Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

22nd Sunday after Pentecost
October 25, 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 always welcome to stay during worship in the sanctuary, but, if you prefer, Nursery Care is available downstairs in Room 14 for babies-PreK. We also offer Sunday School during worship, after the Time with the Young Church (except on 1st Sundays), for PreK-5th grade. And 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 & MINUTE FOR MISSION: Buildings & Grounds Elder George Bradlau

INTROIT "*Blessed Jesus, at Your Word*" The Presbyterian Hymnal # 454

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Elder George Bradlau, Liturgist

Therefore my brothers and sisters, stand firm in the Lord in this way,
Rejoice in the Lord always, again we say rejoice.
Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.
We will not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving we let our requests be made known to God.
And the peace of God which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** *"Fill My Cup"* The Presbyterian Hymnal # 350

***INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**
We have not sung to our Lord with joy. We have not blessed the lord as we should. We have praised the works of our hands, the words of our mouths, and the thoughts of our minds far more than we have praised you O Lord. We have chased after idols rather than seek you. We have invested our trust in the tangible things of this world, and not your intangible gifts of love and grace. We haven't acknowledged you in our hearts, our homes, and our neighborhoods. We have disregarded your commandments to love you and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Restore us God, lift up our faces to see you, to love you, and to worship you. Open the eyes of our hearts Lord God. Amen.

***SILENT CONFESSION** *with "Amen" played*

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** (Based on excerpts of Romans 3) Joshua Kelly, Guest Preacher

***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

After Time with the Young Church, all children PreK-Elementary school are invited to go with their teachers into the Resource Room for an engaging, and fun, Sunday School class!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING – Isaiah 45: 1-7 Old Testament, p. 674

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM *"O Sing Unto the Lord"* - Heather Sorensen
Bruce Gaston, violin

SCRIPTURE READING – Matthew 22: 15-22 New Testament p. 24

SERMON "Gotcha" Joshua Kelly, Guest Preacher

MUSICAL REFLECTION Tom DiGiovanni

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE WITH THE 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.

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, OR use our Tithe.ly QR code here:

*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

Lord God, we thank you for the gifts you have first given us; gifts of time, talent, and treasure. We offer these gifts unto you O lord. Receive them into your hands in the service of your kingdom. We pray that these gifts would be multiplied so that any in need might receive of your bounty and goodness. We trust these into your service and ask that through them others may come to know you and love you. In your name we pray. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *"Over My Head"* Sing the Faith # 2148

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

The flowers are in memory of Florence Ahart on her October 28th birthday.
From the Ahart, Frinzi, and DiGiovanni families

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

Announcements

Today, **Sunday, October 25, 2026,** we celebrate the 22nd Sunday after Pentecost at our 10 AM online worship service with guest preacher Joshua Kelly. 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: October 25, Team 2; November 1, Team 3

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

A MESSAGE FROM OUR GUEST PREACHER TODAY, Josh Kelly: Hello and Greetings! I wanted to take an opportunity to introduce myself! My name is Josh Kelly. I am a husband to Beth Kelly, my wonderful wife and partner for the past 16 years (just celebrated our anniversary) and father to Maddie (10) and Izzy (6). I am an alum of Princeton Theological Seminary, Drexel University, and Quakertown High school. I technically consider myself an ELCA Lutheran, but I am very comfortable in most Protestant/Mainline denominations. I am also a certified Spiritual Director. I currently work in the surveying department of a civil engineering firm in Doylestown PA. I am passionate about ministry WITH youth and families. I enjoy my family, friends, coaching softball for my girls, mustangs (the car), skiing, reading, the beach, films (especially fantasy / sci-fi aka nerd), nature & the environment, and Chinese & Italian foods. I am passionate about my faith and sharing the faith journey with sisters and brothers like you. Finally the most important labels I can apply to myself? Precious Child of God, and brother in Christ.

