

Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 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! Children of all ages are welcome to stay during worship in the sanctuary, or, if you prefer, Nursery Care resumes **today** (downstairs in room 14). Sunday School for preK-5th starts next Sept. 13. To occupy little hands, there are bags with activities for kids at the back of the sanctuary. Grab one and be creative!

PRELUDE

"Shall We Gather at the River" - Debussy/Hayes

Barbara Salbego Cotte

WELCOME

Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 19:1-6)

Angie Peardon, Liturgist

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

Yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

In the heavens God has set a tent for the sun,

Which comes out like a beloved from a wedding canopy, and like an athlete runs its course with joy.

*OPENING HYMN

"Come, Labor On"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 415

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God Who Loves, we want to do your will. But we confess that we are limited by our own sinfulness, failing to respond to your grace and compassion. Have mercy on us. Empty us of our selves and replace our hearts of stone with hearts of flesh. We pray this in Christ's 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

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Elder Lisa Kolterjahn

*HYMN

"Here I Am, Lord"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 525

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Come, Holy Spirit, and open up your Word to us. We are listening for you. We want to follow you. Help us. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING - Exodus 13:1-8

Old Testament, p. 59

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING - Exodus 14:1, 4, 10-14

Old Testament, p. 60

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Remember"

Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

MUSICAL REFLECTION

"Seasons of Life" - Hayes

Barbara Salbego Cotte

GATHERING AT THE TABLE OF OUR LORD

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving & Prayers of the People (with Lord's Prayer)

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.

Blessing the Bread and the Cup & Communion of the People

All (and we mean ALL) are welcome at this Table! All ages (including children and tots and babies) are welcome to eat the bread and drink the cups (all filled with grape juice) if the family chooses.

OFFERING

Call to Offering

Offertory

"Savior, Like a Shepherd, Lead Us" - arr. Larry Shackley

Barbara Salbego Cotte

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

God of grace and liberty, help us live the life that is right in front of us, and to find you there.

Take now these gifts we give back to you, that they may bless the whole world. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 464

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

There is no "formal fellowship" in Memorial Hall today, enjoy your Labor Day Weekend!

Announcements

Today, **Sunday, September 6, 2026**, we celebrate the 15th 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: September 6, Team 1; September 13, Team 2

There's no "formal fellowship today" in Memorial Hall, enjoy your Labor Day Weekend!

KIDS & YOUTH CORNER

Nursery Care for Babies-PreK begins today! 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 background-checked 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. A dedicated children's choir starts **next Sunday, Sept. 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 joyful and confidence-building time of singing together! Directed by Tom DiGiovanni. Questions? Reach out to Tom at digtom@hotmail.com.

PreK-5th Grade Sunday School. Starting next week, September 13, 5th graders and under, meet during worship for fun activities, prayer, Bible, and games! This class is held every Sunday, right after the Time with the Young Church, during worship (except for the first Sundays of each month). Questions? Please email Elder Samantha at samanthajhillier@gmail.com.

6th-12th Grade Youth Sunday School. Our youth Sunday School class meets from 9:00am to 9:40am, every 2nd and 4th Sundays, in Room 22 (right next to the pastor's office). Our teachers are Pastor Mary Beth and Elder Hope Duncan, and they lead an open-minded, open-hearted class where we explore our faith together. Questions? Email Hope at [hopeld5@yahoo.com](mailto:hoped5@yahoo.com).

Fish 'n CHYPS Joint Youth Group with College Hill and Pilgrim Presbyterian. 6th-12th graders (and their friends and neighbors) are all invited to join with the youth of Pilgrim Presbyterian and College Hill Presbyterian Church (501 Brodhead St, Easton PA) every first and third Sunday from 6:00 to 7:30pm for fellowship, prayer, and games/activities (check here to read about specific activities: <https://www.ogpc.org/kids-youth/>). Please contact Mary Beth at pastormarybeth@gmail.com for more information, or to carpool.

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).

"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 9:00 to 10:00 AM. Questions? Please contact Joan Holloway at jhollow@ptd.net or Sue Zarrelli at sjzarrelli@gmail.com.

ENJOY ANALOG OUTDOOR PLAY 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.

CHANCEL CHOIR! We are excited to kick off our season of singing in worship this fall! Anyone interested in learning to sing and be a part of a fun group, come join us on **Thursday evenings from 7:30-9 PM** in the Sanctuary with our new director, Gabriele Hingelberg. You can also come simply to observe, if you want! Come make a joyful noise with us! Reach out to Gabriele at SingANewSong07@gmail.com with any questions!

