



EASTER SUNDAY

Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

March 31, 2024

10 AM

Welcome all! 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 in front of you) with your contact information. If you have a prayer request, there is room on the reverse of the card for you to write requests. You may place the card in an offering plate later in the service.

PRELUDE

Tom DiGiovanni

WELCOME

The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

CHORAL INTROIT

"He is King of Kings"

153 v.3

*CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

Elder George Bradlau, Liturgist

Glory to you, O God: on this day you won victory over death, raising Jesus from the grave and giving us eternal life!

Glory to you, O God!

Glory to you, O Christ: for us and for our salvation, you overcame death and opened the gate to everlasting life!

Glory to you, O Christ!

Glory to you, O Holy Spirit: you lead us into the truth and breathe new life into us this very day!

Glory to you, O Holy Spirit!

Glory to you, O Blessed Trinity, now and forever!

Glory to you, O Holy Trinity!

People of God, let us pray.

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive, and has become the Lord of life! From the waters of death you raise us with him, and renew your gift of life within us. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ and help us to grow as your people toward fullness of life with you, through Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!

*OPENING HYMN

"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

123

Aiden O'Shea, Trumpet

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to resentments and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak and abuse the earth you have made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant, given to us through Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord!

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***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 OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Elder Jennifer Miller

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Holy Spirit, Creator of all, the Risen Christ taught from scripture of his death and resurrection to new life. May the living Lord now breathe upon us his peace, that our eyes may be opened to recognize him in the reading and hearing of the Word, and to follow where he leads. Amen!

SCRIPTURE READING – Isaiah 25:6-9

OT, p. 652

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

"Christus Resurrexit"

- Albrect & Althouse

SCRIPTURE READING – Mark 16:1-8

NT, p. 54

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Jesus Out There"

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

*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)

Brightness of God's glory and image of God's person: as you have shared our vulnerability in human flesh, help us to share your power in the Spirit. Bless these gifts we give back to you, and bless our very lives so that they may bless this whole world. Fill our church, and our world, with resurrection life. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen!

***CLOSING HYMN**

"Lift High the Cross"

371

***THE SENDING**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Reprise: "Christus Resurrexit"

Albrect & Althouse

***POSTLUDE**

"Hallelujah Chorus"

Handel

Please join the choir in singing the Hallelujah Chorus!

Easter Egg Hunt on the lawn after service and all are welcome to join us (follow the crowd! And the coffee smell!) for refreshments after service!

Announcements

Today, **Sunday, March 31, 2024**, we celebrate **Easter Sunday** 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: March 31, Team 2; April 7, Team 3

WELCOME TO OUR GUEST ARTIST: Aiden O'Shea is a freshman at Rutgers University studying engineering. In his spare time, he enjoys playing trumpet, piano and guitar. We are so blessed to have him join us for the third consecutive Easter celebration at OGPC. Aiden will be playing during the hymns as well as the Choir Anthem.

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 Shoprite gift cards. This nonprofit organization assists those struggling to afford food for themselves and their families in Hunterdon and Warren County. A basket for the gift cards is in the entryway of the sanctuary. Questions? Contact Elder Sharon Smith at ssmith@nhweb.net.

We are collecting meat and cheese ziti in 9x6 aluminum containers with cardboard lids through April 7. Please bring your ziti in a labeled container and drop it off in the church freezer.

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.

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 Old Bible display in Memorial Hall along with a potluck luncheon on **Sunday April 14th**. Please contact Elder 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!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN of the HIGHLANDS are hosting their Spring Gathering where they will be exploring the Christian perspective on immigration. April 13, at the Parish House of Morristown Church, 65 South Street, Morristown, NJ. 9:30 Registration, 10:00 Speaker, 12:00 Lunch 1:30 to 2 Worship. Register with Doris Christians at dorischristians64@gmail.com. \$5 collected at the door for lunch.

DRUMS! Betsy Gaston will be leading Rejoicing Rhythms drum workshops on April 21, 28 and May 5, from 11:15-11:45 AM. Meet in the choir room with a love of rhythm and a smile. The group will perform with our congregational hymns on Sunday, May 12. All ages and levels of experience are welcome!

TURN JUNK INTO TREASURE! Have treasures that need a new home or in search of treasures? Join us **Saturday, May 4 from 9 to 1.** Vendors reserve a table by **April 15** for \$10, clean out your attic and basement, doors open at 7:30 AM to set up. Items not taken must be brought home. Shoppers \$5 for admission, take whatever you'd like for free. No limit. Questions? Contact turnjunkintotreasure@yahoo.com or call the church office. Sponsored by the Deacons.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER OPEN HOUSE - The Christian Education Committee will be hosting an open house on **Sunday April 28** after worship for anyone that is interested in being a Sunday School Teacher in the '24/'25 Sunday School Year. We will present a sample lesson, go over what is expected of teachers, and answer any questions that you may have. Contact Elder Lisa Kolterjahn at lkolterjahn88@gmail.com with questions.

