

Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

8th Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 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** (Isaiah 62, excerpts)

Elder Susan Bradlau, Liturgist

The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory;

And you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,

And a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married;

For the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married.

***OPENING HYMN**

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 306

***INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Compassionate Jesus, you have loved us with an everlasting love, but we have gone our own way. Forgive us, cleanse us and change us. With the Holy Spirit, help us to live for you, to love you more and more, and to trust that in you, we can be courageous disciples wherever you may lead us. It is in your Holy Name 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**

"Spirit of God"

Sing the Faith # 2117 vv. 1 - 3

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth. By your Holy Spirit, make us hungry for this heavenly food, that it may nourish us today in the ways of eternal life; through Christ, the bread of heaven, we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING - Romans 8:18-26, 31, 34-39

New Testament, p. 158

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Romanze No. 1, Opus 22 - Clara Schumann

Maddie Rosato, violin

SCRIPTURE READING - Matthew 13:1-12

New Testament, p. 13

SERMON

"Seeds"

Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

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*

Gracious God, give us the courage to do your work in the world, to live out your vision, and to find your good soil. Take now these gifts we give back to you, that they may bless the whole creation. In Jesus' holy name we pray, Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

"Lord, Make Us More Holy"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 536

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

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

The flowers are in celebration of Ernie and Kathy Maso's 60th wedding anniversary. Two hearts beating as one.

Announcements

Today, **Sunday, July 19, 2026**, we celebrate the 8th 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 19, Team 6; July 26, Team 1

Join us after worship for fellowship and refreshments today in the kitchen! This week is hosted by Rob Todd. Next week is hosted by Cathy and Crystal Huff. Check the sign-up sheet in Memorial Hall. Contact Barb Grimm at 908 578 1273 with any questions.

PLEASE WELCOME OUR GUEST MUSICIAN TODAY: Maddie Rosato! Maddie is a rising sophomore at Dickinson College, where they play in the college-community orchestra. Maddie has been playing the violin for ten years. Their other orchestral experience includes two years in the Philadelphia Sinfonia and three years in the Central Bucks West High School chamber orchestra. Maddie is the grandchild of Cathy and Ed Ahart.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Meeting of the Congregation and Religious Corporation of the First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich Township, in the County of Warren, will be held on **Sunday, August 9, 2026**, immediately following the 10 am service or worship. The following will be presented: Vote to elect Susan Zarrelli to Session, Class of 2028. Attest: Melissa Hixon, Clerk of Session, Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy, Pastor, Moderator.

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 Zarrelli 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: Gretchen Alencewicz's brother, Brad, healing from surgery; prayers of joy for Ella Conlon, born to Tyler and Heather, on July 1 AND for Ellie Maso, daughter of Ernie and Kathy's grandson Joseph, born July 3; for Carl and family, friends of Charlotte Pickell, on the passing of his wife Debbie; Charlotte Pickell's mother Patricia; Audra Frank's sister Shirley, facing serious health problems; Lisa Kolterjahn's father Ray and stepmother, Cathie. Cathie's sister Alberta passed away suddenly; the family of Howard Bell; 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

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