

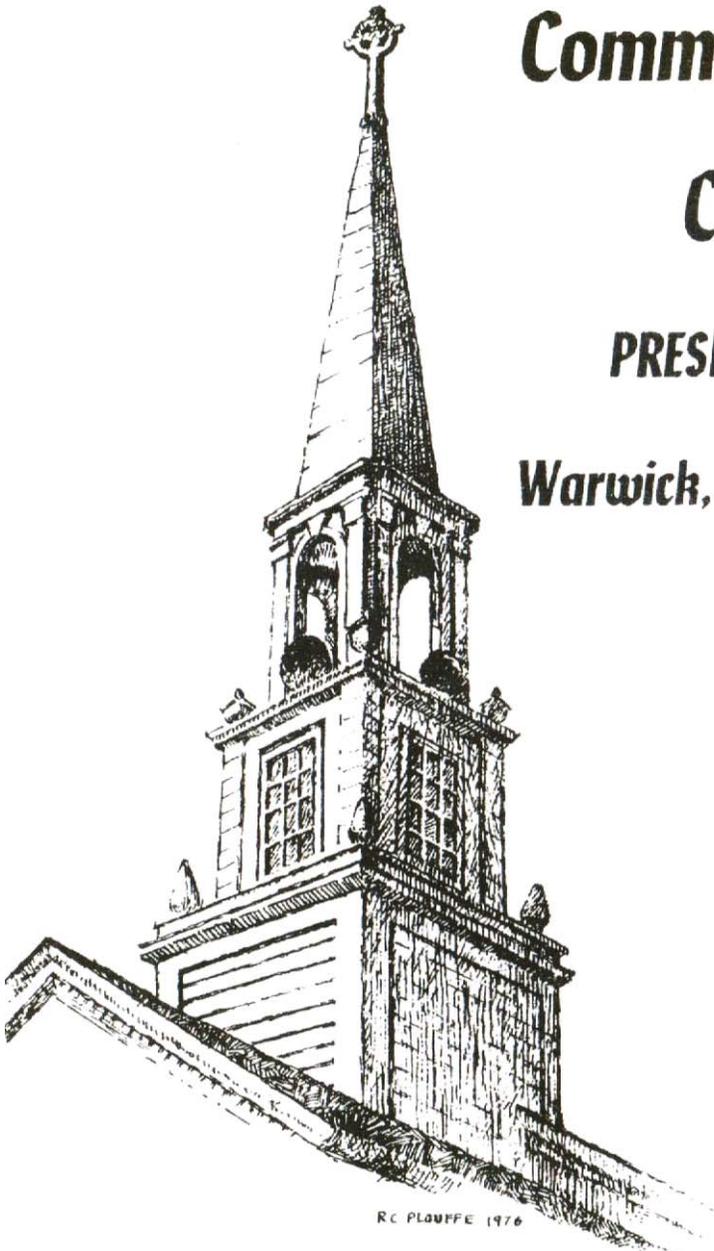
# Greenwood

## Community

## Church

### PRESBYTERIAN

### Warwick, Rhode Island



#### OUR MISSION

The Greenwood Community Church, Presbyterian, seeks to have a three-fold ministry in obedience to our Lord's Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20):

***"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations ..."*** We seek to bring men and women, boys and girls of all nationalities into a vital relationship with the Son of God.

***"... baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..."*** We seek to bring men and women, boys and girls into a vital relationship with the family of God.

***"... teaching them to observe all I have commanded you ..."*** We seek to bring men and women, boys and girls into a vital relationship with the Word of God.

