

Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

7th Sunday after Pentecost

July 12, 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

Ellie, Wil & Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Ps. 42, excerpts)

Elder Abbie Conlon, Liturgist

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God?

My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, "Where is your God?"

By day the LORD commands steadfast love, and at night God's song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?

Hope in God; for I shall again praise the Holy One, my help and my God.

*OPENING HYMN

"Somebody's Knocking at Your Door"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 382

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, our heavenly Creator, we have sinned against you, through our own fault - in thought, and word, and deed, and in what we have left undone. For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us all our offenses; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your Holy Name. 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 THE PEACE OF CHRIST

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Elder Lisa Kolterjahn

***HYMN**

"God of the Ages Whose Almighty Hand"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 262

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

We long for you, Holy Spirit. We invite you in. Silence in us any voice but your own. Give us the courage to hear, and to act. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

SCRIPTURE READING – Genesis 25:19-34

Old Testament, p. 21

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Ellie, Wil & Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

SERMON

"God-Shaped Hole"

Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

What else does this craving, and this helplessness, proclaim but that there was once in [us] a true happiness, of which all that now remains is the empty print and trace? This [we try] in vain to fill with everything around [us], seeking in things that are not there the help [we] cannot find in those that are, though none can help, since this infinite abyss can be filled only with an infinite and immutable object; in other words by God.

-Pascal, *Pensées*

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 Music

Ellie, Wil & Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

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

O God, we are hungry. We long for you. Help us to become even more aware of the God-shaped hole inside each of us. Help us remember that you have made us for yourself, and that our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Bless these gifts that we give back to you, loving God. May they bless the great hunger in this world. In Christ we pray, Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

"Lord, Our Lord, Thy Glorious Name"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 163 vv. 1, 3 & 4

***BENEDICTION**

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"God Be With You Til We Meet Again"

William Tomer

God be with you till we meet again,
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain: Till we meet, till we meet,
Till we meet at Jesus' feet;
Till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.

POSTLUDE

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

Announcements

Today, **Sunday, July 12, 2026**, we celebrate the 7th Sunday after Pentecost at our 10 AM online worship service with the 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: July 12, Team 5; July 19, Team 6

Join us after worship for fellowship and refreshments today in the kitchen! This week is hosted by Melissa Hixon. Next week there's a spot open for you! Check the sign-up sheet in Memorial Hall. Contact Barb Grimm at 908 578 1273 with any questions.

THE CHURCH KITCHEN IS NEED OF A MICROWAVE! If you have a working microwave in good condition that you would be willing to donate, please see Harry Pursel. To meet the needs of the kitchen, we ask that the microwave be of medium or high wattage. Thank you for helping support our church ministries and hospitality!

We are looking for lay readers during the summer season! There are spots available in July and August. Please consider sharing your gifts at Sunday services! Sign up at ogpc.org >> Worship and Music >> Sign up to be a lay reader.

COMMUNITY MISSION is collecting notebooks, pens and pencils for the Firth Youth Center's Hooray Day celebration. Please bring donations to the green room through August 7.

Bible Study led by Rev. Bill Cotte Wednesdays in July and August, 6:30 PM to 8 PM. "Fact or Fantasy: An 8-Week Study on Challenging Biblical Subjects". Meets in the Zoom Room. During the study, the group will wrestle with questions like: What IS our authority? Is Genesis history? What does Biblical prophecy mean in today's world? Are there ways to God other than biblical Christianity? And others! Bring your questions with you! See Rev. Cotte or email Pastor Mary Beth at pastormarybeth@gmail.com for details!

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! 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!

"Wee" Connect Playgroup for families with kids PreK and under. This class, filled with activities, songs and connection, is in partnership with the Greenwich Nursery school. Offered each week on Tuesday from 10 to 11. Questions? Please contact Joan Holloway at jhollow@ptd.net or Sue Zarelli at sjarrelli@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: Lisa Kolterjahn's father Ray and stepmother, Cathie. Cathie's sister Alberta passed away suddenly; the family of Howard Bell, who passed away on July 8; Susan Bradlau, whose sister Diane O'Neill died, and Diane's family, including husband Mike, and sons Bryan and Scott - may God hold all those who have suffered loss and are grieving; Ed Gardner, recovering from surgery; Anne Wallace, recovering from a fall; Cathy Ahart and her family as they grieve the death of Cathy's mother, June; Sandy Friedman's mother, in the hospital for severe leg pain and unsteadiness, along with a lesion on her lung; Peter Dachisen, recovering from Covid; Bill Schisler, recovering from a procedure; the people of Venezuela dealing with the devastation of earthquakes; the people of Lebanon, displaced and afraid; for all the Gulf Countries; the citizens of Iran and surrounding countries; for Sudan; for Ukraine; 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 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

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Leslie Strozeski, Financial Secretary
Melissa Hixon, Clerk of Session
Julie Raffety, Bookkeeper