



**Homecoming Sunday**  
**Sunday, September 20, 2020**  
**10:00 a.m.**

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich declares itself to be open and affirming; open to all for participation, membership, leadership, and employment, and affirming of all who wish to join us as children of God.  
We continue to give thanks for God's guidance in our journey of faith.

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We welcome you this day and are glad you made the choice to join us for this live stream worship service. May it be a blessing to you.

## FIRST CHURCH CONNECTS WITH YOU DURING THE WEEK

**Sunday** 8 a.m. Worship in the Memory Garden – weather permitting (advance registration is required. See your Friday email for information.)

10 a.m. Worship

Livestream - [YouTube](#)

Facebook - [First Church](#)

Radio at [WGCH](#) 1490 AM or 105.5 FM

Download the bulletin [HERE](#)

**Wednesday** Wisdom on Wednesdays (e-blast by Rev. Patrick Collins)

**Friday** Email with full information for the upcoming week

Please make sure your email is on our list of recipients.  
If you are not on our mailing list, send your address to [wendys@fccog.org](mailto:wendys@fccog.org)

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## THE RUMMAGE ROOM

### Store Hours

Monday - Thursday  
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

### Donation Hours

Wednesday & Thursday  
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## CALL TO COMMUNITY

Rev. Patrick Collins

Using your smartphone messaging app,  
text [FCCOG Donate to 73256](#)  
or click [HERE](#) to access the online giving webpage  
or scan the QR code below using your smartphone



## PRELUDE

*River City Blues*  
Martha Mier (b. 1936)  
Sara Rahimtula, piano

## INTROIT

The Chancel Choir Quartet

## HYMN

*All Are Welcome*

**Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:**

**Refrain:**

**all are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;  
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: (Refrain)**

**Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger: (Refrain)**

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: (Refrain)

## GATHERING PRAYER

O God our Creator, we thank you that today you have called us to worship you and learn of you. You alone know our needs. Satisfy them with your unending love. In your presence may we find comfort in sorrow, guidance in perplexity, strength to meet temptation, courage to face up to the hostility of this rebellious world, and abundant imagination to dream of a new creation. Above all, may we encounter your Spirit and go from our worship as a changed people. This prayer we ask in Christ's name. Amen.

## ANTHEM

*The Rainbow Song*  
The Cherub Choir  
Carol Woodman, director

## HOMECOMING LITURGY

### FIRST LESSON

*Psalm 137*  
New International Version  
Betsy Kreuter

By the rivers of Babylon we sat and wept  
when we remembered Zion.  
There on the poplars  
we hung our harps,  
for there our captors asked us for songs,  
our tormentors demanded songs of joy;  
they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

How can we sing the songs of the Lord  
while in a foreign land?  
If I forget you, Jerusalem,  
may my right hand forget its skill.  
May my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth  
if I do not remember you,  
if I do not consider Jerusalem  
my highest joy.

Remember, Lord, what the Edomites did  
on the day Jerusalem fell.  
“Tear it down,” they cried,  
“tear it down to its foundations!”  
Daughter Babylon, doomed to destruction,  
happy is the one who repays you  
according to what you have done to us.  
Happy is the one who seizes your infants  
and dashes them against the rocks.

## ANTHEM

*Praise His Holy Name*  
Keith Hampton (b. 1957)  
The Chancel Choir Quartet

## SECOND LESSON

*Jeremiah 29: 4-14*

This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” Yes, this is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says: “Do not let the prophets and diviners among you deceive you. Do not listen to the dreams you encourage them to have. They are prophesying lies to you in my name. I have not sent them,” declares the Lord.

This is what the Lord says: “When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place. For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you,” declares the Lord, “and will bring you back from captivity. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you,” declares the Lord, “and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile.”

## MESSAGE

*Out Of Exile*  
Rev. Patrick Collins

## ANTHEM

*Take My Voice*  
Steve Kupferschmid  
The Youth Choir

## TRIBUTE TO CAROLYN PAULUS

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jennifer Gartner

## 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 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.

## HYMN

*I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!  
I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!  
I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!  
I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!  
I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

## BENEDICTION

Rev. Patrick Collins

## CHORAL RESPONSE

*The Lord Bless You And Keep You*  
Peter Lutkin (1858-1931)

## POSTLUDE

*Westbound Train*  
Christos Tsitsaros (b. 1961)  
James Mair, piano

# The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

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## MINISTERS - ALL MEMBERS OF THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

**Senior Pastor**

**Minister of Music**

**Director of Faith Formation**

**Director of Church Administration and Finance**

**Director of Membership**

**Parish Nurse**

**Administrative Assistant**

**Database Administrative Assistant**

**Director of Preschool**

**Preschool Administrative Assistant**

**Pastors Emeriti**

Reverend Patrick Collins

Dr. Craig Scott Symons

Rosemary Lamie

Steve Summerton

Ginny Breismeister

Susan Asselin, RN

Wendy Spezzano

Sue Wilder

Darla Kohler Steiner

Melanie Garnett

Reverend Dr. Thomas L. Stiers - Reverend Sally Colegrove