DEACON SENIOR DINNER, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 5 - 7 PM. Everyone 65 and over is invited with a guest to the Senior Dinner organized by the Deacons. Enjoy a complimentary homemade dinner prepared and served by the Deacons and fellowship with your friends. If needed, transportation can be arranged. Please RSVP to oldgreenwich@ogpc.org or 908-479-4449 by Monday, October 5 if you intend to join us.

BIBLE STUDY LED BY REV. BILL COTTE. Wednesdays, starting September 26, noon to 1:30 PM in the Zoom Room. This six-week study will focus on origins: exploring God's redemptive plan for all of us beginning with Genesis 1:1 and John 1:1 and examining that unfolding plan throughout the scriptures. Interested? Join in!

JOB OPENING FOR A FINANCIAL SECRETARY HERE AT Old Greenwich. Looking to work with a dynamic team? Do you have attention to detail? This position requires a small time commitment with flexible hours. If interested, reach out to Lori Metz, Personnel committee chair for more details at llmetz2159@gmail.com.

BOOK CLUB resumes with discussion of the book *"The Picture of Dorian Gray"* by Oscar Wilde. Beginning **October 8 and continuing Thursdays from 6 to 7:30 PM** in the Resource Room. The book is described as "a controversial classic on vanity, hedonism and moral decay." There will be lots to discuss with this book, join us! Questions, contact George Bradlau at gbradlau@thebradlaugroup.com. All are welcome, invite your friends and neighbors!

SHOWER OF CARDS, SHOWER OF LOVE! Some of you may remember Marie Chesnutt, spouse of OGPC former pastor Jim Chestnutt. Marie is turning 95 years young on September 9th, and we would love to shower her with cards from her "old friends" at Old Greenwich! So if you knew her, or just feel like sending a card to a very special woman, please send to:

Marie Chestnutt
30 Westgate Drive
Sparta, NJ 07871-1352

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN/ FALL RETREAT NOVEMBER 7, 2026 9 AM - 4 PM at the SHRINE OF ST JOSEPH, 1050 Long Hill Road, Stirling, NJ - Something's Coming! Led by Colleen Duffy, "What's coming?" Maybe Thanksgiving, maybe Advent, maybe a surprise. Come, spend a day in a tranquil place, with tranquil sisters, before the "crazy" season is upon us. Coffee, lunch provided. Please RSVP to Jane MacDonald @ jkmac3536@gmail.com or 973-383-4166 by October 15 Cost: \$50 - Send a (non-refundable) check-payable PW in the Presbytery of the Highlands to:

Jane MacDonald
35 Hillside Ave, Newton NJ 07860

Scholarships are available upon request - send to jkmac3536@gmail.com for form

Due to popular demand, LUMOS has added another date of music and candlelight here at Old Greenwich featuring the music of ABBA! Two seatings are available on **Saturday, October 3, 6:30 and 8:30 PM**. There are still a few tickets available for Elton John vs Queen on **Saturday, September 26**. Mark your calendars and invite friends and neighbors to join us for this special evening at Old Greenwich! For tickets and information go to Lumos' website at <https://www.lumos-experiences.com/united-states/>.

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)

We are looking for lay readers this fall! There are lots of spots available. Please consider sharing your gifts at Sunday services! Sign up at ogpc.org >> Worship and Music >> Sign up to be a lay reader.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING COMMUNITY MISSION EVENTS:

Sunday, October 4: Meal for Safe Harbor, after worship, sign up to come!

Saturday, October 17: Best Pizza in Town 5 - 7 PM

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

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

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.



"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! **No yoga this Monday, 9/7 because of the Labor Day holiday. Yoga will resume next week.**

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: Ashley, the daughter-in-law of a dear friend of Sandy Friedman, who is battling cancer, prayers for her family as well; Gretchen Alencewicz, whose brother, Brad Keller, passed away, as well as Brad's family; Mike Golden, whose mother, Marylou Golden, passed away this week, Mike is a friend of Mike Lemons; anonymous, for complete healing from cancer; friends of Barb Grimm, Karen and Debi, both are going through tests for health

concerns; 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; the people of Nepal; the people of Venezuela; the people of Lebanon; 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

Melissa Hixon, Clerk of Session

pastor@ogpc.org/515-979-9681

oldgreenwich@ogpc.org/908-479-4449

Leslie Strozski, Financial Secretary

Gabriele Hingelberg, Assistant Music Dir. & Choir Director

Julie Raffety, Bookkeeper

Ayden Huff, Media/Communication Assistant