# Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

The First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township



7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Sacrament of Baptism

OUR CHURCH'S MISSION: To celebrate the love of God in all we say and do. July 16, 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 Plate.

What else does this craving, and this helplessness, proclaim but that there was once in [us] a true happiness, of which all that now remains is the empty print and trace? This [we try] in vain to fill with everything around [us], seeking in things that are not there, the help [we] cannot find in those that are, though none can help, since this infinite abyss can be filled only with an infinite and immutable object; in other words by God.

-Pascal, Pensées

PRELUDE Tom DiGiovanni

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Ps. 42, excerpts)

Elder Chris Hart, Lay Reader

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God? My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, "Where is your God?"

By day the LORD commands steadfast love, and at night God's song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?

Hope in God; for I shall again praise the Holy One, my help and my God.

\*OPENING HYMN "Spirit of God" # 2117, vv. 1,2,3,5

\*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Almighty God, our heavenly Creator, we have sinned against you, through our own fault – in thought, and word, and deed, and in what we have left undone. For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us all our offenses; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your Holy Name.

\*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 – Caleb Michael Crowley, son of Cody & Brittany Crowley

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, **Caleb Michael Crowley**, in the faith that we have received, supporting him that he may learn in all times, and sharing with him the good news of the Gospel, in all that you do or say, so helping him to know and follow our Lord Jesus Christ? **We do.** 

BLESSING OVER THE WATER & BAPTISM

#### WELCOME

**Caleb Michael Crowley** has been received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church through baptism. God has made him 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!

#### TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Deacon Trish Marino

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Come, Holy Spirit. Come, gentle breath. We invite you in. Silence in us any voice but your own. Give us the courage to hear, and to act. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

### SCRIPTURE READING – Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.'

The Word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.

#### SCRIPTURE READING - Genesis 25:19-34

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, 'If it is to be this way, why do I live?' So, she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her, 'Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger.' When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so, they named him Esau. Afterwards his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so, he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, 'Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!' (Therefore, he was called Edom.) Jacob said, 'First sell me your birthright.' Esau said, 'I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?' Jacob said, 'Swear to me first.' So, he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus, Esau despised his birthright. The Word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.

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 # 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)

Gracious One, we are hungry. We long for you. Help us to slowly become aware of the Godshaped hole inside each of us, even beginning to see it for the gift that it is. Help us remember that you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Bless these gifts that we give back to you, O God. May they bless the great hunger in this world. In Christ we pray, Amen.

\*CLOSING HYMN

"How Firm a Foundation"

# 361, vv. 1,2,3,5

\*THE SENDING

POSTLUDE

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



Today, **Sunday**, **July 16**, we celebrate **the 7**<sup>th</sup> **Sunday after Pentecost** and the **Sacrament of Baptism** 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 <a href="https://www.ogpc.org">www.ogpc.org</a>, 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: July 9 - Team 4; July 16 - Team 1

A NOTE OF THANKS was received from Rev. David Jones that he wished to convey to the congregation: "David and the entire Jones family wish to thank the good folks of Greenwich Church for all their thoughts, calls, cards and prayers of support during this time of sadness for us. Our Dad had a special fondness for Old Greenwich. Before he became unable to travel, he visited with us on numerous occasions, and had several enjoyable conversations with members of the congregation. May God bless you all and your active ministries in what our Mom and Dad called, 'Nice New Jersey.'"

Did you know that we now have a **PRAYER ROOM**? During Lent this year, we used the room for our prayer services before our 10 am worship; and since then, we have kept the room open for prayer and quiet. This world is so busy and loud and overwhelming sometimes. If any of you (member or not) ever need a quiet space to just "be still and know," and the office or church is open, the Prayer Room is available for you. It is located behind Memorial Hall, right next to the Choir Room. God in stillness waits there.

**TECH PERSON** needed HIRED: The Personnel Committee met with Cole Hosbach this past Monday, was quite impressed with him, recommended to Session that we hire him; Session agreed, and Cole said YES! Whew!! He will be stepping in to fill Francis' big shoes, as Francis will be leaving in August to attend Georgetown!

For the next month or so, Cole will overlap with Francis as part of his onboarding process. (He will essentially be shadowing Francis over this next month). And, as part of his learning, Cole will be in church starting today! Be sure to say "Hello" during fellowship!

**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:** July 25 – donkey; August 1 – cow; 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



**CELTIC PSALMS** will be joining Old Greenwich again for worship on **Sunday**, **July 23 at 10am**, and we couldn't be more thrilled! Celtic Psalms (Kiran Young Wimberly and The McGraths) is from Northern Ireland and will be traveling through the Northeast US and Canada this summer, celebrating 10 years of doing music together and launching "Celtic Pilgrims."

