jesus' saving name we pray, Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"The Summons"

2130, vv. 1, 4, 5

Will you come and follow me, if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known?
Will you let my life be grown, in you and you in me?

Will you love the "you" you hide, if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found, to reshape the world around
Through my sight and touch and sound, in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true, when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go, where your love and footsteps show.
Thus, I'll move and live and grow, in you and you in me.

*THE SENDING

POSTLUDE

All are welcome to join for fellowship and refreshments following the worship service.



Today, **Sunday, June 25** we celebrate **the 4th Sunday after Pentecost** and **New Member Sunday** at a 10 am **outdoor** 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: June 25 – Team 2; July 2 – Team 3

THANK YOU to all who signed up to serve as **LAY READERS** throughout the summer.

TECH PERSONS NEEDED: The Personnel committee is looking for a few volunteers to meet with Francis Rienzo to learn how to run the audio/visual equipment for the Sunday morning service. This would be to fill in occasionally while we look for a permanent replacement for him after he has left for college. If this sounds like a job you could assist with, please contact Don Hannis (sleepyhollowfarmnj@yahoo.com), Al Marino (almarinojr73@gmail.com), Barb Frinzi (frinzi3@msn.com) or Pastor Mary Beth (pastormarybeth@gmail.com)

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.

THE PRAYER CHAIN continues to grow! Please feel free to add to the prayer chain - instructions and paper for chain links are in the back of the sanctuary. New links will be added weekly, so please put your completed chain links in the bucket located at the entrance to the sanctuary!

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL: The CE committee would love to continue to give our children an opportunity to continue learning throughout the summer. We will be working on a variety of things from cooking to music, stories, and crafts. We will meet after TWTYC each week. Each Sunday we'll announce what we will be up to. We are also looking for interested leaders for a few open Sundays. Please contact Jennifer Miller at 908-329-5079 if interested.

RBG SCHOLARSHIPS: The Deacons have awarded five scholarships this year. Four were \$500 for Camp Johnsonburg. One was \$1000 for college. This is one of the main programs of the OGPC board of Deacons. If you would like to make a donation to help fund these scholarships, see Ernie Maso or Al Brown.

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

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 - 6/27 – sheep; 7/11 – llama; 7/25 – donkey; 8/1 – cow; 8/8 – “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

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be held **Monday, August 7, through Thursday, August 10, 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!

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.campjburg.org/summer-camp

LAY READERS: There are still dates available through the end of the year. You can sign up at 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.

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!

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: brother of Jay Rutan, Robert, who entered hospice on 6/21; Nicholas, Sarah, Liam, Connor & Jemma Hannis, and Don & Maria. Nicholas & Sarah's garage burned down, with thanks that house is untouched and no one was injured; Micah, son of Pastor Doug Batchelder, who has been diagnosed with Guillain-Barré syndrome; Kathleen's mother-in-law, Marilyn Scala, recovering from a heart attack, and friend Heather, who broke her arm; the Campbell's friend, Phyllis Raskin, who is having hip replacement surgery; the family of former member, Lisa Corbett, who died on 6/7; the family of Kathleen Scala's friend, Ruth, who died on 6/8; 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; Joel Farr, diagnosed with stage 4 brain and lung cancer; Jack Adams and family, Thomas Finnegan and Patty Tocci, friends of Dottie Davidson; 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