Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church

25th Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 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

CHORAL INTROIT *"As We Come Together"*

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Psalm 19:1-4) Mike Consalazio, 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!

***OPENING HYMN** *"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"* The Presbyterian Hymnal # 288

***INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**
God of grace and abundance, you entrust us with gifts and responsibilities, but we so often bury what you have placed in our care. We confess that we hold back from loving boldly, serving faithfully, and seeking your kingdom. Forgive us, O God. By your Spirit, awaken us to trust your generosity, to follow your call with courage, and to invest our lives in the work of justice, mercy, and love. May we become faithful stewards of all you have given us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

***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**

CHORAL ANTHEM *"Holy Sovereign Lord"* - Lloyd Larson

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH Elder Lisa Kolterjahn

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

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 clearly understand and freely choose the way of your wisdom; through Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING – Matthew 25:14-23 New Testament, p. 28

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING – Matthew 25:24-29 New Testament, p. 28

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Holy Risk" Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy

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

Gracious God, we give you thanks because you are good and you bring forth good. You love us so much, claiming us and calling us for life that is full and free. Along with our gratitude, we offer you these gifts. Take them and use them for your purpose. Guide us and be with us on the journey ahead. Through Christ we pray, Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"* Sing the Faith # 2171

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION** *"Amen"*

POSTLUDE

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

Announcements

Today, **Sunday, November 15, 2026,** we celebrate the 25th 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: November 15, Team 5; November 22, Team 6

Join us after worship for fellowship and refreshments today in the kitchen! 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.

JOIN US FOR OUR CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT! We are so excited to begin preparing for this year's Christmas Pageant, "The Greatest Gift of All!" All children are invited to join in the fun as we share the wonderful story of Christmas! Pageant practice will begin Sunday, November 15th, during the last 20 minutes of Sunday School and continue each Sunday leading up to the big day! Our Christmas Pageant will take place on Sunday, December 20th, during our 10:00 AM worship service. We ask all participating children to arrive at 9:00 AM for rehearsal before the service! All children are welcome! We can't wait to celebrate the joy of Christmas together! Questions, contact Samantha Hillier at samanthajhillier@gmail.com.

REMEMBER the Fallen. . . HONOR those who Serve. . . TEACH our children the value of Freedom. Help Greenwich Cemetery Association honor local heroes for National Wreaths Across America Day on December 19, 2026. Sponsor a wreath to be placed on a veteran's grave this December at Greenwich Cemetery Association. Scan the QR code to make a donation online or visit www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/NJGRWH

Wreaths Across America

The Greenwich Nursery School has partnered with Veronica from Honey Forge Photography for family holiday photos. Bookings are available for Saturday 11/7 and Sunday, 11/15. $40 per family for 4 edited photos. All proceeds benefit GNS. See flyers hung around the church building for additional details. Questions? Contact Amy at director@greenwichnursery.com or 908-479-6886.

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER TO FEED OUR COMMUNITY! 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. Pick up at La Bella Via at 6:00 PM, delivery to Firth Youth Center by 6:20 PM. Sign up using the QR code!

Volunteer for Firth Youth

NOTICE OF ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – PART 1, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2026 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, November 29, 2026. The meeting will begin immediately following the 10 am worship service.

Meeting Purpose

- Elect officers and members of the audit committee.

- Hear the report of the nominating committee.
- Vote on reducing the number of members in each class of deacons and elders.

Attest: Melissa Hixon, Clerk of Session
Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy, Pastor, Moderator

JOIN US FOR AN ADVENT BOOK STUDY featuring "*Advent in Plain Sight*" by Jill J. Duffield led by Pastor Mary Beth and Elder Lisa Gray. Discover signs of God's presence in the ordinary things of life this Advent. Join us as we explore the study, using everyday objects from biblical stories to invite reflection on God's nearness and how we are called to respond. All are welcome! **Begins Sunday, 11/29, 9:00 – 9:45 AM in the Prayer Room.** We'll begin with "Gates" (pages 5–25). Each week stands alone, so join us as your schedule allows. Study continues Sundays through December 20. To get your book: Pick up a copy at church or order online through Amazon or John Knox Press. Questions? Call or text Lisa Gray at 973-476-4720. We hope you'll join us!

SNACK ITEMS REQUESTED FOR SELFLESS SUNDAY SERVICE PROJECT: The Christian Education Committee is collecting individually wrapped snacks for an upcoming service project. The collection will be assembled and distributed to local schools before winter break for students in need. Requested items include: applesauce pouches or cups, pudding cups, crackers, pretzels or chips, fruit snacks, granola bars, cookies, juice boxes and plastic spoons. **Items can be placed in the bin in the Green Room through November 29 . The children and youth will take part in Selfless Sunday December 6, immediately following TWYC.**

SANTAVILLE CRAFT FAIR– Spend the day shopping over 25 local crafters during our Santaville Fair, **Saturday, November 21, 10 to 2 PM**. Lunch available for purchase All proceeds go to neighbors in need.

HAVE BREAKFAST WITH SANTA! Saturday, December 12, from 9 to 11 AM here at Old Greenwich! $10 per person in advance $15 per person at door. Children 2 and under free. Breakfast includes pancakes, bacon, fresh fruit, mini muffins, donuts, juice, milk, coffee, tea, hot chocolate. And choose your favorite cookies during the cookie walk for $10 for a small box or $20 for a large box. Use the QR code to register.

Breakfast with Santa

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.

GIVE thru Tithe.ly

Three Ways to Give with Tithe.ly

- Option 1: Give Through the Tithe.ly App, downloadable from the Apple App store or Google Play Store.
- Option 2: Give Through Our Website: www.ogpc.org >> Give. From there you can make a one-time or recurring gift through Tithe.ly.
- Option 3: Use the QR code: Scan and complete the steps outlined.

YOU CAN ALSO MAKE YOUR 2027 PLEDGE THROUGH TITHE.LY! It's not too late to make your pledge for 2027. Scan the QR code to show that you believe in the mission of this church, and want to help carry it forward!

PLEDGE thru Tithe.ly

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, exposing him to as many sights, sounds, and smells as possible. Then Vince will go to the Seeing Eye program to be trained to be a guide dog for the blind and matched with a companion. As part of Vince's training, OGPC is happy to welcome Vince on Sunday mornings (October 2026-June 2027)! The Miller family 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.

OGPC'S VISITATION MINISTRY! At its heart, church is about connection—sharing our lives, supporting one another, and making sure no one walks alone. OGPC's Visitation Ministry brings friendship, conversation, and a listening ear directly to members of our community through regular visits. We invite you to support this ministry in two ways:

- **Know someone who would like 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 to Room 14 downstairs.

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 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.

There are a few spots open for lay reader before the end of the year! 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! **PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NO YOGA MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16.**

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: Bill Cotte as he heals from a fall; Vicky Gischel, dear friend of Robin Glosser, who passed away last week, and her family; 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; 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	Kathleen Gooley, 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