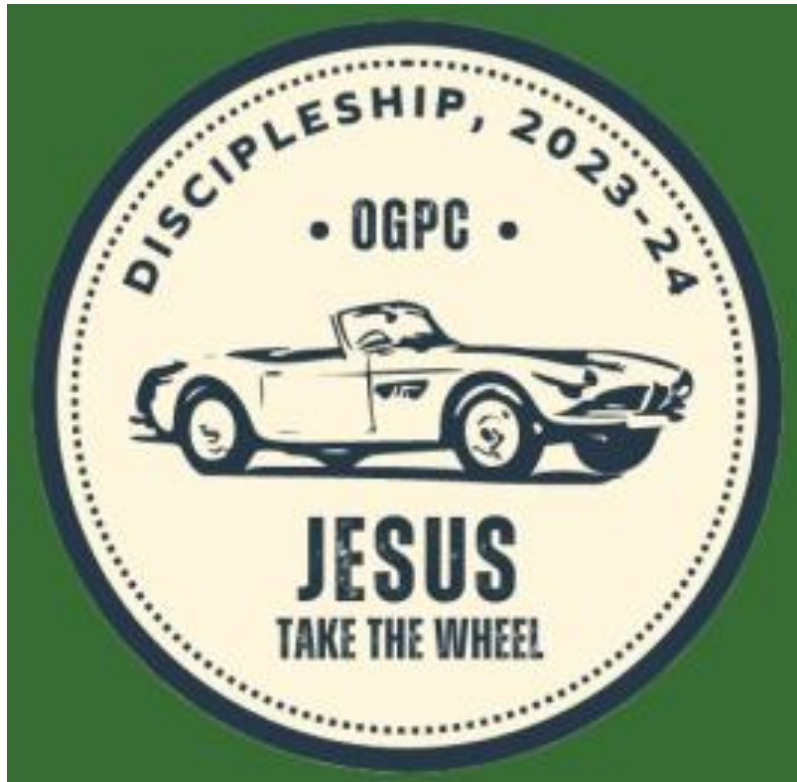


# *Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church*

**The First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township**



**20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**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 it. Please place the cards in the Offering Plate later in the service.

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

Deacon Rob Todd

## INTROIT

*"How Majestic is Your Name"*

# 2023

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 30:1-5)

Tina Schulman, Lay Reader

Please stand, as you are able, and join in the Call to Worship which is prayed responsively.

I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

**O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.**

O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

**Sing praises to the LORD, O you faithful ones, and give thanks to God's holy name.**

For God's anger is but for a moment; God's favor is for a lifetime.

**Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning!**

## \*OPENING HYMN

*"They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"*

# 2223

Verse 1 - all sing

Verse 2 - balcony and organ side sing

Verse 3 - piano side sing

Verse 4 - all sing

## \*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

## \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**Grant unto us, O God, the fullness of your promises. Where we have been weak, grant us your strength; where we have been sinful, grant us your forgiveness; where we have been dead, grant us your life. Wash us with the cleansing waters of your baptism; forgive us; free us; and make us new.**

## \*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

## TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Elder Jennifer Miller

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

**Holy One, your grace has dawned upon all the world with healing for the whole creation. Let that same light shine upon your Holy Word, bringing forth what you would have us hear, and do, this day.**

**Through your Holy Spirit we pray, Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE READING – Exodus 32:1-10

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, 'Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who

brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.' Aaron said to them, 'Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.' So, all the people took off the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron. He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, 'Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord.' They rose early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.

The Lord said to Moses, 'Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" ' The Lord said to Moses, 'I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them, and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.'

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*"Arise and Go to Jesus"*

- Hart/Drennan

SCRIPTURE READING – Exodus 32:11-14

But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, 'O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, "It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth"? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, "I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever." And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*"The Promised Land"*

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

*"Amazing Grace"*

# 280, v. 1

\*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)

**Thank you, O Lord, that you are our Promised Land, our Grounding, our Source, our God. Now take these gifts we give back to you, that they may bless this whole wide world. In Jesus' saving name we pray, Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN

*"Lead On, O King Eternal"*

# 448

\*THE SENDING

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*"Song of Hope"*

# 432

## POSTLUDE

All are welcome to join for fellowship in Memorial Hall following the worship service.

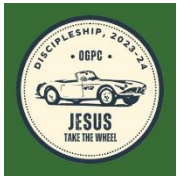
# Announcements

Today, **Sunday, October 15, 2023**, we celebrate the **20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost** 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](http://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:** Oct. 15 - Team 2; Oct. 22 - Team 3



**OUR OFFICIAL 2024 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN IS UNDERWAY!** We are excited to share that the theme of this year's campaign is "Jesus Take the Wheel."