#### OUR SESSION

M. Barry Baxter  
Dennis J. Charpentier  
Joan Eichenfeldt  
Emmy J. Kmet

H. Samuel Koldyk  
D. Elaine Magyar, Clerk  
Denise S. Mair  
Matthew S. Majeika

Wayne A. Meunier  
Evelyn C. Murray  
Jeffrey S. Plouffe  
Donald B. Sorgel

#### OUR BOARD OF DEACONS

Cheryl L. Bowser  
Beverly A. Carson  
Stephen R. Hall  
Sandra Cook Hall  
Marilyn E. Jacobs  
Jillian H Jacobs  
Virginia A. Jacobs, Moderator  
Emily R. Jones

Adam K. Jones  
Vera M. Koldyk  
Robert E. Martin, Jr  
Eric M. McNeely  
Louis P. Messier  
Barbara R. Miller  
Loretta A. Nelson

Claudette Palin  
Patricia A. Parkinson  
Sherry Phillips  
Brandon E. Phillips  
Cynthia M. Pisano  
Catherine C. Schobel  
Nancy H. Sumrall  
Janet P. Swanson

#### OUR STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Clark, Pastor  
John C. Black, Director of Music and Choirs, Organist  
Alexandra K. Nichols, Music Associate  
Virginia A. Jacobs, Director of Family Ministries  
Matthew S. Majeika, Director of Young Adult Ministries  
Carol A. Castergine, Church Office Administrator  
John W. Pickup, Sexton

M. Barry Baxter, Treasurer  
Emmy Kmet, Financial Secretary  
Dennis J. Charpentier, President

805 Main Avenue, Warwick, Rhode Island 02886  
Church Telephone: (401) 737-1230  
[www.gccp.org](http://www.gccp.org)



# Praise Him! Praise Him!

*Praise Him according to His excellent greatness. Psa. 150:2*

Fanny J. Crosby, 1869

JOYFUL SONG Irreg. Ref.  
Chester G. Allen, 1869

1. Praise Him! praise Him! Je - sus, our bless - ed Re - deem - er! Sing, O Earth, His  
2. Praise Him! praise Him! Je - sus, our bless - ed Re - deem - er! For our sins He  
3. Praise Him! praise Him! Je - sus, our bless - ed Re - deem - er! Heav'n - ly por - tals

won - der - ful love pro - claim! Hail Him! hail Him! high - est arch - an - gels in glo - ry;  
suf - fered, and bled and died; He our Rock, our hope of e - ter - nal sal - va - tion,  
loud with ho - san - nas ring! Je - sus, Sav - ior, reign - eth for - ev - er and ev - er;

Strength and hon - or give to His ho - ly name! Like a shep - herd Je - sus will  
Hail Him! hail Him! Je - sus the Cru - ci - fied. Sound His prais - es! Je - sus who  
Crown Him! crown Him! Proph - et and Priest and King! Christ is com - ing! o - ver the

*Refrain*  
guard His chil - dren, In His arms He car - ries them all day long:  
bore our sor - rows; Love un - bound - ed, won - der - ful, deep and strong: Praise Him! praise Him!  
world vic - to - rious, Pow'r and glo - ry un - to the Lord be - long:

tell of His ex - cel - lent great - ness; Praise Him! praise Him! ev - er in joy - ful song!

## GENESIS 28:10-19 (NIV)

Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Haran. When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. There above it stood the Lord, and he said: "I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it." He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven." Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.

## JOHN 1:43-51 (NIV & RSV)

The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, He said to him, "Follow me." Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found him of whom Moses wrote in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael told him, "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no guile!" Nathanael asked, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you." Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the king of Israel!" Jesus said, "Do you believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." He then added, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

# We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder

Behold a ladder . . . and the top of it reached to heaven. Gen. 28:12

Traditional Spiritual

JACOB'S LADDER 8 8 5

Traditional Spiritual

1. We are climb - ing Ja - cob's lad - der. We are climb - ing Ja - cob's  
2. Ev - ery round goes high - er, high - er. Ev - ery round goes high - er,  
3. Sin - ner, do you love my Je - sus? Sin - ner, do you love my  
4. If you love Him, why not serve Him? If you love Him, why not  
5. We are climb - ing high - er, high - er. We are climb - ing high - er,  
lad - der. We are climb - ing Ja - cob's lad - der, Sol - diers of the cross.  
high - er. Ev - ery round goes high - er, high - er, Sol - diers of the cross.  
Je - sus? Sin - ner, do you love my Je - sus? Sol - diers of the cross.  
serve Him? If you love Him, why not serve Him? Sol - diers of the cross.  
high - er. We are climb - ing high - er, high - er, Sol - diers of the cross.

