

Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

6th Sunday of Easter
May 10, 2026
10 AM

Welcome to worship at Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church! No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Children of ALL ages are welcome to stay for the entire service, but, if you choose, we offer nursery care on Sundays during worship for kids age 4 and under (downstairs, Room 14 - ask an usher if you are unsure where to go! Please arrive before 10:20am). We also offer Sunday School during worship, after the Time with the Young Church (except on 1st Sundays), for PreK-5th grade. Also! There are little bags in the back of the sanctuary filled with all sorts of fun crafts for kids of all ages! Feel free to grab one and be creative!

PRELUDE

Tom DiGiovanni

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

CHORAL INTROIT

"Invocation"

Rollo Dilworth

In honor of Betsy's last day as Choir Director, we're singing some of her favorite anthems and hymns!

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Ps. 150)

Angie Peardon, Liturgist

Praise the LORD! Praise God in the sanctuary; praise God in the mighty firmament!

Praise God for mighty deeds; praise God according to such surpassing greatness!

Praise God with trumpet sound; praise God with lute and harp!

Praise God with tambourine and dance; praise God with strings and pipe!

Praise God with clanging cymbals; praise God with loud clashing cymbals!

Let everything that breathes praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

*OPENING HYMN

"When in Our Music God is Glorified"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 264 vv. 1, 2, 4

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Heavenly Creator, you knew us before we were born. You created us for relationship with you, yet we so often turn away from your goodness and mercy. You call us higher, but we hide behind excuses. You offer help, but we rely on our own understanding. Forgive us, Lord. Call us again. Invite us again. Help us again. Heal us again. You promise that those who seek will find, and for those who knock, you will open the door. In Jesus we pray these things.

***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 OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Elder Samantha Hillier

After Time with the Young Church, all children PreK-Elementary school are invited to go with their teachers into the Resource Room for an engaging, and fun, Sunday School class!

*HYMN

"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 562 vv. 1, 3

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Come, Holy Spirit, and illumine your Word for your people. We are waiting. We are listening. And we want to act. Through Christ we pray, Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING - John 14:15-21

New Testament, p. 109

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Sing and Shout Praises"

- Eric Stover

SCRIPTURE READING - Genesis 28:1-22

Old Testament, p. 24

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Every Good Gift"

Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

BLESSING OF BETSY GASTON

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Tom DiGiovanni

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Many Presbyterians (though not all!) pray the following prayer saying "debts and debtors," but you are invited to pray the Lord's Prayer/Our Father any way you know it and love it best! (debts/ trespasses/ sins/ etc!)

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

Call to Offering

Offering

God loves us so much. As a response to God's love, we are invited to give back. If you'd like to give to God through the mission of this church here and in the world, use the QR code to donate, or use the Welcome Envelopes in the pews.

*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

Gracious God, how wonderful are your works! How beautiful are the gifts you give to your servants! We pour out ourselves to you, O God, the best way we know how. We thank you for all your gifts, and we pray that they would be used for your glory. Take our gifts into the world, that they may bless all of creation. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

"Here I am Lord"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 525

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

"Auld Lang Syne"

Bruce Gaston, hands

""God Be With You Til We Meet Again"

-arr. Joseph Martin

*This version of 'God Be With You' was dedicated to the Glory of God and to the Chancel Choir of Old Greenwich;
Rev. David W. Jones, Elizabeth (Betsy) Gaston; and Thomas A. DiGiovanni by Joseph Martin.*

This is such a meaningful dedication because the composer, William Tomer, attended our church and composed this hymn in 1880. When Joseph Martin was our guest choral conductor in 2009, he learned of our connection to Tomer and decided to compose this special arrangement and dedicate it to our choir. Many of us sang it while part of a massed choir traveling with Joe Martin to Germany and France in 2011. Betsy had the honor of conducting it while performing at a church in Kaiserslautern and in the Heidelberg Cathedral.

POSTLUDE

Join us for refreshments, and to celebrate Betsy with CAKE! Follow the crowds and the smell of coffee!!

The flowers are from Sharon and Peter Dachisen, dedicated to all the mothers and caregivers in our congregation.

Announcements

Today, **Sunday, May 10, 2026**, we celebrate the sixth Sunday of Easter at our 10 AM online worship service with Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy. The service will be streamed on our Facebook Live feed at "Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church." You can also find live streams, past services and other content on our YouTube channel (search Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church).

USHER TEAM SCHEDULE: May 10, Team 2; May 17, Team 3

JOIN US AFTER WORSHIP FOR FELLOWSHIP AND REFRESHMENTS IN MEMORIAL HALL! This week hosted by: Cathy Ahart, join us for refreshments to celebrate Betsy Gaston's last day; next week hosted by Bruce & Sandy Frey. If you'd like to host, sign up in Memorial Hall or contact Barb Grimm at 908 578 1273. Barb will happily answer questions about hosting fellowship!

SAVE THE DATE for our annual CHURCH PICNIC Sunday AUGUST 30! More details to come!

COLLECTING SUPPLIES FOR A SELFLESS SERVICE PROJECT FOR YOUTH - We are collecting supplies for "Summer Fun" sling bags to be distributed to the Firth Youth Center.