Since 2013 Celtic Psalms has arranged Biblical Psalms to Irish and Scottish airs. In the past decade they have recorded four albums, sung at concerts in sacred and secular venues across Ireland, performed live on BBC and RTE national television and radio, traveled to the US on four tours, shared their music at international conferences, and were published by the global sacred music publisher GIA. This tour also celebrates the start of something new: Celtic Pilgrims, a nonprofit dedicated to connecting

communities through music. The purpose of Celtic Psalms has always been to create sacred music in the traditional style and bring people together across community divides, in Northern Ireland and beyond, and Celtic Pilgrims Nonprofit will continue this work by intentionally hosting music events that are welcoming to all communities. To learn more about Celtic Psalms music, visit <a href="https://www.celticpsalms.com">www.celticpsalms.com</a>

OUTDOOR WORSHIP IS BACK! We will be worshipping outside next Sunday, July 23, (weather permitting) with Celtic Psalms as our musical guests; July 30 - Blessing of Animals (NOTE: this has been mooooved from July 23); August 20 and August 27.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:** The PW Bible study group will not meet in July and August. The group, and any woman who'd like to join us, will be having a potluck picnic on **Tuesday**, **July 25**, **at 12:30 pm**. Bring your bathing suit if you want to cool off in the pool. Otherwise, just bring a dish to share. 352 Hamilton Dr Stewartsville. RSVP <a href="mailto:lisa\_a\_gray@outlook.com">lisa\_a\_gray@outlook.com</a> or text/call 908-476-4720. The Bible study group will resume meeting at noon in September.

**PICNIC TIME!:** The Church Care & Kinship Committee is organizing the **Annual Church Picnic** for **Sunday**, **August 6**, (rain date Sunday, August 13) following the worship service. Sign-up sheet for food will is posted in Memorial Hall. Please sign up to bring food (side-dish, salad, dessert) and note the number of people in your party so we know how many hot dogs and hamburgers to order. There will be an ice cream truck and the musical entertainment will be organized by Pastor Mary Beth! There may even be a hayride!

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** will be held **Monday, August 7 - 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 or participating, please contact Lisa Kolterjahn at 973-809-2991 / <a href="mailto:lkolterjahn88@gmail.com">lkolterjahn88@gmail.com</a>

The Church Care and Kinship Committee is also planning a **POTLUCK LUNCHEON** on Rally Day, **Sunday, September 10**! Bring the kids - we will have a tailgate theme for that day! We would like to do something special for the men of the congregation, so we are asking for donations to make gift baskets for them. They must be present to win. Please give donations to Barb Frinzi or leave in the plastic bin on the bench in the Green Room. You may also make a basket to donate. Donations for baskets should be in by September 3. Here are some ideas for donations:

Picnic grill basket

Movie/game night at home & treats

Spaghetti dinner basket

Small cooler to use as a "basket"

Handheld igniter

Bottle of hot sauce or marinade

Camp chair (for outdoor services)

Nerf Football

Deck of cards Grill brush Bug spray

OGPC baseball hat or shirt

Beer or wine

Tools

Home Depot gift card Anything creative!

**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 to 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.



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 through August. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.campjburg.org/summer-camp">www.campjburg.org/summer-camp</a>

**LAY READERS:** There are still dates available through the end of the year. You can sign up at <a href="mailto:ogpc.org">ogpc.org</a>. 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 <a href="mailto:lkolterjahn88@gmail.com">lkolterjahn88@gmail.com</a>.

**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 <a href="ML12504@gmail.com">ML12504@gmail.com</a> or Pastor Mary Beth at <a href="master:astormarybeth@gmail.com">astormarybeth@gmail.com</a> NAMES ON THE PRAYER LIST will remain for four weeks. The first week, the names will be <a href="mailto:bolded">bolded</a>. The last week, the names will be <a href="mailto:italicized">italicized</a>. 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: Carl Guthardt and family on the death of his wife, Jinny, on 7/12; friends of Barb Grimm, the Quinn family, who lost their daughter, Sarah, on 7/7; Sandie Stutzman's neighbor and friend, Charlie, diagnosed with cancer and his wife, Darlene; P'burg police officer Brett Marino and his family (his children attend Greenwich Elementary School). Brett has been diagnosed with metastatic mucinous adenocarcinoma cancer; the family of Robert Rutan, brother of Jay Rutan, who died 6/27; Sonja & Greg Gaertner and family on the death of their son, Eric. Sonja is the office administrator for Highlands Presby.; Dave Slack and family on the death of his father, John, on 7/1; 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; 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; 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 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, Sonshine Singers & Greenwich Ringers

Betsy Gaston, Leader, *Rejoicing Rhythms* drummers