## SEARCH ME, O God

1. Search me, O God, and know my heart to - day; try me, O  
2 I praise Thee, Lord, for cleans - ing me from sin; ful - fill Thy  
3 Lord, take my life and make it whol - ly Thine; fill my poor  
Sav - ior, know my thoughts, I pray. See if there be some  
Word and make me pure with - in. Fill me with fire where  
heart with Thy great love di - vine. Take all my will, my  
wick - ed way in me; cleanse me from ev - ery sin and set me free.  
once I burned with shame; grant my de - sire to mag - ni - fy Thy name.  
pas - sion, self, and pride; I now sur - ren - der, Lord, in me a - bide.

Text: J. Edwin Orr

Tune: Eventide - William H. Monk

## EXCERPTS FROM TERTULLIAN'S APOLOGETICUS

In 197 AD Carthagian scholar Tertullian wrote his most famous work *Apologeticus*, probably the earliest and most articulate defense of the Christian faith. In 197 AD persecution of Christians was widespread throughout the Roman Empire; they were being arrested and even martyred for such spurious charges as ritual incest, cannibalism, and treason (*apparently slanderous "misunderstandings" regarding the Christian "love feasts," their consuming "body and blood" in their sacramental rituals as well as their refusal to call anyone but Jesus Lord*). Tertullian wrote to a largely hostile audience, challenging their misunderstandings and biases while demanding legal toleration for Christians, defending our faith as reasonable, respectable, and a friend to civil government. He wrote "... for toleration of Christianity, rebutting charges against Christian morality, and claiming that Christians are no danger to the State, but useful citizens." Some notable excerpts:

Let me now show what we really are. We are a body knit together by one faith, one discipline and one hope. We meet together as a congregation, uniting together to offer prayer to God. We pray for the emperor and all in authority, for the welfare of the world, for peace and for the delay of the final end. We read our holy scriptures to nourish our faith, hope, steadfastness and good habits. Our elders preside over us, obtaining that honor not by money, but by their established character. There is no buying and selling in the things of God. We have a fund, but not because people can 'buy' religion. Once a month, anyone who wants may make a small donation - but only he who is able and willing; there is no compulsion. It is not spent on [elaborate] feasts, but to support and bury the poor, to care and provide for orphans, the elderly, victims of shipwreck and those in prison for their faith.

Christians are persecuted in ignorance, because they are not allowed to defend themselves - as long as they can be called 'Christians', they can be executed. Real criminals are allowed to deny their offences, defend themselves, and are often tortured to get them to confess. By contrast, the Christians are not allowed to demand evidence of any crimes they are condemned for, and they are tortured to make them stop confessing. Christians are denied any chance to vindicate themselves, nor do the magistrates try to find any evidence of crime - the name of 'Christian' is enough. Yet you know very well that particular Christians are moral and upright people.

We are not a new philosophy but a divine revelation. That's why you can't just exterminate us; the more you kill the more we are. The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church. Your cruelties merely prove our innocence of the crimes you charge against us. When you chose recently to hand a Christian girl over to a brothel-keeper rather than to the lions, you showed you knew that we counted chastity dearer than life.

