

4th Sunday in Lent

Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

March 10, 2024

10 AM

PRELUDE

Tom DiGiovanni

This Sunday and next, from 9:40am to a little before 10:00am, everyone is welcome to join us in the Prayer Room (right next to the choir room) for a short prayer service. The participants from this service will process into the sanctuary at 10:00am, singing. Folks in the pews, please sing with us:

Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that I am God.

PROCESSIONAL, WELCOME & OPENING SILENCE

Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Ps. 139, excerpts)

Elder Mike Lemons, Liturgist

O God, 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 God, you know it completely.

You hem me in, behind and before,

and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;

it is so high that I cannot attain it.

*OPENING HYMN

"O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High"

83 vv 1,3,5

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

God of mercy, you are full of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in mercy, and always ready to pardon. Forgive us, help us, set us free. Grant us grace to renounce that which keeps us from you, and to cling to Christ instead. It is in His holy name we pray.

*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

*LENTEN HYMN

"Open Unto Me"

- words: H. Thurman, tune: R. Bruxvoort

Open unto me joy for my sorrow

Open unto me strength for my weakness

Open unto me light for my darkness

Joy for my sorrow, open unto me

Strength for my weakness, open unto me

Light for my darkness, open unto me

Open unto me joy for my sorrow

Open unto me strength for my weakness

Open unto me light for my darkness

Open unto me, O God

Open unto me, O God

Open unto me, O God

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Elder Lisa Kolterjahn

ANTHEM

"Seek Ye the Lord"

- by Benjamin Harlan

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

O Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scripture is read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you are speaking to us this day. Amen!

SCRIPTURE READING - John 3:14-21

NT p. 94

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"For God So Loved the World..."

Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

MUSICAL REFLECTION

- Tom DiGiovanni

OFFERING

Offertory

"Lenten Doxology"

- words: R.G. Huff, tune: J. Sibelius



*Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

We praise you, God, for you are gracious. You have loved us from the beginning of time and remember us when we are in trouble. Take now these offerings. We step towards you in giving them up. By your grace, help us to move ever closer, ever deeper, into your love. Through Christ we pray, Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley"

80

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

"Kyrie"

2275

Congregation is invited to sing along, if you feel so led!

POSTLUDE

All are welcome to join us in Fellowship Hall (follow the crowd! And the coffee smell!) for refreshments and fellowship!

The flowers this week are from the Board of Deacons, Carl Guthardt and Meg Hickman in honor of their beloved member, friend and Aunt, Phyllis Dietz. Read more about Phyllis in the Announcements below.

Announcements

Today, **Sunday, March 10, 2024**, we celebrate the **4th Sunday in Lent** at a 10 am worship service with Pastor 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.

USHER TEAM SCHEDULE: Mar 10, Team 3; March 17, Team 4

PHYLLIS FOOSE DIETZ 2/22/1925 - 3/3/2024, lived 99 years and 10 days. Phyllis was born at the family ancestral home in what is now known as Finesville, NJ. The home was one of 7 built by ancestor, Benjamin Seigle (area known then as Seigletown) along the Musconetcong River. It is thought that Phyllis was the longest and oldest recent member of Old Greenwich PC as she was christened here, along with older and younger brothers, Benjamin and Francis, as were her 3 children. She was the 1st woman Deacon of OGPC. She was buried in Greenwich Cemetery, along with other generations of family. She was strong, creative, and fiercely loyal to family and friends. She is loved and will be missed.

UPCOMING NEW MEMBER CLASS! Ready to learn more about what it means to be a member here? Lucky you! OGPC is offering a new member class on Sunday, April 21 from 11:15 am to 12:30 pm. All are welcome, even if you just want to learn more (joining the church is not obligatory!) Please contact Elder Barb Frinzi at frinzi3@msn.com or Pastor Mary Beth at pastormarybeth@gmail.com to learn more.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH - Support the Open Cupboard Food Pantry & Thrift Shop in recovering from a recent fire by donating gift cards. This nonprofit organization assists those struggling to afford food for themselves and their families in Hunterdon and Warren County. Due to damage from the fire, they are only accepting Shoprite gift cards now. Please consider purchasing a Shoprite gift card and bringing it to church to assist our neighbors facing food insecurity. For inquiries, reach out to Sharon Smith at ssmith@nhweb.net.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES: We have two different age group Sunday Schools: Pre-K / Elementary School, and Middle / High School.

