

Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

The First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township



**10th Sunday after Pentecost
Communion Sunday**

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

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.

PRELUDE

Tom DiGiovanni

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GIVING THANKS for Francis Rienzo

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Ps. 139, excerpts)

Deacon Joan Holloway, Lay Reader

Please join in the Call to Worship which is prayed responsively.

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.

Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make the grave my bed, you are there.

If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night,"

even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

*OPENING HYMN

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

367, vv 1 - 3

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Merciful God, we are afraid of what it means to follow your Way in the world. We wonder what it costs us to be disciples of Jesus. Forgive us. Restore in us the confidence to be followers of the One who leads us to the cross, and beyond.

*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

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

God of all light, show us your Word as we read the words of Scripture today, so that your will and way can illumine our paths. In Jesus we pray, and through the Holy Spirit, Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING – Genesis 32:22-31

The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, 'Let me go, for the day is breaking.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.' So, he

said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.' Then the man said, 'You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.' Then Jacob asked him, 'Please tell me your name.' But he said, 'Why is it that you ask my name?' And there he blessed him. So, Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.' The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING – Genesis 33:1-4, 8-10a

Now Jacob looked up and saw Esau coming, and four hundred men with him. So, he divided the children among Leah and Rachel and the two maids. He put the maids with their children in front, then Leah with her children, and Rachel and Joseph last of all. He himself went on ahead of them, bowing himself to the ground seven times, until he came near his brother.

But Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept. Esau said, 'What do you mean by all this company that I met?' Jacob answered, 'To find favor with my lord.' But Esau said, 'I have enough, my brother; keep what you have for yourself.' Jacob said, 'No, please; if I find favor with you, then accept my present from my hand; for truly to see your face is like seeing the face of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"The Face of God"

The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Tom DiGiovanni

GATHERING AT THE TABLE OF OUR LORD

INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (with 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.

BLESSING THE BREAD AND THE CUP & COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

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)

O God, help us to see your face in the face of all your people. As we struggle, as we strive, give us your strength, and enshroud us with your mercy. Now take these gifts we give back to you, that they may bless the whole world. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"God Made From One Blood"

2170, vv 1, 2, 5

*THE SENDING

POSTLUDE

Please stay for a brief special congregational meeting, and then
EVERYONE is welcome to join outside for our Annual CHURCH PICNIC!

Announcements

Today, **Sunday, August 6**, we celebrate the **10th Sunday after Pentecost** and **Communion Sunday** 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: August 6 – Team 4; August 13 – Team 1

NOTICE OF SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Notice is hereby given that a Special Meeting of the Congregation and Religious Corporation of the First Presbyterian Church in Greenwich Township, in the County of Warren, will be held **today, Sunday, August 6, 2023, immediately following the worship service** to elect one Ruling Elder to the class of 2023.

Today's **CHURCH PICNIC** will commence outside following the Special Congregational Meeting.

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AND SUNDAY SCHOOL! We have encountered a lot of scheduling conflicts with our original dates for 2023 VBS and have therefore decided to make some changes which will also affect what we were doing for Sunday School. VBS will now be held every Sunday between August 6, (today) and September 3, from 10 - 11:30 am. Each week will be a stand-alone session and we are hoping that this will allow more children to be able to attend. Please pass this information to friends and family you think may be interested!
Contact Lisa Kolterjahn at (973) 809-2991 or Lkolterjahn88@gmail.com with questions.

ONE SESSION REMAINING AND WE SAVED THE BEST FOR LAST! 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: August 8 – "baby unicorn"

Time: 10 am - 12 pm **Ages:** 2-8 years old

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

The Community Outreach Committee is hosting a **BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND GRANOLA & BREAKFAST BARS DRIVE** along with River of Life PC through August 21. A collection bin marked for School Supplies will be in the Green Room for your donations. As always, thank you for your continued support of these outreach efforts which benefit kids in our local communities. Questions? Contact Sharon Smith at ssmith@nhvweb.net.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP: August 20 and August 27.

The Church Care and Kinship Committee is 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 marked "Men's Basket"

Donations" 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!



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!

Be still and know that I am God.

- Psalm 46:10

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.

SUMMER CAMP AT JOHNSONBURG REGISTERING NOW! There are still overnight sessions for kids in 1st-12th grades through August. For more information, visit www.campjburg.org/summer-camp

LAY READERS: There are 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!) They are displaying some of their 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 astormarybeth@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: Sally Reinhard's mom, Mary Ann Miller, who is having hip replacement surgery on 8/7; Ava Hixon, who is having major surgery on August 16 - for guidance for all the medical staff who will attend to

her, for healing, and peace and comfort for Ava and her whole family; Christine Mette's granddaughter, Jessica, who had surgery on 7/27 to remove a benign mass in her brain; the Maso family: Ernie Maso's mother, Clara, has moved to Country Arch Care Center in Pittstown; Newal Duncan and those from Stewartsville PC who left on 7/22 for their mission trip to Puerto Rico; Don Metz, who was in a car accident on 7/13, had major surgery on his leg and is recovering and in rehab at Fountain Hill in Bethlehem. Prayers also for Betty, Lori, Randy and Jeffrey; Debbie Smith's mother, Bernice Seifert, recovering from a hospital stay, and for Debbie and brother, Mark; prayers of thanks for the birth of Annalyse Nicole Smith, born 7/13, granddaughter of Debbie Smith; *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 denocarcinoma cancer;* 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

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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 Ass't.

Tom DiGiovanni, Leader, *Gr'wich Ringers* Bruce & Sandy Frey, Leaders, *Sonshine Singers*

Betsy Gaston, Leader, *Rejoicing Rhythms* drummers