We will be collecting the following, May 10 through June 7, to be dropped off in the green room: youth sunglasses, sidewalk chalk, bubbles, jump ropes, beach balls, water balloons, and glow sticks. Questions? Contact Melissa Hixon at melissahixon24@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY MISSION - Thank you to everyone who contributed to last month's Pack the Purse collection. In May, we'll be collecting menstrual supplies. Access to these essential items isn't always guaranteed, and for many people they can be difficult to afford or obtain—creating real barriers to daily life. Thursday, May 28 is International Menstrual Hygiene Day, and we plan to deliver our donations to a local

organization on that date. Please drop off your items in the Green Room anytime before **Wednesday, May 27**. Contact Sharon Smith (sharonwsmith.08@gmail.com) with any questions.

Poet, preacher and songwriter Donovan McAbee is preaching at OGPC! You won't want to miss it! **Sunday June 21 at 10AM**, followed by a discussion/poetry reading of his new book in Memorial Hall. Donovan's work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *TIME magazine*, *The Hudson Review*, etc. Donovan grew up in a small town in South Carolina, in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. He holds a Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary (where he and Pastor MB lived on the same hall their first year!), and a PhD in Creative Writing and Contemporary Poetry from the University of St Andrews in Scotland. He lives in Nashville, Tennessee with his wife and their two children. His poetry collection *Holy the Body* was published by Texas Review Press in March 2026. Invite your friends and neighbors!!

Second training for visiting ministries to be offered at OGPC! Back by popular demand... College Hill Presbyterian Church and Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church are joining forces once again to provide a training for anyone who might be interested in becoming a part of a community that visits members and friends of the church, including shut-ins. All are welcome to join Pastor Mary Beth and Pastor Matt at OGPC (Prayer Room) on **Wednesday May 27 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm** (You can come even if you're not sure you want to be involved in the ministry!) Questions? Email pastormarybeth@gmail.com.

Greenwich Cemetery Remembrance Services All are welcome to join us for an afternoon of reflection, prayer, and comfort as we remember loved ones laid to rest at Greenwich Cemetery. **Saturday, June 13, 2026 at 2:00 PM and Saturday, December 5, 2026 at 2:00 PM** led by our very own **Pastor Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy** Location: Greenwich Cemetery, 15 Greenwich Church Rd., Stewartsville, NJ 08886. Come as you are and join us in remembrance.

WILDFLOWER WELLNESS is offering Spring classes for children ages 1 - 8 and their caregivers. These welcoming, nature-inspired classes encourage children of all abilities and ages to explore, learn, and play in an immersive outdoor setting. Pop up classes available! See their website for more information: wildflowersflourish.com.

PENTECOST/JAZZ GOES TO CHURCH! Jazz Goes to Church with NYC-based musicians Hannah Marks and her band! Join us for joyful worship! **All are welcome!** Pentecost Sunday, May 24 2026, 10 AM.

Bags for kids in the back! Feel free to grab a bag in the back of the sanctuary! For kids of all ages... coloring, etc! Be creative! (Ask an usher to help you locate one if need be).

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN - the Presbytery of Highlands is offering some Spring Events:

- May 23 @ 10:30 AM at Well-Swept Herb Farm Port Murray NJ "A Morning of Learning" PW will cover the fee. Bring your own lunch for a picnic.
- May 30 @ 9 AM (program begins 9:30 AM) "The PWP Spring Gathering "Dimensions of Women's Wellness" Contact Lisa Gray for details to carpool.
- June 18-20 @ 4PM Stony Point Conference Center Thursday - Saturday, New PW Bible Study Training (retreat) for Leaders (or anyone) "United through Christ, Bound to Each Other." Scholarships are available, more info on church bulletin board. Email jkmac3536@gmail.com for room info, registration \$400-\$600

Contact Lisa Gray for more info or carpooling 973-476-4720 Lisa_A_Gray@outlook.com

How can we care for you? "Where two or three gather in my name, there I am with them" (Matt 18:20). Would you, or would someone you know, like a visit from a church member or our pastor? Would you, or someone you know, like to take holy communion at your home? Are you struggling with something you'd

like to talk and pray about? Do you simply need a ride to church? If you answered "yes" to any of those questions, we are here for you! Please reach out to Elder Lisa Gray at Lisa_a_gray@outlook.com for home communion. Reach out to Deacon Sharon Jiorle at sjiorle1@verizon.net if you would like a general, or even regular, visit from someone at the church, or if you would like a ride to church. And contact Pastor Mary Beth at pastormarybeth@gmail.com for anything else... Let us care for you and the people you love!

DEACON SCHOLARSHIPS - The Reverend Richard B. Gibbins Scholarships provide financial assistance to members of Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church. Scholarships are available to members who have been accepted to a college, university, trade school, or other post-secondary institution, as well as to members/youth wishing to attend Johnsonburg as campers or counselors.

Paper applications are available at the back of church. Online applications can be found on our website under Who We Are > Deacons. Applications are due **May 18th**.