Pre-K/Elementary meets every Sunday (except the first Sunday of the month). Children will worship with their families until after Time with the Young Church when they will be dismissed to their classrooms.

Middle/High School meets on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month from 9 to 9:40 in Room 22. Elder Jen Miller and Pastor Mary Beth are co-teaching a class on Welcome.

BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY will meet at College Hill PC (501 Brodhead St, Easton, PA), Wednesday, March 13. Don't miss this special intergenerational potluck fellowship co-hosted by OGPC and College Hill Presbyterian. Each session will include fellowship, an exploration of the Gospel of Mark, music and prayer. Kids activities included. Bring a dish to share (optional!) 5:30 to 7 PM.

JAZZ GOES TO CHURCH, Palm Sunday, March 24. Join us for a spirited, joyful 10 AM Jazz Goes to Church service. Hannah Marks will be joining us with her band: Miranda Agnew on trumpet, Mitch Selib on guitar and Vinnie Sperazza on drums. Bring your friends and family!

THE OGPC BOOK CLUB begins its Spring session on Thursday, April 11. This session we're reading "The Alchemist" by Paulo Coelho. The book club meets in the Resource Room on Thursdays from 6 PM to 7:30. For more information, see Pastor Mary Beth or Elder George Bradlau. Book club is for members and non-members alike, so invite your friends and neighbors!

THE CHURCH CARE AND KINSHIP committee is hosting an Easter Sunday breakfast at **8 AM** in Memorial Hall on **Easter Sunday, March 31st**. Homemade egg casseroles will be served. Please join us!

CCK will also have an Old Bible display in Memorial Hall along with a potluck luncheon on **Sunday April 14th**. Please contact Barb Frinzi (908-343-1144 or frinzi3@msn.com) if you have an old Bible that we can display! We will take very good care of them! Bring something delicious to share with others at the luncheon too!

Get your order in for EASTER FLOWERS! Easter flowers are purchased by the congregation to decorate the church at the price of \$12 each. They are then taken to our Special People, members who are ill or homebound. You can also take them home after the service. The order form is in the entryway. Please make checks payable to "OGPC Deacons" and include payment with order form. Forms may be put in the collection plates during the service or mailed to the church office. Questions? Contact Rob Todd at 908-235-9322 / ogpclfowers@gmail.com.

Prayers, Thanksgiving and Contemplation

This week we pray for: the family of Melissa Lunger, Melissa passed away tragically this week; James, who is struggling with mental health issues; Sandra Moyer, Linda Easterly's sister-in-law in Kentucky has a mass and will be going in for a biopsy; Tom and Kathy Finnegan; Barb Martin, who is having heart surgery and her family; for Patty Tocci; for lifelong OGPC member Phyllis Dietz's family and friends, as we grieve her death; for Jack Wollman, who has been in and out of the hospital, for strength for Jack, and also for his wife Donna; Sandy Frey's father, Glen, who is having health problems; Sue Beacht's sister, Betsy, who is facing an upcoming surgery; Edith Slamp, recovering from a recent hospital stay; Lizzy and John Columbus' daughter Chloe who will be having a procedure March 20; Sandy Friedman's mother, Jeanne Cole, who will be having a pacemaker installed; Lisa Gray's husband Ray, whose brother died; prayers also for Lisa Gray, whose sister-in-law died; Sue Dalrymple's partner John, for healing and resting; prayers for Wendy Theurer as she grieves the death of her sister, Elaine, and prayers for Elaine's loved ones. Continue to pray for Debbie Mowrey's sister Brenda, who has suffered a second stroke, as well as her sister Kathy. Prayers for Joan Pursel and her sister Karen, who is in hospice care in Arizona. Prayers for Tammy and Mike Ludwig, friends of Barb and Charlie Frinzi, whose son Zach was killed on New Year's Eve. Pray for those struggling with mental illness and those who struggle with addictions and their families. Pray for Sandy & Fritz Hamlin's daughter-in-law, Robin, who has cancer; prayers for Stephen Toman. Continue to pray for our homebound members; those serving in our Armed Forces; the citizens of Ukraine and the citizens of Israel and Palestine.



Old Greenwich
Presbyterian Church

Our Church's Mission
To celebrate the love of God in all we say and do.

"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

Joshua Miller Media/Comm. Ass't.

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.

