

Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

19th Sunday after Pentecost

October 4, 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

Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

MINUTE FOR TITHE.LY

Elder Al Marino

INTROIT

"As Morning Dawns"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 161 vv. 1, 3

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Micah 6:8)¹

Angela Peardon, Liturgist

Church, what does the Holy One require of us?

To do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with our God.

Yes and Amen! Let us worship God!

*OPENING HYMN

"Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 510 vv. 1-4

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, through Jesus Christ you teach us, "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." And yet we continue to put our faith in earthly treasures, hoarding up possessions that moth and rust will destroy, clinging to power and privilege whenever we can. Set us free from greed and fear. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Teach us to trust in you and you alone; through Jesus Christ, our true redeemer, 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!

¹ Much of the liturgy today is borrowed from the PCUSA's "World Communion Offering: Worship Resource for World Communion Sunday," (curated by Jonathan Hehn, OSL).

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Out of Love, He Broke the Bread"

- Benjamin Harlin

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Elder Samantha Hillier

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Faithful God, how blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. Sanctify us by your Word and Spirit so that we may glorify you in the company of the faithful; through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING - Matthew 6:1-3, 16-24

New Testament, p. 5

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MINUTE FOR GOD'S MONEY

Elder Jack Felch

SERMON

"Give until We Feel It"

Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Tom DiGiovanni

GATHERING AT THE TABLE OF OUR LORD: THE GREAT PRAYER

Invitation

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

... Therefore we praise you, joining the faithful who hunger and thirst for righteousness and singing the hymn of the whole creation:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

... Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

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! You may stay in your pews, where you will be served bread and a cup of grape juice. You may eat the bread and drink the cup once you receive them, or you may wait - either way is just fine. 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

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 new Tithely 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

Merciful and gracious God, you abound in steadfast love and faithfulness. With gratitude, we bring our gifts to you. Bless these gifts and bless our lives that together we may share your mercy and grace for the world you dearly love. In Jesus we pray, amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"

The Presbyterian Hymnal # 521 vv. 1, 2 & 5

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

"Amen"

POSTLUDE

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

Announcements

Today, **Sunday, October 4, 2026**, we celebrate the 19th 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: October 4, Team 5; October 11, Team 6

EXCITING UPDATE TO GIVING AT OLD GREENWICH! Beginning **October 1, 2026**, Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church has officially transitioned our online giving platform from **PayPal to Tithely Giving**. Tithely provides a simple and secure way to make both **one-time and recurring gifts**, whether through the Tithely app or directly from the giving page on our church website.

Two Ways to Give with Tithely

Option 1: Give Through the Tithely App

1. Download the **Tithely 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 Tithely, 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 Tithely.

Option 3: Use the QR code:

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



QR code for offering

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!



QR code for pledging

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)! Jackie or 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 sjarrelli@gmail.com.

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS NEEDED! Fellowship after church is a wonderful opportunity to build community and connection, but we need volunteers to make it run. Sign up for a Sunday in Memorial Hall. Hosting is not hard; contact Barb Grimm at 908 578 1273 with questions.

MARIE CHESTNUTT SENDS HER THANKS FOR THE MANY BIRTHDAY CARDS. She was deeply touched and so grateful to those who sent cards and notes. From her note: "My memories of our years at Old Greenwich are a cherished keepsake of all the shared spiritual experiences, as well as all the good times and fun. Those memories have greatly multiplied the blessings and joys in my life since being there so many years ago. My prayers will continue to be with all of you! Marie Chesnutt"

Help us give our pew cushions a little care! Looking for volunteers with strong arms and/or carpet steamers to assist Joan Pursel and Sue Gardner with cleaning the pew cushions. Days of the week and times are flexible. Please contact the church office if interested in helping oldgreenwich@ogpc.org, 908-479-4449.

FIRTH YOUTH CENTER DINE & DASH PROGRAM - Starting in October, volunteers are needed to pick up meals at La Bella Via and deliver them to the Firth Youth Center on Tuesday and Thursday evenings throughout the school year. Use the QR code to sign up:



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 and Pilgrim Presbyterian. 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:

We will be making a meal for Safe Harbor TODAY after worship. Meet in the kitchen to help prepare the meal.

BEST PIZZA in Town - Saturday October 17 5 PM to 7 PM. Who has the best pizza in town, Bella Mia, Casola's, Franco's, Jack's, Nicolosi's or Rocco's? Taste and cast your vote at this event to benefit the Helping Hand Fund. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at these pizzerias, from Sharon Smith, or from the office.

Volunteer Opportunity: Meals at Home Program. The Warren County Division of Aging is looking for volunteers to support its Meals at Home Program, which provides hot, nutritious meals to homebound seniors who are unable to grocery shop or prepare meals for themselves. Volunteers deliver meals directly to seniors in their homes. Each delivery route takes approximately one hour.

We are hoping to gather five volunteers to commit to delivering one route for one week each month. This is similar to the Meals on Wheels program and is a wonderful way to make a meaningful difference in the lives of seniors in our community. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact Sharon Smith at sharonsmith.08@gmail.com. A little time can make a big difference to someone in our community!

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

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 TOMORROW, Monday, October 5.**

BIBLE STUDY LED BY REV. BILL COTTE. Wednesdays, noon to 1:30 PM in the Zoom Room. This study focuses 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 6:00 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!

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: 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; Carol Lee Doeringer, who passed away, prayers for her friends and family; Barb, Ayden's uncle's mother; Bill Mose, battling cancer; Kalyna, to know that God is with her; the Frinzis as they grieve the death of Charlie's brother Joe, and for Joe's family and wife Gloria; Sue Helms, dear friend of the Bradlaus, who is undergoing chemotherapy treatment for cancer; Ron Czhakowski, dear friend of the Beachts, in home hospice, suffering from cancer; Ashley, the daughter-in-law of a dear friend of Sandy Friedman, who is battling cancer, prayers for her family as well; those affected by the earthquake in Colombia; 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 Strozeski, Financial Secretary

Gabriele Hingelberg, Assistant Music Dir. & Choir Director

Julie Raffety, Bookkeeper

Ayden Huff, Media/Communication Assistant