The CCK Committee (church care and kinship committee) is reorganizing and looking for volunteers who enjoy planning and implementing fun events and entertainment for church members. This group traditionally has planned the church picnic, potlucks, and outings to promote fellowship through fun activities. If this sounds like something you would enjoy being a part of, please contact Sue Schisler @ 908-763-0886. (Previous CCK members and new members are all welcome!)

ANNUAL BASEBALL GAME OUTING! Some tickets remain for the Iron Pigs game on **Saturday, August 15, 2026** in Allentown, PA. Contact Anita/Walt Campbell at 908-479-4737 or souptime2222@gmail.com for details. Order and pay by **Sunday, May 24, 2026**.

Sign up to be a lay reader on our website at ogpc.org >> Worship and Music >> Sign up to be a Lay Reader. It's easy, we tell you exactly what to say! Questions? Call or text Lisa Gray 973-476-4720

"Wee" Connect Playgroup Tuesdays from 9 AM to 10 AM! Our church has joined forces with Greenwich Nursery School to offer a weekly playgroup for families with kids PreK and under! "Wee" Connect is **held Tuesdays from 9:00 to 10:00 am**. Tell your friends and family! Questions? Please contact Joan Holloway at jhollow@ptd.net or Sue Zarelli at sjzarrelli@gmail.com.

"Fit Where You Sit" Chair Yoga! For 60+, - in partnership with the Warren County Division of Aging. Meets Mondays from 1:30 to 2:30 PM in Memorial Hall. Suggested donation is \$1 a class (feel free to give more. Donations help the church support the community). ALL 60+ folks are welcome! Tell your friends and neighbors... this is a community offering! **Please note that there is no yoga May 18 or May 25 (Memorial Day).**

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES

PreK-5th Grade Sunday School. All 5th graders and under, meet during worship for fun activities, prayer, Bible, and games! PreK-5th Grade Sunday School is held every Sunday, during worship (except for the first Sundays of each month). We have great teachers, great kids, and are having another great year together! Questions? Please email Elder Lisa at lkolterjahn88@gmail.com or Elder Samantha at samanthajhillier@gmail.com.

6th-12th Grade Youth Sunday School meets from 9:00am to 9:40am, every 2nd and 4th Sundays, in Room 22 (right next to the pastor's office). Our youth Sunday School teachers are Pastor Mary Beth and Elder Hope Duncan. Questions? Email Hope at hopeld5@yahoo.com.

Fish 'n Chyps Joint Youth Group with College Hill 6th-12th graders (and their friends and neighbors) are all invited to join with the youth of College Hill Presbyterian Church (501 Brodhead St, Easton PA)

every first and third Sunday from 6:00 to 7:30pm for fellowship, prayer, and games/activities!! Please contact Mary Beth at pastormarybeth@gmail.com for more information, or to carpool.

DON'T FORGET TO WEAR YOUR NAMETAGS! Don't have a nametag? See Katie Rienzo or email oldgreenwich@ogpc.org. Anyone can request a nametag!

OGPC is blessed to host a multitude of recovery meetings throughout the week: AA Monday, Tuesday, Friday 7:30; Sunday 3:00; Tuesday and Friday 7:00 ACoA.

Prayers, Thanksgiving and Contemplation

This week we pray for: Tim and Sue Gardner; Emma Bazylewicz, Katie Rienzo's niece, having surgery related to epilepsy in May; Al Marino, having surgery to repair a torn Achilles; Patty, friend and colleague of the Freys, whose mother died suddenly; Sue Beacht's friends Bill and Joyce, and their whole family, as Bill has been fighting cancer and is now in hospice care.; Adrienne and Debbie Carbin, who are also praying for our church; for Poppy Brown, Grammy, Bodmi and Joe Kelly's Uncle Jeff; Grethen Alencewicz's brother, Brad Keller, struggling with health issues related to diabetes; Gwen and Lou Johnson, facing health issues; for David Jones, and his sons Rob and Evan as they grieve Susan Jones' death; the people of Lebanon, displaced and afraid; for all the Gulf Countries; the citizens of Iran and surrounding countries; for decision-makers everywhere; prayers for peace; for Sharon and Craig Smith and their whole family, as Craig faces health challenges; prayers for strength and healing for Barb Frinzi; for Karen and Jim Savacool; the people of Venezuela, for God's justice, mercy, and sustaining presence for those who are suffering and afraid; for Sudan; for Ukraine; for those struggling with mental illness and those who struggle with addictions and their families; continue to pray for our homebound members; those serving in our Armed Forces.



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 Manager & Dir. of Communication
Harry & Joan Pursel, Sextons
Tom DiGiovanni, Music Director/Organist
Betsy Gaston, Assistant Music Director/Choir Director
Julie Raffety, Bookkeeper

pastor@ogpc.org/515-979-9681
oldgreenwich@ogpc.org/908-479-4449
Leslie Strozeski, Financial Secretary
Melissa Hixon, Clerk of Session
Joshua Miller, Media/Communication Assistant

Use the QR code to donate to Old Greenwich if you have the PayPal app. Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a significant difference. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to our community.