We are all on some sort of journey, and if you sometimes feel like you are losing your way, discouraged, or just simply don't fit in, OGPC will always be there to help you find yourself again. God's vessel always has room, and you are invited to join us for the ride!

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)

Will you help us along the journey? We are all on this journey and we want you with us. Financially, together, we can ensure that the church remains a vessel for God's love through supporting the mission of OGPC.

- Have you never made an annual pledge amount to our church? No? This is a great time to start!
- Do you already pledge? If so, Thank you! Would you consider increasing your pledge to support all the beautiful things our church is involved in, through the grace of God?

Here are some ways you can continue to support the work God is doing at OGPC:

- Email your pledge amount to the church Treasurer at [treasurer@ogpc.org](mailto:treasurer@ogpc.org);
- Make your pledge online at [www.ogpc.org](http://www.ogpc.org);
- Look for information and a pledge card to arrive in the mail and submit your pledge card to the church office or drop in the Offering Plate at Sunday worship.
- Pick up Pledge Card in narthex and place in Offering Plate.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES:** This year, we are thrilled to offer two different age-group Sunday Schools: (1) Pre-K / Elementary School, (2) Middle / High School. For the Pre-K / Elem group, Sunday School is held **every Sunday (except for the first Sunday of the month)**. Families will bring their children to worship in the sanctuary at **10 am**, and right after Time with the Young Church (10:15ish), the children will be dismissed to their classrooms. For the middle and high group, Elder Jen Miller and Pastor Mary Beth are co-teaching a class on "welcome" the **2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, from 9 - 9:40 am**, in Room 22, next door to the Pastor's office. Please see Pastor Mary Beth [pastormarybeth@gmail.com](mailto:pastormarybeth@gmail.com) or Elder Jen Miller [nijmillers@msn.com](mailto:nijmillers@msn.com) with any questions you may have.



**CALLING ALL YOUTH!!** (Middle and High Schoolers!) Our church is once again partnering with College Hill Presbyterian Church in Easton for the "**Fish 'n Chyps**" evening youth program, and we'd love to see you there! The next gathering is **this evening, Sunday, October 15, 6 - 7:30 pm**. This group always meets at College Hill Presbyterian Church, 501 Brodhead St, Easton, PA. If you need a ride, let Pastor Mary Beth know, and we can carpool. We will meet **every 1st and 3rd Sunday evening** (Oct 15, Nov 5, Nov 19, Dec 3, and Dec 17).

GNS and OGPC are hosting a **HALLOWEEN FAMILY FUN NIGHT!** On **Friday, October 20, 4 – 6 pm**, families are invited to our church for trick-or-treating, games, crafts, snacks, and FUN! FUN! FUN! Cost is \$5 per child. No need to register, but we do need volunteers! To volunteer, let us know here:

<https://signup.com/go/mXeYBPh>

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY:** The group will meet **this month on October 24, at noon**, in the Prayer Room (behind Memorial Hall) at the church. Finishing last two chapters of the Ten Commandments. Will begin an advent study in November (evening - more details to follow).

**PRESBYTERIAN WEEKLY ZOOM BOOK GROUP:** All women are invited to a weekly one-hour zoom book/spirituality group on **Thursdays at noon**. We're using "Chicken Scratch-Lessons on Living Creatively from a Flock of Hens," by Ann Byle. Chapter one is continuing 9/21. It's not necessary to purchase the book, but helpful. For zoom invite, text/call Lisa Gray 973-476-4720.



**WE READ BANNED BOOKS...** and that's no lie!! The fall season of the OGPC Book Club has begun but it's not too late to join... every week is a stand-alone session, meeting **at 6 pm on Thursdays** through Nov. 2. Our selection for this round is "*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*" by Mark Twain. Lauded by literary experts as the foundation of authentic American literature, this beloved novel remains controversial to this day. We will read and review this classic story together and explore what Mark Twain wanted to tell us about American life and culture in the 1850's and what current truths it may illuminate in our time. No experience necessary! All welcome. See Pastor Mary Beth or Elder George Bradlau for more information.

