

# Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 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 will resume on Sunday, September 6, and Sunday School on September 13). 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

The Harmony Pres and OGPC Praise Band  
(Dave Ehasz, Tom DiGiovanni, Gabriele Hingelberg, MB Mardis-LeCroy, Addison Ehasz, Alayna Ehasz)  
"Goodness of God"  
"How Great Is Our God"

## WELCOME

Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 130:1-6)

Out of the depths I cry to you, O God.

### **O LORD, hear my voice!**

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.

### **If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, who could stand?**

But there is forgiveness with you.

### **I wait for God, my soul waits, and in God's word I hope;**

My soul waits for God, more than those who watch for the morning,

### **More than those who watch for the morning.**

Deacon Bridget Beacht, Liturgist

## \*OPENING PRAISE SONG

"What a Beautiful Name"

- Ben Fielding, Brooke Ligertwood  
Lyrics on page 3

## \*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we confess that we often look around us, and see only dry bones. And so we turn away from your voice, and we harden our hearts. We surrender to despair, as we wonder if broken things can ever be restored. Forgive us, Lord. Breathe your Spirit of Life into our dry places. Rattle our complacency, bind us together in your love, and raise us up to live as people of your hope and your resurrection. It is in the living name of Jesus that 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 Samantha Hillier

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*"Firm Foundation"*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Sovereign God, by the power of your Holy Spirit, breathe upon us, as your Word is read and proclaimed this day. Just as you breathed life into the dry bones in Ezekiel's vision, awaken our hearts, open our minds, and restore our spirits to receive your truth, and your life. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READING** - Ezekiel 37:1-10

Old Testament, p. 806

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SCRIPTURE READING** - Ezekiel 37:11-14

Old Testament, p. 806

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*"Dry Bones"*

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 Song: *"Gratitude"*

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, we give back to you what is yours. Receive our offerings of thanks. May we now go into the world with our hands open, our hearts burning, knowing that you are breathing into**

**us your very life. Can these bones live? Oh Lord God, you know; and today, so do we. Today we know that every promise in you is Yes and Amen.**

**"CLOSING PRAISE SONG**

*"Trust in God"*

- Elevation Worship  
Lyrics on page 4

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*"Trust in God" [reprise]*

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

***What a Beautiful Name***

- Ben Fielding, Brooke Ligertwood

You were the Word at the beginning  
One with God the Lord Most High  
Your hidden glory in creation  
Now revealed in You our Christ

What a beautiful Name it is  
What a beautiful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King  
What a beautiful Name it is  
Nothing compares to this  
What a beautiful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus

You didn't want heaven without us  
So Jesus You brought heaven down  
My sin was great Your love was greater  
What could separate us now

What a wonderful Name it is  
What a wonderful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King  
What a wonderful Name it is  
Nothing compares to this  
What a wonderful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus  
What a wonderful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus

Death could not hold You  
The veil tore before You  
You silence the boast of sin and grave  
The heavens are roaring  
The praise of Your glory  
For You are raised to life again  
You have no rival  
You have no equal  
Now and forever God You reign  
Yours is the kingdom  
Yours is the glory  
Yours is the Name above all names

What a powerful Name it is  
What a powerful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King  
What a powerful Name it is  
Nothing can stand against  
What a powerful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus

What a powerful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus  
What a powerful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus

## ***Trust in God***

- Brandon Lake, Chris Brown, Mitch Wong, and Steven Furtick

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine  
He's been my fourth man in the fire time after time  
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood  
And what He did for me on Calvary is more than  
enough

I trust in God, my Savior  
The one who will never fail  
He will never fail

Perfect submission, all is at rest  
I know the author of tomorrow has ordered my  
steps  
So this is my story and this is my song  
Praising my risen King and Savior all the day long

I trust in God, my Savior  
The one who will never fail  
He will never fail  
I trust in God, my Savior  
The one who will never fail  
He will never fail

I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered  
I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered  
I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered  
That's why I trust Him, that's why I trust Him

I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered  
I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered  
I sought the Lord and He heard and He answered  
That's why I trust Him

That's why I trust in God, my Savior  
The one who will never fail  
He will never fail  
Oh, I trust in God, my Savior  
The one  
The one who will never fail  
He will never fail  
I trust in God  
  
Oh, oh, oh, oh  
  
I trust in God

## **Announcements**

Today, **Sunday, August 16, 2026**, we celebrate the 12<sup>th</sup> 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:** August 16, Team 4; August 23, Team 5

**Join us after worship for fellowship and refreshments today in Memorial Hall!** Fellowship goodies are provided by Bill and Sue Schisler this week, and by Deacons Gretchen A, Sue B and Leslie S next week. Note that you're all invited to come to the annual church picnic on August 30 for fellowship! There are openings in the fall to sign up to host, use the sign-up sheet in Memorial Hall if you'd like to participate! Contact Barb Grimm at 908 578 1273 with any questions.

