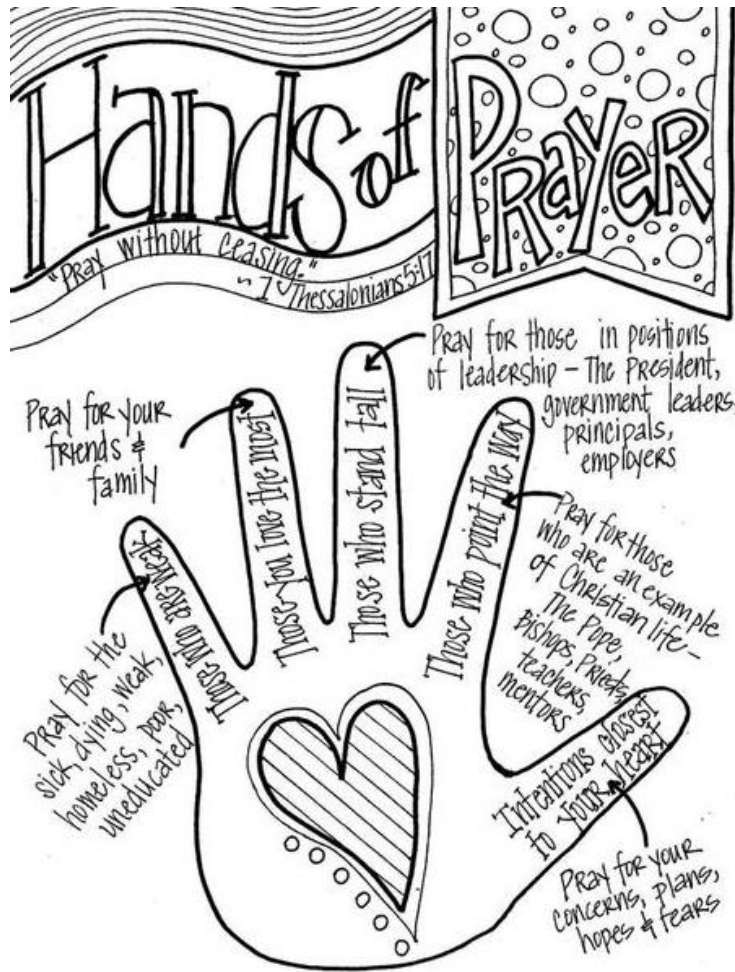


# Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

The First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township



**25<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

Tom DiGiovanni

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

## MINUTE FOR MISSION – Giving Tree 2023

Elder Melissa Hixon

## INTROIT

*“Give Thanks”*

# 2036, vs. 1, 2, 4

*Congregation is welcome to join in singing with the Choir, if so moved.*

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP (Ps. 100)

Deacon Doreen Macchia-Germain, Lay Reader

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

**Worship God with gladness; come into God's presence with singing!**

Know that the Lord is God.

**It is God who has made us, not we ourselves; we are God's people, and the sheep of God's pasture.**

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise.

**Give thanks to God and bless God's name.**

For God is good;

**Whose steadfast love endures forever, and whose faithfulness to all generations!**

## \*OPENING HYMN

*“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”*

# 551, vv. 1, 3, 4

## \*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

“I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord. “Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.” Let us, together, confess our broken and sinful ways before God, so that we may once again be raised to new life. Let us pray:

## \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**Almighty God, our Redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be your bearers of hope and justice for this world. Forgive us. Renew us by your Holy Spirit, that we may follow your commands and proclaim your reign of love, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

## \*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 Lisa Kolterjahn

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

**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 show forth Christ's love to the world. Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE READING – Psalm 90:1-8, 12

Lord, you have been our dwelling-place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever

you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. You turn us back to dust, and say, 'Turn back, you mortals.' For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night. You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning; in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers. For we are consumed by your anger; by your wrath we are overwhelmed. You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your countenance. So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*"Prayer of Thanksgiving"*

- arr. E. Kremer

SCRIPTURE READING – Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*"He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"*

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)

**Loving Christ, thank you! Thank you for this church; thank you for our families, friends, and loved ones; thank you for all the gifts of our lives; thank you, most especially, for YOU. We are grateful that you hold *all* things and we do not. Take now these gifts we give back to you, that they may bless this whole wide world. In your holy name we pray, Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN

*"Let All Things Now Living"*

# 554

\*THE SENDING

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*"Go Ye, Go Ye, Into the World"*

# 2239

*Congregation is welcome to join in singing with the Choir, if so moved.*

POSTLUDE

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

# Announcements

Today, **Sunday, November 19, 2023**, we celebrate the **25<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." (Facebook account is needed to access the Facebook Live feed.)