**FALL WOMEN'S RETREAT AT CAMP JOHNSONBURG:** Presbyterian Women are joining in on Johnsonburg Camp & Retreat Center women's retreat being held **October 27 - 29**. Word has it only spots for Saturday, the one-day option, are still available. Leaders are Lorelei Oelschlager and Amy Clarkson. They have led many day retreats for PW and they are a dynamic duo. The theme is "A Fruitful Life: Abiding in God's Grace Across the Seasons." One day registration is \$45. Register directly on the J'burg website, [www.campjburg.org](http://www.campjburg.org). For carpooling, call or text Lisa Gray 973-476-4720.

**NIGHTS OF PRAISE, MUSIC, FELLOWSHIP AND WORSHIP** at Simply Grace Church, 61 Church St, Bloomsbury, on **Friday, November 10** and **Friday, December 8, at 7 pm**.

Come one, come all to the **DEACONS' ANNUAL ROAST BEEF DINNER!** **Saturday, November 11, 4 – 7 pm**. Pick-up or dine-in! Call Kathleen at 908-479-4449 (you can leave a message) OR sign up with Deacon Mike Lemons to make a reservation. Invite your friends and neighbors!! Also: **are you willing to contribute a dessert?** If so, please let Deacon Mike or Kathleen know!

**"BRIDGES OF HOPE"** is a program designed to bring awareness about mental illness to people of faith and to equip them with tools to become strong safety nets of welcoming communities for persons affected by mental disorders and their families. On **Sunday, November 12, from 1 – 3 pm**, Pilgrim Presbyterian Church, 750 Belvidere Rd, P-burg, is co-hosting an event with NAMI Warren County to further equip and inform the community about suicide prevention. All are welcome to attend this timely and crucial workshop. For more information, please contact Pastor Rich Gelson at [revup2015@gmail.com](mailto:revup2015@gmail.com).

Tickets for the **SIGHT & SOUND MIRACLE of CHRISTMAS SHOW** on Saturday, December 2, will be available for **pick-up on Sunday, November 19** and **Sunday, November 26**, after worship. See Barb Frinzi for tickets. Information regarding transportation to the show will be announced in November.

**LAY READERS:** There are dates available through the end of the year. You can sign up at [ogpc.org](http://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](mailto:lkolterjahn88@gmail.com).

**COME SEE BEAUTIFUL ART...** right down the hall! Our wonderful community of artists that meet every Tuesday for watercolor and fellowship are displaying some of their work in the Trinity Wing (right next to the

pastor's office). The works that are displayed change regularly and some pieces are for sale. 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](mailto: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](mailto:ML12504@gmail.com) or Pastor Mary Beth at [pastormarybeth@gmail.com](mailto: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: **Charlotte Pickell's friend Donna, whose husband died unexpectedly; the people of Israel and Palestine - any life lost is a life you grieve, O God. We grieve, also, and pray for you to come quickly for an end to violence at every level; Julia Deemer, for healing from basal cell surgery; Marcia Taylor's cousins, Lori Frankenfield and JoAnn August, who both recently suffered heart attacks; Al Brown, for healing from a heart procedure on 10/5, and for his wife, Lorraine;** Carla Davidson and mother Marie Burga, who's had a stroke, and her husband Carlos and their family; Ava Hixon, who had major surgery on 9/28; Susan Jones, for healing, and Pastor David Jones, as he cares for her; Sue Tintle's caregiver Karen, who was in a car accident and is healing from a few broken bones; the family and friends of long-time member, Don Metz, who died on 9/24; the family and loved ones of Larry Marino as they grieve; Sandy & Fritz Hamlin's daughter-in-law, Robin, who has cancer; Carol Lee Doeringer; Dottie Davidson and her brother, Lee, diagnosed with Stage IV cancer; Stephen Toman; Debbie Mowrey; our homebound members; those serving in our Armed Forces; the citizens of Ukraine.

*"BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS"*

WE ARE A GUN-FREE CHURCH – BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS.

**Visit our Church's Web Site at: [www.ogpc.org](http://www.ogpc.org)**

Church Office e-mail address: [oldgreenwich@ogpc.org](mailto:oldgreenwich@ogpc.org)

The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

Kathleen Scala, Admin. Ass't

Harry & Joan Pursel, Sextons

Betsy Gaston, Ass't Music Dir./Choir Dir.

Katie Rienzo, Treasurer; Comm. & Marketing Dir.

Tom DiGiovanni, Leader, *Gr'wich Ringers*

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Tom DiGiovanni, Music Dir./Organist

Jennifer Miller, Clerk of Session

Cole Hosbach, Media/Comm. Ass't.

Bruce & Sandy Frey, Leaders, *Sonshine Singers*

Betsy Gaston, Leader, *Rejoicing Rhythms* drummers