



Old Greenwich

Presbyterian Church



**BAPTISM OF THE LORD
ORDINATION/ INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
COMMUNION SUNDAY**

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

(Please turn off cell phones or put them in vibrate mode. Thank you.)

(* indicates where the congregation may rise -- in body or in spirit.

Responses are in **bold font**.)

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 one of the Offering Plates later in the service.

PRELUDE

Tom DiGiovanni

INTROIT *"The Baby in a Manger Stall"* # 2098 vv. 1 & 2
Congregation is invited to sing along, if you feel so led!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Mardis-LeCroy

MINUTE FOR DISCIPLESHIP

Elder Abbie Conlon

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Ps. 4, interpreted)

Elder Anita Campbell

Answer us when we call, O God.

You give us room when we are in distress.

Be gracious to us and hear our prayers.

We know that you listen deeply.

When we are disturbed and scared, hold us in your care.

Judge us mercifully in the fullness of your grace.

For you we yearn all our days long.

And with you, we know we are destined to rest.

*OPENING HYMN

"Baptized in Water"

492

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom. We confess that we ignore your promised justice. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your peace. In your great mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes.

*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, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for the coming of your Son. Grant us wisdom to see and seek your purposes, and openness to hear what you speak to us today, so that we, too, may prepare the way for Christ. Through the life-giving Holy Spirit we pray, Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING – Genesis 1:1-5

OT, Pg. 1

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“Good King Wenceslas”

- arr. Reginald Jacques

SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

NT, Pg. 60

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON “Baptism of the Lord” The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

ORDINATION and INSTALLATION of OFFICERS

INVITATION (1 Cor. 12:4-7, 27)

There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God’s purpose that is accomplished.

To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good. Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

Elder: Representing the one holy, catholic, and apostolic church, the Session of Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church now Ordains and Installs for active service on their respective boards: **Marlin Quick and Henry Riewerts** as Elders, and **Sherri Wolfe and Sharon Dachisen** as Deacons.

And we now Install for active service on their respective boards: **Mike Lemons, Hope Rupell Duncan, Barb Frinzi and Rich Theurer** as Elders, and **Sue Beacht, Gretchen Alencewicz, Joan Holloway, Sharon Jiorle, Kathy Maso and Joshua Miller** as Deacons.

Pastor: Ordination calls the whole Church to renewed commitment and reminds us all to bear gladly the yoke of Christ given in the covenant of baptism. Let us, therefore, reaffirm our baptismal vows, renouncing all that opposes God and God's rule and affirming the faith of the holy catholic church.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - The Apostles' Creed (in unison)

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.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

TO THE OFFICERS

TO THE CONGREGATION

Do we, the members of the church, accept those named above as Deacons and Elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation, to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? **We do.**

ORDINATION, INSTALLATION PRAYER AND WELCOME TO MINISTRY

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

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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)

Gracious God, we thank you for the gift of baptism. Thank you that in the waters, you call us beloved; and then you call us to be about your business in this world. Take now our gifts, loving God. May they bless the world, in your abundant mercy. In your name we pray, Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"Out of Deep, Unordered Water"

#494

*THE SENDING

CHORAL RESPONSE *"All Shall Come and Bow the Knee"* #2099 v.3
Congregation is invited to sing along, if you feel so led!

POSTLUDE

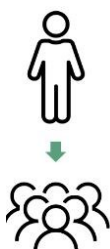
All are welcome to join for fellowship (coffee, tea, juice)
in Memorial Hall following the worship service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, **Sunday, January 4, 2024**, we celebrate the **Baptism of the Lord** 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.)

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: The Pastor or the Administrative Ass't, or both, will be in the church Monday through Thursday, 9:30 am – 1:30 pm. Offices are closed on Fridays.



2024 PER CAPITA: The Presbytery of the Highlands Per Capita for 2024 is **\$42.50 per active member**, which represents *no change* from 2023. Per capita is an opportunity for all members of the presbyterian church to participate equally, responsibly and interdependently by sharing the cost of ministry and mission. Together we can meet our per capita budget amount of \$10,300. If you are able, we encourage you to pay per capita for someone who may not be able to. Thank you!!

LET'S GO BOWLING! All children and their families (Pre-K to elementary school age) are welcome to join the Greenwich Nursery School and Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church for a bowling outing!

Date: Monday, January 15

Time: 10 am - 12 pm

Location: Oakwood Lanes (Washington NJ) **Cost:** \$12/child

Please RSVP to Amy Anderson at director@greenwichnursery.com. You may also register by filling out a form from the table at the back of the church and turning it in to Pastor Mary Beth.

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE! Musicians wanted! Would you like to sing or play an instrument during our Sunday service? Send Tom DiGiovanni an email to start the conversation. digitom@hotmail.com

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:njjmillers@msn.com) with any questions you may have.

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.

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 (973-476-4720) for an invite. Copies available at church.

The LEHIGH VALLEY PHANTOMS Ice Hockey Organization in Allentown would like to have members of our congregation out to a game for a group night. They pride themselves on being a family friendly environment for bonding and a place to connect outside of the typical church setting. They are planning a Faith Night on Sunday, March 3. It will be possible to connect with other churches in the area, as well as having one of the players meet with the churches in attendance to talk about their faith. Ticket prices are \$20- \$30. Transportation will be on your own. If anyone is interested, please sign up in Memorial Hall by the end of January. More information to follow if there is any interest. Please contact Barb Frinzi if you have any questions! Call or text 908-343-1144 or email frinzi3@msn.com.

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 ogpcflowers@gmail.com or 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. (Orders placed months ahead leaves too much chance they will get lost or forgotten!)

HOME COMMUNION: If you would like 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 call or email the church office.

Please pray for: **Tammy and Mike Ludwig, friends of Barb and Charlie Frinzi, whose son Zach was killed on New Year's Eve;**

healing prayers for Mary Pritchard, who was hit by a car a few weeks ago, prayers for healing; prayers of healing for Rainie, daughter of Kathleen Scala's good friend, hit by a car; the family of Robin Glosser's friend, Douglas Risley, who died on 12/1; friend of Dottie Davidson, Jack Adams, who is in the hospital, and his family; those struggling with mental illness and their families; those who struggle with addictions and their families; Anita Campbell, having foot surgery on 1/9; Walt and Anita Campbell's son-in-law's mother, Geraldine Waterman; Susan Jones, and her husband, David; John Oakes, for healing, and his wife, Linda; Sandy & Fritz Hamlin's daughter-in-law, Robin, who has cancer; Carol Lee Doeringer; Stephen Toman; 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

www.ogpc.org

The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy
Katie Rienzo, Office Mgr. & Dir. of Comm.
Harry & Joan Pursel, Sextons
Tom DiGiovanni, Music Dir./Organist

pastor@ogpc.org/515-979-9681
oldgreenwich@ogpc.org/908-479-4449
Jennifer Miller, Clerk of Session
Betsy Gaston, Ass't Music Dir./Choir Dir.
Joshua Miller Media/Comm. Ass't.