**TODAY'S FLOWERS** are in celebration of Kathy Maso's birthday today, by her husband, Ernie.

**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:** Nov. 19 – Team 3; Nov. 26 – Team 4

**GIVING TREE 2023:** Greenwich Nursery School and Old Greenwich Church are co-sponsoring a Giving Tree event for Christmas this year! **Today, November 19, and next Sunday, November 26**, you will be able to take a tag off the tree in the Green Room and follow the instructions on how to purchase a gift. (Elder Melissa Hixon will explain how it all works). There is an event on **Friday, December 8**, which will include a hot cocoa bar with Santa himself in attendance, where you will be able to drop off your gifts. Questions? See Elder Melissa or Pastor Mary Beth.

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



**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! We meet **every 1st and 3rd Sunday evening**. We meet **this evening, 6 - 7:30 pm**. This group 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. (Nov 19, Dec 3, and Dec 17).

**SUPPORT GREENWICH NURSERY SCHOOL** by dining out at Panera in P'burg **tomorrow, Nov. 20**, between **4 and 8 pm** using code **FUND4U**. Profits will fund the purchase and installation of new playground equipment.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES:** We have two different age-group Sunday Schools: (1) Pre-K / Elementary School, (2) Middle / High School. The Pre-K / Elem group, Sunday School is held **every Sunday (except for the first Sunday of the month)**. Families should 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 / High School 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 or Elder Jen Miller [njmillers@msn.com](mailto:njmillers@msn.com) with any questions you may have.

**THE GREENWICH RINGERS:** Westminster Presbyterian Church in P'burg gifted us with their beautiful set of handbells and we hope to make a joyful noise with them! Won't you join us? We rehearse after our service on **Sundays, from 11:15 - 11:45 am** on the stage in Memorial Hall, and we'll perform during the December 11<sup>th</sup> worship service. Open to all ages, and the only experience necessary is the ability to navigate a piece of music (and count to four, over and over and over again, somewhat steadily). 😊

**OLD GREENWICH CHANCEL CHOIR:** Come sing with us for the joyous Advent and Christmas seasons! You owe it to yourself to have a great time by diving a little deeper into the music that makes this season so special.

No prior choir experience needed. Training wheels are installed for any new members who needs them! We meet on **Thursday nights, 7:30 - 9 pm**, in the sanctuary. **(No practice on Thanksgiving, 11/23.)**

The General William A. Maxwell Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will be honoring veterans who are buried in Greenwich Cemetery by participating in the nationwide **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA** event on **December 16**. If you are interested in sponsoring a wreath for a veteran's grave, go to: [www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/NJ0234P](http://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/NJ0234P). **Cutoff date for ordering is November 30.**

**NIGHTS OF PRAISE, MUSIC, FELLOWSHIP AND WORSHIP** at Simply Grace Church, 61 Church St, Bloomsbury, on **Friday, December 8**, at **7 pm**. Come one, come all to the

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY:** The group meets **the third Tuesday of the month, at noon**, in the Prayer Room (behind Memorial Hall) at the church. See Advent study announcement below.

**ADVENT BOOK STUDY:** Join us in the Prayer Room **each Wednesday in Advent, starting November 29, at 7 pm**, as we explore the book "Stay A While - Advent Lessons in Divine Hospitality," written by Kara Eidson. Think of something special you set your Christmas table with and bring it along if it is not too big. See Lisa Kolterjahn or Lisa Gray if you are interested and to receive a copy of the book.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S WEEKLY ZOOM BOOK GROUP:** If you cannot make the in-person Advent Study on Wednesday evenings at the church, using "Stay Awhile - Advent Lessons in Divine Hospitality" by Kara Eidson, you can attend a **Thursday Zoom study from noon - 1 pm** on this book by asking Lisa Gray for an invite. Chapter one "INVITE" will be on November 30, just before Advent begins. Copies available at church. Think of something special you set your Christmas table with! Can't make it? Read Jeremiah 33:14-16 and Luke 21:25-36 and be there in spirit.

**THANK YOU** to all who signed up to be Lay Readers. All dates through the end of the year are filled.

**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 Trinity Wing (right next to the pastor's office). The works that are displayed change regularly and some pieces are for sale. Check out 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.

**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: **Leni Voorhees, as she heals form cataract and glaucoma surgery on 11/16; Ernie Maso's mom, Clara, who had Covid last week in Country Arch Care Ctr.**; Fritz Hamlin, as he continues to recover from heart valve surgery, and his wife, Sandy; Al Brown, who was in hospital recently, and for his wife, Lorraine; Walt Campbell's grand-niece, Caleigh Loveless, who had surgery for a broken tibia and fibula and is recovering at home; Edna Gaston, Betsy Gaston's sister-in-law, who was in a car crash; *Pastor Doug's son, headed home at the end of the week, praise God! He still has some disabilities to overcome, so we continue to pray for him: come, Jesus, with healing;* 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; the citizens of Israel and Palestine

*"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*

Betsy Gaston, Leader, *Rejoicing Rhythms* drummers

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Jennifer Miller, Clerk of Session

Josh Miller, Media/Comm. Ass't.

Bruce & Sandy Frey, Leaders, *Sonshine Singers*