

Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

9th Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 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 *La Rejouissance* from Music For The Royal Fireworks - G.F. Handel Bruce Gaston, violin
Takeshi Horochi, violin, Ellen Hospador, cello

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Ps. 29, excerpts) Elder Mike Lemons, Liturgist
Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.

The voice of God flashes forth in flames of fire.

The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in God's temple all say, "Glory!"

The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as ruler forever.

May the LORD give strength to the people! May God bless the people with peace!

***OPENING HYMN** "Come, Let Us with Our Lord Arise" Sing the Faith # 2084

***INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Almighty God, you call us through Jesus, but we do not always respond faithfully. We turn away from your light to follow our own desires. We do not love our neighbor as you command. We do not bear witness to your grace, and instead offer pride, insincerity, and faithlessness. Have mercy on us, O Lord, and forgive us. Empower us to serve you as redeemed and renewed people, to the glory of your holy name.

***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**

***HYMN**

"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 489

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Loving God, in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our eyes that we may see the wonders of your Word; and give us grace that we may freely choose your way. Through Christ our Lord, we pray, and with the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING - Psalm 119:129-136

Old Testament, p. 569

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Bruce Gaston, Takeshi Horoshi, violin
Ellen Hospador, cello

SCRIPTURE READING - John 14:1-14

New Testament, p. 108

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Troubled Hearts"

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

Offertory

"Simple Gifts"

Bruce Gaston, Takeshi Horoshi, violin
Ellen Hospador, cello

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

Thank you, Jesus, that you are our companion on the journey. When our hearts are troubled, thank you that you show us the way. Now bless these gifts we give back, that they may bless this whole world in the wideness of your mercy. It is in your name we pray, Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

"Rondeau"- Jean Joseph Mouret

Bruce Gaston, Takeshi Horoshi, violin
Ellen Hospador, cello

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

Announcements

Today, **Sunday, July 26, 2026**, we celebrate the 9th 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 26, Team 1; August 2, Team 2

Join us after worship for fellowship and refreshments today in the kitchen! This week is hosted by Kathy and Crystal Huff, next week has a spot open, so consider signing up! The sign-up sheet is in Memorial Hall. Contact Barb Grimm at 908 578 1273 with any questions.

PLEASE WELCOME OUR GUEST MUSICIANS TODAY:

Takeshi Horochi, violin, began studying classical music at a young age and has been performing with numerous ensembles and symphony orchestras. As a freelance violinist, violist, and arranger, he currently performs in a variety of settings such as weddings, churches, and bars/restaurants in the Lehigh Valley and beyond. He also frequently works with the local theaters to play shows and musicals as a pit musician. Some of his recent performances and arrangements can be found on his YouTube channel "TakHor Violin".

Ellen Hospador, cello, hails from the Lehigh Valley. Ellen is delighted to join Bruce and Takeshi here at Old Greenwich today. She has previously collaborated with both of them in Broadway shows such as West Side Story and Fiddler on the Roof (Northampton Community College) and The Secret Garden (Civic Theater), and they have played together with orchestras and for other events around the Valley. Ellen named her cello "Amadeus" when she first got it in high school.

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.

WE ARE EXCITED TO BE HOSTING AN EVENING OF MUSIC AND CANDLELIGHT WITH LUMOS EXPERIENCES ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026.

An unforgettable candlelit concert experience will fill our sanctuary with beautiful music and warm light, an experience for the whole community. Two seatings are available, 6:30 PM and 8:30 PM. Get your tickets here: <https://fatso.ma/f2b9f>. Use code WELCOME15 for a discount on gold level tickets. See the website for details about ticket price, music and seating. Mark your calendars and invite friends and neighbors to join us for this special evening at Old Greenwich!

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT BEING PART OF OLD GREENWICH? Join the New Member Class after worship (11:15 to 12:30) Sunday, September 20 and 27. This two-part class will cover what it means to be a Presbyterian and part of the PC(USA) as well as our church history what it means to be part of OGPC. All are welcome, even if you just want to learn more (joining the church is not obligatory!). Elders and Deacons

willing to share their experience being part of this life-giving community are invited to come to the sessions to share. If interested in the class, please contact Elder Hope Duncan (hopeld5@yahoo.com)

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.

SUPPORT THE DEACONS WITH A FLOWER ORDER! Remember the days when the congregation would order flowers for the communion table? Usually dedicated to a loved one for a special occasion? You are invited to bring flowers/greens from your garden any Sunday but if you don't have a green thumb, the Deacons are happy to order flowers for \$30 from a local florist for your special person or event. Order forms are available at the QR code or email ogpcflowers@gmail.com. Dedications will be printed in the bulletin. After service you can take your flowers home or donate to someone on the prayer list. The Deacons will happily deliver them if we know in advance.



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: Ayden Huff's friend's mom who is having surgery; Carl Guthardt, being put on hospice care; Barb and Charlie Frinzi. Barb is in rehab, post-surgery, and is so grateful for the church's continued prayers; Lisa and Ray Gray, for strength and healing as Ray faces health challenges; friends of Angie Peardon, Anita Murphy, who has stage 4 lung cancer, and friend and co-worker Katie Mangano, diagnosed with cancer, prayers for their families as well; 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, 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; the people of Venezuela; 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; 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