

Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

Pentecost
May 24, 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!

EXTENDED PRELUDE

Jazz Goes to Church

Hannah Marks, bass; Julius Gawlik, tenor sax; Rahul Carlberg, piano; Steven Crammer, drums

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Ps. 150)

Elder Rich Theurer

Halleluja! Lobet den HERRN in seinem Heiligtum; lobet ihn in der Feste seiner Macht!

Hallelujah! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!

Lobet ihn in seinen Taten; lobet ihn in seiner großen HERRlichkeit!

Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

Lobet ihn mit Posaunen; lobet ihn mit Psalter und Harfen!

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

Lobet ihn mit Pauken und Reigen; lobet ihn mit Saiten und Pfeifen!

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

Lobet ihn mit hellen Zimbeln; lobet ihn mit wohlklingenden Zimbeln!

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

Alles, was Odem hat, lobe den HERRN! Halleluja!

Let everything that breathes praise the LORD! Hallelujah!

*OPENING HYMN

"The Lone, Wild Bird"
The Presbyterian Hymnal # 320

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Elder Ed Ahart

O Dios, es tan facil perder el camino.

O God, it is so easy to stray from the best we know.

Sin darnos cuenta, nos perdemos en nuestros temores; las sombras de la vida nos controlan; vivimos preocupados por nuestro sufrimiento persona.

Before we realize it, we are lost in our fears, dominated by life's shadows, preoccupied with our own suffering.

Nos quejamos de nuestra suerte, a pesar de que nuestras copas rebosan de tu bondad y misericordia.

We complain of our lot, even though our cups overflow with your goodness and mercy.

Nos damos tentativamente, somos seguidores ineficientes.

We are reluctant givers and ineffective followers.

Cámbiamos, Señor, queremos ser tus discípulos.

Turn us around, God, for we want to be disciples.

Amen.

***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**

UNITING WITH THE CONGREGATION - Caleb Pritchard & Lily Pritchard (2026 confirmands)

Through baptism, we enter the covenant God has established. In that covenant God gives us new life; in that covenant, we are guarded from evil and nurtured by the love of God and God's people!

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? **I do, with God's help.**

Who is your Lord and Savior? **Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you devote yourself to the church's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers? **I will, with God's help.**

***THE CONFIRMANDS' CREED**

This creed, or statement of faith, was written by the confirmation class of 2026.

We believe in one God - three Persons:

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We believe in God the Father:

**Powerful, Lover, the One Who builds community,
Who forgives, Who makes everyone equal in God's image,
Who gives us one community,
Who acts with justice and mercy.**

We believe in God in Christ:

**Who comes to us in the human, Jesus,
Powerful and vulnerable,
Who is always with us,
Welcoming with open arms, loving and forgiving,
Healing the sick, guiding us.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:
Strong and warm, Renewer of life, welcoming,
Who sets us free to accept ourselves,
Comforting and confronting,
Ruler of Faith,
Who calls us with others to freedom, justice and peace.

We believe in the Body of Christ, the Church:
Welcoming and accepting, being together as one,
Listening to the Word, praying, fellowship-ing,
Being with family,
Being with strangers who become family,
Celebrating the Sacraments, baptism and communion.

To God be the glory, forever! Amen!

***WELCOME**

As your new family, we welcome you to the ministry and mission of this part of the body of Christ!
From this day forward, may the bonds of Christian love between us be strengthened and deepened,
and may we stir one another up to love and good works, that together we may fulfill the purposes to
which God has called us.

MUSICAL REFLECTION I

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Sam Immanuel

God our helper, by your Holy Spirit, open our minds that as the Scripture is read and your Word is
proclaimed, we may be led into your truth, and taught your will, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

SCRIPTURE READING - Acts 2:1-13, New Testament p. 119

Sunitha John

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Pentecost!"

Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

MUSICAL REFLECTION II

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

Please pray the Lord's Prayer in any language you love - your own, or a new one! There are different translations of the Lord's Prayer strewn throughout the sanctuary...!

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!

Pastor



Praise God above, ye heavenly host! Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication (English translation)

Patty Verdeja

Holy Spirit, you are God, and you are welcome here. Thank you for dwelling in our hearts. As you fall upon us this day, ignite in us a passion that breaks through fear and compels us to share the Good News with boldness! We submit our lives, our ministries, our desires and our offerings to you. Strengthen us to be your hands and feet, bringing your love and mercy to a world in need. Make us a fiery witness for Christ, today and always. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen!

***CLOSING HYMN**

"Spirit of God, Unleashed on Earth"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 124

***BENEDICTION**

EXTENDED POSTLUDE

Jazz Goes to Church

All are welcome to join us for refreshments! Follow the crowds and the smell of coffee!!

Announcements

Today, **Sunday, May 24, 2026**, we celebrate Pentecost and Jazz Goes to Church 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 24, Team 4, May 31, Team 5

JOIN US AFTER WORSHIP FOR FELLOWSHIP AND REFRESHMENTS IN MEMORIAL HALL! This week hosted by: Sue Beacht; next week hosted by Sharon Dachisen. 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!

PLEASE WELCOME OUR GUEST MUSICIANS TODAY: Hannah Marks on the bass, Rahul Carlberg on the piano, Steven Crammer on the drums and Julius Gawlik on the tenor saxophone!

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.

Save the Dates - June 15-17 for Vacation Bible School. VBS at OGPC is back and we are so excited for it! Come explore God's love on a Tropical Trek with us! More info to come in the next few weeks!

Mark your calendars and tell your friends about the Blessing of the Animals service!! Sunday, June 28th, 10:00 a.m., short service in Memorial Hall. Bring your animals, large and small, or a picture or relic you would like blessed. Invite your friends and neighbors!!

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 (sharonsmith.08@gmail.com) with any questions.

This summer we are partnering with the Firth Youth Center to help transport lunch and dinner meals from local restaurants to locations throughout the Phillipsburg area. We are looking for volunteers to pick up pre-ordered, prepaid meals from designated restaurants and deliver them to assigned locations. Slots are available for Thursday lunch and Tuesday and Thursday dinners. Contact Sharon Smith for details: sharonsmith.08@gmail.com. Or sign up using the QR code. Thank you for supporting this important summer outreach effort!



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!!

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.

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 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

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

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. Deadline to order and pay is **TODAY**.

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

Starting June 2 "Wee" Connect Playgroup moves to 10 AM to 11 AM on Tuesdays! In partnership with Greenwich Nursery school, we offer a weekly playgroup for families with kids PreK and under! 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 25 (Memorial Day).**

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: the Rienzo family, as they grieve Justin's father, Ignatius Rienzo; Sally Reinhard's mother who is recovering after a stroke; Shirley C., Audra Frank's sister; for 4-year-old Rylee, healing from surgery, and prayers for Rylee's family and for Donna; Katie Rienzo's niece, Emma Bazylewicz, as they determine next steps for her medical treatment; Tim and Sue Gardner; Al Marino, recovering from surgery; 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; 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.

