

Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

4th Sunday after Pentecost

June 21, 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! During the summer months, children of all ages are welcome to stay during worship in the sanctuary. (Nursery Care and Sunday School will resume in the fall). To occupy little hands, there are bags with activities for kids at the back of the sanctuary. Feel free to grab one and be creative!

PRELUDE

Tom DiGiovanni

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Ps. 86:1-5)

Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.

Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you; save your servant who trusts in you.

You are my God; be gracious to me, O Lord. To you I cry all day long.

Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,

Abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you.

*OPENING HYMN

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 298

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have wandered away from you. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, and forgive our sin. Return us to the paths of righteousness through Jesus, our Savior, our Hope.

*SILENT CONFESSION *with "Amen" played*

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Dr. Donovan McAbee

*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

Elders Samantha Hillier and Lisa Kolterjahn

*VBS SONG

"Jesus Loves Me!"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Come, Holy Spirit. Come, gentle breath. Silence in us any voice but your own. As we hear your Living Word, give us the courage not only to hear, but to act. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 15:11-32

New Testament, p. 78

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Prodigal Love"

Dr. Donovan McAbee

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 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

Living God, giver of all that we have and all that we are, we offer you these tangible gifts in gratitude. Accept and bless them so that your love and hope may overflow from this place, into our community and into the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 280

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

All are welcome to join us for refreshments and for Donovan's presentation of his poetry book! Follow the crowds and the smell of coffee!!

Today's flowers are lovingly given by Betsy & Bruce Gaston and Bob & Amy Slamp in memory of Betsy's and Bob's parents, Charles and Edith Slamp, in honor of what would be their 96th birthdays on June 26 and July 1.

Announcements

Today, **Sunday, June 21, 2026**, we celebrate the 4th Sunday after Pentecost at our 10 AM online worship service with guest preacher Dr. Donovan McAbee and 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: June 21, Team 2; June 28, Team 3

Join us after worship for fellowship and refreshments in memorial hall! This week hosted by Joan Holloway, next week is hosted by Snoopy and Garfield with treats for their friends at our Blessing for the Animals service. There are many vacancies needing to be filled, please consider taking a turn. Sign up in Memorial Hall or contact Barb Grimm at 908 578 1273. Barb will happily answer questions about hosting fellowship!

TODAY, WE WELCOME poet, songwriter and essayist Dr. Donovan McAbee! Dr. McAbee's work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *TIME* magazine, *The Hudson Review*, *The Sun Magazine*(US), *Garden & Gun*, *Poetry London*, and a variety of other places. His academic monograph *Charles Simic and the Poetics of Uncertainty* was published in 2020. He 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 lived in the same dorm building as Pastor Mary Beth) 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 and works as Professor of Religion and the Arts at Belmont University. His poetry collection *Holy the Body*, published in March by Texas Review Press, was chosen as one of "2026's Most Anticipated Books" by *Garden & Gun* magazine. **Join us in Memorial Hall after worship for discussion of his latest work!**

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS WILL BE HELD NEXT SUNDAY JUNE 28! This short service will be held in Memorial Hall. Bring your furry friends, or your slithery ones, or bring a relic or picture to be blessed. Invite your friends and neighbors!

Bible Study led by Rev. Bill Cotte starts July 8 for 8 weeks from 6:30 PM to 8 PM. The title of the study is "Fact or Fantasy: An 8 Week Study on Challenging Biblical Subjects". Meets in the Zoom Room. Questions? See Rev. Cotte or email Pastor Mary Beth at pastormarybeth@gmail.com for more info!

COMMUNITY MISSION - We are collecting items for **Spring Operation Hope Trek**. This organization is helping those affected by hurricanes in North Carolina by bringing a truck load of needed items to the area on 6/26. Requested items: clothing, shoes, purses, belts, blankets, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, suitcases, bikes, curtains, sleeping bags. NO pillows.

Donations need to be in bags and can be dropped off in the green room by Sunday 6/21. Contact Elder Sharon Smith (sharonsmith.08@gmail.com) with 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!



The Community Mission Committee is also collecting non-perishable food for the Alpha Presbyterian Church's Food Pantry through Sunday, July 5. All donations can be dropped off in the green room.

IRON PIGS BASEBALL TICKETS ARE IN and ready for pickup. Please contact Anita or Walt Campbell at 908-479-4737 or souptime2222@gmail.com to arrange to pick up your purchased tickets. Anita and Walt would prefer not to mail them, so arrange your pickup today!

Busy 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).

SIGN UP FOR OUR ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC Sunday AUGUST 30! Sign up in Memorial Hall to bring a side dish or dessert and bring a lawn chair on the day of the picnic. We'll have hamburgers and hotdogs, yummy goodies, live music and fellowship!

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.

SUMMER IS A WONDERFUL TIME TO ENJOY THE OUTDOORS WITH YOUR CHILDREN! Wildflower Wellness, located on the grounds of OGPC, offers nature-based classes for children ages 1-8, either with a caregiver or as a drop-off program. As you pass their space, you can see the many engaging activities designed to help little ones grow and thrive. Check their website for class times and details: www.wildflowersflourish.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!

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: Howard Bell, recovering from health issues; the family of Sally Reinhard's Aunt Margaret Trebat, who passed away; Carol Lee Doeringer's sister Eileen Brown, who is dealing with serious health problems, and for Carol Lee's health as well; Emily and Joe Kelly, and new baby JD; for Sally Reinhard's mother who is recovering after a stroke; 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; 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
Joshua Miller, Media/Communication Assistant

pastor@ogpc.org/515-979-9681
oldgreenwich@ogpc.org/908-479-4449
Leslie Strozeski, Financial Secretary
Melissa Hixon, Clerk of Session
Julie Raffety, Bookkeeper