FRIDAY/WEEKEND PRESCHOOL CLEANING OPPORTUNITY - We are looking for someone from our church community who may be interested in helping with light, weekly cleaning at Greenwich Nursery School. The current cleaner handles the preschool Monday through Thursday. This position involves cleaning up after Friday classes and preparing the school for Monday morning. The cleaning can be completed anytime after 12:00 PM on Friday or anytime on Saturday or Sunday. Pay: $15.92 per hour as a GNS employee, guaranteed 3 hours of pay each week, even if the cleaning takes less time. If you are interested or would like more information, please reach out to Amy Andersen at director@greenwichnursery.com or call 908-479-6886.

ROAST BEEF DINNER – Mark your calendars for the Deacon's Annual Roast Beef Dinner, **Saturday, November 7 from 4 to 7**. Dine in or take out, Adults (13 and over) $20, Children (6 to 12) $10, Age 5 and below Free. Call the office (908) 479-4449 or email oldgreenwich@ogpc.org to RSVP.

SAVE THE DATE! - Saturday, August 7, 2027, has been reserved for the annual baseball group outing at Jefferson Health Park (formerly Coca-Cola Park). The Lehigh Valley IronPigs (Philadelphia Phillies AAA affiliate) are scheduled to play against the Syracuse Mets. Seating will be limited to 65 seats at the Club

level. Tickets will go on sale for $18 per person (same as last year) in February 2027. Questions? Contact Anita or Walt Campbell at 908 479 4737 or souptime2222@gmail.com.

EXCITING UPDATE TO GIVING AT OLD GREENWICH! Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church has officially transitioned our online giving platform from PayPal to **Tithe.ly Giving**. Tithe.ly provides a simple and secure way to make both **one-time and recurring gifts**, whether through the Tithe.ly app or directly from the giving page on our church website.

Three Ways to Give with Tithe.ly

Option 1: Give Through the Tithe.ly App

1. Download the **Tithe.ly App** from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.
2. Search for and select **Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church**.
3. If this is your first time using Tithe.ly, you will be prompted to create an account.
4. Add your preferred payment method — either a bank account (ACH) or credit/debit card.
5. Make a one-time gift or set up a recurring gift for your regular giving.

Once your account is established, future giving is quick and easy.

Option 2: Give Through Our Website

Visit the giving page on the **Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church website** and select the option to give online. From there, you can make a one-time contribution or establish recurring giving through Tithe.ly.

Option 3: Use the QR code:

Use the QR code to give via Tithe.ly. Scan and complete the steps outlined.

YOU CAN ALSO MAKE YOUR 2027 PLEDGE THROUGH TITHE.LY! Making your pledge online streamlines administration, putting more of your money to work for our mission. Scan the QR code to make your 2027 pledge. Your pledge is a statement of faith and a tangible way of showing that you believe in the mission of this church, and want to help carry it forward! Use the QR code to the right to make your 2027 pledge!

WELCOME TO OUR FURRY FRIEND, VINCE! Vince is a black lab puppy being raised through the Seeing Eye program. The Millers, members of our church, are raising him for about a year, which includes exposure to as many sights, sounds, and smells as possible. After the year, Vince will go to formal school with the Seeing Eye program to be trained more fully on how to be a guide dog for the blind. After that, he will be matched with a blind companion. As part of Vince's training, OGPC is happy to welcome Vince on Sunday mornings (October 2026-June 2027)! One of the Millers will be sitting with him and managing him (if need be) in the back pews. Questions? Please reach out to Elder Sue Z at sjzarrelli@gmail.com.

INTRODUCING OGPC'S VISITATION MINISTRY! At its heart, church is about connection—sharing our lives, supporting one another, and making sure no one walks alone. And so… we are excited to announce the launch of a new Visitation Ministry at OGPC, designed to bring friendship, conversation, and a listening ear directly to members of our community through regular visits. We need your help to bring this ministry to life in two ways:

- **Know someone who would love a visit?** If you or someone you know—whether homebound, recovering, or simply craving some extra companionship—would welcome a regular visitor, please let us know.
- **Feel called to be a visiting minister?** If you have a heart for listening and a little time to share, we would love to have you join our team of volunteer visitors.