### **KIDS CORNER**

**NURSERY CARE FOR BABIES THROUGH PRE-K STARTS AGAIN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6!** To help families relax and fully enjoy worship with peace of mind, we provide a safe, loving environment downstairs in **Room 14**. Our nursery is staffed by fully vetted caregivers, with at least two care-givers

present at all times. If you plan on using our nursery care, please arrive by **10:20 AM**. Not sure where to go? Simply ask an usher—they'll be happy to guide you!

**KIDS CHOIR TO BEGIN SEPTEMBER 13** - A dedicated children's choir starts Sunday, September 13th after worship (11:20 - 11:40) in the choir room. All children from Kindergarten through Middle School are invited to join us for this fun and encouraging time of singing together. Singing in a choir helps children build confidence, learn to use their voices and experience the joy of making music together. We hope your child will join us as we lift our voices! Directed by Tom DiGiovanni. Questions? Reach out to Tom at [digtom@hotmail.com](mailto:digtom@hotmail.com).

**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 this church. 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](mailto:hopeld5@yahoo.com))

**We are looking for lay readers during the summer and fall!** There are lots of spots available. Please consider sharing your gifts at Sunday services! Sign up at [ogpc.org](http://ogpc.org) >> Worship and Music >> Sign up to be a lay reader.

**From the Community Mission committee: OGPC has been active in the community this summer! Here are some highlights:**

- 18 large garbage bags of your donations were delivered to Operation Hope Trek. These donations help people affected by hurricanes in North Carolina.
- Volunteers helped deliver 94 pizzas from Rocco's Pizzeria and 14 meals from La Bella Via over 7 weeks that helped the Firth Youth Center feed hundreds of youth in the Phillipsburg area this summer.
- 2 carloads of your donations of nonperishable food were delivered to the United Presbyterian Church of Alpha's Food Pantry.
- 600 spiral notebooks, 4,000 pencils, and 1,800 pens were donated to the Firth Youth Center in support of their upcoming Hooray Day at the end of the month. These school supplies will help more than 150 students start the new school year with the tools they need for success.

**Thank you for all of your support!!** Mark your calendar for these upcoming Community Mission dates:

**Tuesday, September 1:** Community Mission meeting at 7 pm in the zoom room (all are welcome!)

**Sunday, October 4:** Meal for Safe Harbor

**Saturday, October 17:** Best Pizza in Town

**Saturday, November 21:** Santaville Fair from 10 - 2

**Saturday, December 12:** Breakfast with Santa from 9-11

**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](mailto: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.



**Bible Study led by Rev. Bill Cotte Wednesdays through August 26, 6:30 PM to 8:00 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](mailto:pastormarybeth@gmail.com) for details!

**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](mailto:jhollow@ptd.net) or Sue Zarrelli at [sjzarrelli@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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:** those affected by the earthquake in Colombia; the family and loved ones of Carl Guthardt, who passed away; friend of the Masos, Hazel Chase, having serious health issues; Angie Peardon's father, Sid Norris, in the hospital with pneumonia and congestive heart failure; Ayden Huff's friend's mom who is having surgery; Barb and

Charlie Frinzi, for Barb's continued healing; 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; 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](http://www.ogpc.org)**

|                                                      |                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy                     | <a href="mailto:pastor@ogpc.org">pastor@ogpc.org</a> /515-979-9681             |
| Katie Rienzo, Office Manager & Dir. of Communication | <a href="mailto:oldgreenwich@ogpc.org">oldgreenwich@ogpc.org</a> /908-479-4449 |
| Harry & Joan Pursel, Sextons                         | Leslie Strozeski, Financial Secretary                                          |
| Tom DiGiovanni, Music Director/Organist              | Gabriele Hingelberg, Assistant Music Dir. & Choir Director                     |
| Melissa Hixon, Clerk of Session                      | Julie Raffety, Bookkeeper                                                      |
| Joshua Miller, Media/Communication Assistant         |                                                                                |