SPECIAL MUSIC EVENT - Join us **Saturday, May 11** for a special concert by the Grace Notes Gospel Big Band. The **Grace Notes Gospel Big Band** is a group of musicians and singers from all areas and denominations of the Lehigh Valley dedicated to spreading God's word through music. Enjoy the concert as they combine standard hymn favorites with today's praise and worship music. Potluck at 6 PM, concert begins at 7:30 PM!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! VBS 2024 will be June 17-20 from 5pm-8pm and will include dinner. Our theme this year is "Start the Party". More info to come.

BASEBALL SEASON IS HERE! The 8th annual Iron Pigs baseball group outing is **Saturday, July 20 at 6:35 p.m.** We have 50 seats reserved at the upper Club level again this year. Tickets are \$17/person - children 2 years and under are free if they sit on an adult's lap. Access to air conditioning. Deadline is Sunday, May 19! Tickets are going fast! Questions? Contact either Anita or Walt Campbell at 908-479-4737 (land line) or via email at souptime2222@gmail.com.

OGPC is blessed to host a multitude of recovery meetings throughout the week: Monday, Tuesday, Friday 7:30; Women's meeting Thursday 7:30; Sunday 3:00; Friday 7 ACoA.

Prayers, Thanksgiving and Contemplation

This week we pray for: Trish Millon who is having a procedure for her back, for healing and comfort; Bill Millan, for healing, and sustaining prayers for Bill's spouse Susan, both members of OGPC Book Club; Mary Beth's good friend Valerie Miller-Coleman, whose mother Marilyn Miller died on March 23, for Valerie's father and Marilyn's husband, Dave, along with the whole family; for Debbie Smith, in the hospital fighting an infection; for those affected by the bridge collapse in Baltimore; for Lisa Kolterjahn as she heals from a procedure; for Betsy and Bruce Gaston's dear friends Kim and Steve O'Shall. Kim's mother died on 3/28; Joan Pursel, whose sister died, prayers for Joan and her family; Emily Brown (Al and Lorraine's granddaughter) and her fiancé, Joe Kelly. Joe's grandmother Jayne Kelly died suddenly on March 7; Betsy Gaston's sister-in-law, Edna, facing a long recovery from a recent surgery; the people of Haiti as they face hardship and political unrest; the family of Melissa Lunger, Melissa passed away tragically recently; 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; Lizzy and John Columbus' daughter Chloe recovering from a procedure; Sandy Friedman's mother, Jeanne Cole; Sue Dalrymple's partner John, for healing and resting. Continue to pray for Debbie Mowrey's sister Brenda, who has suffered a second stroke, as well as her sister Kathy. Prayers for Tammy and Mike Ludwig, friends of Barb and Charlie Frinzi, whose son Zach was killed. 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.

Easter Flower Dedications

Name	Dedication
Emily Brown	In Memory of Jayne Kelly In Memory of Carol Elting
Kathy Huff	In Memory of Loved Ones
Howard Bell	In Memory of Sharon Bell
Sue Moore	In Honor of Bill & Dee Moore
Amy Ahart & Tom DiGiovanni	In Honor of Kathryn & James DiGiovanni In Honor of Catherine & Ed Ahart In Memory of William Monteverdi, Marco DiGiovanni, & Bob Roberts In Memory of Florence & Edward F. Ahart In Memory of Endress Folk
Maddie, Ellie, Mia, Lucy, Wyatt, Scarlett, & Esparanza	In Honor of: Moma & PopPop Ahart
Marlin & Sally Quick	In Memory of Melanie Hrynyk Quick
Cathy & Ed Ahart	In Memory of F. Edward & Florence Ahart In Memory of Endress H. Folk, Jr. & Sr. In Memory of Ruth & Harry S. Pursel In Memory of Freda Scheetz & Frances Ward
Susan & Cheryl Tintle	In Celebration of Bob Tintle
Ralph Wolverton	In Memory of Bessie & Paul Wolverton
Robin Glosser	In Memory of Vorhees & Rush Families In Memory of Teri Lea Whitney & Sam Bartha
Fritz & Sandy Hamlin	In Memory of Fred & Fran Hamlin, Evelyn Gyarmaty
Lisa Gray	In Memory of George Gray In Memory of Pam Giovannetti In Memory of Julia & Ed Giovannetti
Sue Zarrelli	To the Glory of God
John & Linda Oakes	In Memory of Our Parents
Al & Lorraine Brown	In Memory of Jeffrey Alan Brown In Memory of Joseph, Emily, & Joseph Brown, Jr. In Memory of Earl, Ruth, & Regina Malson
Kinsley & Addison Fell	In Memory of Pop Pop Metz In Honor of Mima Metz In Celebration of Grandma & Grandpa Fell

Barbara & Kurt Grimm	In Celebration of Our Families In Celebration of Pastor Mary Beth
Barb & Charlie Frinzi	In Memory of F. Edward & Florence Ahart In Memory of Joseph & Minnie Frinzi
Anonymous	In Celebration of Our Victory Through Christ Jesus
Chris Mette	In Memory of Cora Mette & Thorrald Stole
Christina Schulman	To the Glory of God
Sharon Jiorle	To our grandchildren Caroline, Josephine and Peter To the Glory of our Lord and King
Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy	In joyful celebration of all God is doing at OGPC



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.