- **To request a visitor or to volunteer, please reach out to pastormarybeth@gmail.com.** We are not alone!

KIDS & YOUTH CORNER

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). An open-minded, open-hearted class for youth to explore our faith together. Questions? Email Hope at hopeld5@yahoo.com.

Nursery Care for Babies-PreK each Sunday! Enjoy worship with peace of mind, while your children are tended to by qualified, background checked caregivers. Plan on using nursery care? Please arrive by 10:20 AM - an usher can point you in the right direction.

PreK-5th Grade Sunday School. 5th graders and under meet during worship for fun activities, prayer, Bible, and games! Every Sunday during worship, right after the Time with the Young Church, (except for the first Sundays of each month). Questions? Contact Elder Samantha at samanthajhillier@gmail.com.

Kids Choir. Meets in the choir room after worship each Sunday. All children K through Middle School are invited to join this joyful and confidence-building time of singing together! Directed by Tom DiGiovanni. Questions? Reach out to Tom at digtom@hotmail.com.

Fish 'n CHYPS Joint Youth Group with College Hill Presbyterian Church. 6th-12th graders (and their friends and neighbors) join 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 PreK Families meets Tuesdays from 9:00 to 10:00 AM. Join us for fun activities, songs, and community in partnership with the Greenwich Nursery School. For information, contact Joan Holloway or Sue Zarrelli.

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.

COMMUNITY MISSION EVENTS – Thank you to everyone who turned out for the Best Pizza in Town Competition. Nicolosi's took the top prize in a tight competition, and we raised over $1,000 for the Helping Hands Fund. Mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

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

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

BOOK CLUB meets Thursdays from 6:00 to 7:30 PM in the Resource Room discussing the book "*The Picture of Dorian Gray*" by Oscar Wilde. The book is described as "a controversial classic on vanity, hedonism and moral decay." Join us for the discussion! Questions, contact George Bradlau at gbradlau@thebradlaugroup.com. All are welcome, invite your friends and neighbors!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN/ FALL RETREAT NOVEMBER 7, 2026 9 AM – 4 PM – CHANGE OF VENUE, NOW AT: FAIRMOUNT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COMMUNITY HOUSE, 247 Old Turnpike Road, Califon,

NJ 07830. Something's Coming! Led by Colleen Duffy. Come, spend a day in a tranquil place, with tranquil sisters, before the crazy holiday 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

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.

SUPPORT THE DEACONS WITH A FLOWER ORDER! Celebrate an occasion with flowers on the communion table. 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!

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: the community of Bend OR, and the students, teachers and families of Silver Trail Elementary School, reeling from the school shooting; the family and loved ones of Tom Beacht's best childhood friend Ron, who passed away; Barb Grimm's dear, long-time friends Karen and Debi - both facing health challenges; Walt Campbell's sister, Elaine Loveless, following complications after surgery; the family of Ellen Hargrave, David Jones's sister; Ashlee, friend of Sandy Friedman who lost her battle with cancer, prayers her family – husband, 9 year old son and 17 year old daughter, along with all those that loved her; Sharon Smith's father Jim, for health and healing and wholeness and for Sharon's friend, Stacy, just diagnosed with breast cancer; Audra Frank, whose sister Shirley passed away; Crystal Huff's co-worker, who is having a biopsy next month to confirm for cancer; Andrew, friend of Debbie, who is going through serious cancer related medical issues; Jodi Heft, friend of Sue Beacht, who passed away last week from complications from MS; For 16 year old Gabe Kerr-Santos, and his family and friends (including Lorraine Brown and her family). Gabe has been struggling with cancer and has made the decision to stop all life-saving measures and to live his life to the fullest while he's able; 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	pastor@ogpc.org/515-979-9681
Katie Rienzo, Office Manager & Dir. of Communication	oldgreenwich@ogpc.org/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

Ayden Huff, Media/Communication Assistant