The meetings of the Christians are described, and how the Christians love one another. Yet the unbelievers sneer at the way Christians call each other 'Brothers' - because among pagans such usage always means fraud. We share everything except our wives - you share nothing except your wives.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> These selections are gleaned from the following websites:

<http://www.tertullian.org/works/apologeticum.htm> and  
<https://www.christianhistoryinstitute.org/study/module/tertullian/>

GREENWOOD COMMUNITY CHURCH, PRESBYTERIAN  
WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND

July 19, 2020

**WELCOME** to all who are worshipping in our sanctuary today; welcome, too, to all worshipping with us online! As done these past fifteen weeks, the service will be archived and posted @ twenty minutes after the closing benediction and will be available for viewing and/or downloading for at least ONE WEEK. Also, a special word of welcome to any visiting with us here or on line this morning ... whether you are visiting us for this hour or looking for a new church home, welcome to our fellowship!

During the offering we will dedicate tithes and offerings received during the course of the week, as well as those placed in the plates by the entrances. Again, THANK YOU for your consistently faithful financial support of the Greenwood Community Church during this time of economic hardship for many AND when we have been unable to meet as a full congregation.

**Flowers Today** are given to the glory of God by Pastor Clark in celebration of the one year anniversary of the July 14, 2019 ordination of the (other) Rev. Stephen L. Clark, and in (belated) celebration of Steve's June 21, 2020 marriage to Kimberly Brodie. (On a semi-related note, last week's Flower Dedication incorrectly listed Dr. Betty McClung's parents as Ed and Marie McClung; it should have read Ed and Marie Beranek. We apologize for the error.)

**THANK YOU!** -- "Thanks to all of you who sent me beautiful cards and best wishes after my recent knee surgeries! I am doing quite well and hope to be able to join you at services soon! I am truly blessed to have such caring friends. Blessings to all of you -- Bill Cheney"

**VIRTUAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL BEGINS MONDAY!** We will meet on ZOOM at 9:30 each morning this week to start the day with a welcome, songs with Pastor Clark and Director of Music John Black, a skit and a recap of the previous day amid a "castle call out." Armor up with your take home kit – all the gear you will need to join us in adventuring through the ice and snow (use your imagination!) to find the Great Armor by following clues in the King's Book. Hope to "see" you Monday!



The Rev. Dr. Stephen L. Clark, Pastor

John C. Black, Director of Music and Choirs, Organist

Alexandra K. Nichols, Music Associate

Matthew S. Majeika, Camera and Technical Master

Olivia R. Black, "Choir"

Michael Desmond, Lector

## INSTRUCTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS DETAILS

- We recognize the sensitive issue that some won't attend a service without masks being required, while others won't attend a service if masks are required ... as per the CDC Guidelines for Houses of Worship at this time, facemask use is strongly encouraged, but not mandated. We **DO** request all to do their best to maintain the recommended social distancing of six feet between non-family persons at all times.
- The 29Eleven room is designated as a "Masks Required" area; a 75 inch TV allows for live-stream viewing of the worship service.
- Roughly every other pew will be open in the sanctuary and pews will be marked off to leave a distance on either side of people from different households; ushers will be prepared to guide you in seating.
- The hymnals and pew Bibles need not be used; all worship materials are in the bulletins which you may pick up as you enter the sanctuary. Also, the worship materials are available online (gccp.org) for those who may prefer to use personal electronic devices.
- For now there will be no Passing of the Peace, nursery care, Children's Church, or Sunday School for any age until further notice.
- The offering plates will not be passed, but strategically placed in the narthex and by entrances for people to place tithes and offerings. Online giving is also encouraged.
- There will be no formal coffee hour/refreshment time.
- **TO HELP US WITH PLANNING, PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO COME TO WORSHIP.** The most efficient way is to go to [www.gccp.org](http://www.gccp.org), and click on the heading subcategory on the home page "RSVP for Worship." Or, go directly to [www.gccp.org/RSVP](http://www.gccp.org/RSVP). A form will pop up for you to fill out and submit. If you have difficulty navigating technology, just give the church a telephone call to let us know you're coming; leave your name, number attending, and a number we can call to confirm if necessary.
- Again, this is uncharted territory for us; I trust all to be graciously understanding as we do our best to accommodate everyone, given our limitations.

## THANK YOU!

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen