



**Harvest Sunday**  
**Sunday, November 22, 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.

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.

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## **SUNDAY MORNING FOR LIVE STREAM WORSHIP**

### **10 A.M. WORSHIP**

YouTube - [YouTube](#)

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

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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

## VIDEO WELCOME

## 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

*The Gift Of Home*  
Ruth Elaine Schram  
The Children's Choir  
(audio from Music Sunday, 2019)

## HYMN

*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

**Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home:  
all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin;  
God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied:  
come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.**

**All the world is God's own field, fruit unto his praise to yield;  
wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown:  
first the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear:  
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.**

**For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take his harvest home;  
from his field shall in that day all offenses purge away;  
give his angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,  
but the fruitful ears to store in his garner evermore.**

**Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home;  
gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin;  
there forever purified, in thy presence to abide:  
come, with all thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home.**

## GATHERING PRAYER

The witnesses tell of your boundless generosity,  
and their telling is compelling to us:

You give your world to call the worlds into being;

You give your sovereign rule to emancipate the slaves and the oppressed;

You give your commanding fidelity to form your own people;

You give your life for the life of the world...

broken bread that feeds,

poured out wine and binds and heals.

You give...we receive...and are thankful.

We begin this day in gratitude,  
thanks that is a match for your self-giving,  
gratitude in gifts offered,  
gratitude in tales told,  
gratitude in lives lived.

Gratitude willed, but not so readily lived,  
held back by old wounds turned to powerful resentment,  
slowed by early fears become vague anxiety,  
restrained by self-sufficiency in a can-do arrogance,  
blocked by amnesia unable to recall gifts any longer.

Do this yet. Create innocent spaces for us this day  
for the gratitude we intend.

In thankfulness,  
we will give,  
we will tell,  
we will live,  
your gift through us to gift the world. Amen

## ANTHEM

*He's My Rock*  
The Cherub Choir  
Carol Woodman, director  
Andrea Osker, Lynn Hawxhurst, ukulele

## FIRST LESSON

*Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24*  
New International Version  
Helen Ingraham

“For this is what the Sovereign Lord says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land. I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign Lord. I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.

“Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord says to them: See, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you shove with flank and shoulder, butting all the weak sheep with your horns until you have driven them away, I will save my flock, and they will no longer be plundered. I will judge between one sheep and another. I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd. I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David will be prince among them. I the Lord have spoken.

## ANTHEM

*The Heavens Declare*  
Richard Shephard  
The Chancel Choir Quartet

## SECOND LESSON

*Matthew 25: 31-46*  
The Message

“When he finally arrives, blazing in beauty and all his angels with him, the Son of Man will take his place on his glorious throne. Then all the nations will be arranged before him and he will sort the people out, much as a shepherd sorts out sheep and goats, putting sheep to his right and goats to his left.

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Enter, you who are blessed by my Father! Take what’s coming to you in this kingdom. It’s been ready for you since the world’s foundation. And here’s why:

I was hungry and you fed me,  
I was thirsty and you gave me a drink,  
I was homeless and you gave me a room,  
I was shivering and you gave me clothes,  
I was sick and you stopped to visit,  
I was in prison and you came to me.’

“Then those ‘sheep’ are going to say, ‘Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you a drink? And when did we ever see you sick or in prison and come to you?’ Then the King will say, ‘I’m telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me.’

“Then he will turn to the ‘goats,’ the ones on his left, and say, ‘Get out, worthless goats! You’re good for nothing but the fires of hell. And why? Because—

I was hungry and you gave me no meal,  
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,  
I was homeless and you gave me no bed,  
I was shivering and you gave me no clothes,  
Sick and in prison, and you never visited.’

“Then those ‘goats’ are going to say, ‘Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or homeless or shivering or sick or in prison and didn’t help?’

“He will answer them, ‘I’m telling the solemn truth: Whenever you failed to do one of these things to someone who was being overlooked or ignored, that was me—you failed to do it to me.’

“Then those ‘goats’ will be herded to their eternal doom, but the ‘sheep’ to their eternal reward.”

## MESSAGE

*Endless Invitation*  
Rev. Patrick Collins

## ANTHEM

*A Repeating Alleluia*  
Calvin Hampton  
The Chancel Choir

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Cydney Van Dyke

## 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.**

## HARVEST OFFERING

### HYMNS

#### *We Gather Together*

**We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;  
He chastens and hastens his will to make known;  
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.  
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.**

**Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,  
Ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;  
So from the beginning the fight we were winning;  
Thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glory be thine!**

#### *O Beautiful For Spacious Skies*

**O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain;  
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!  
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,  
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.**

**O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years  
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!  
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,  
confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.**

#### *Now Thank We All Our God*

**Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices;  
who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.**

**All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,  
the Son and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven  
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore;  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**

*This Is My Song*

**This is my song, O God of all the nations,  
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.  
This is my home, the country where my heart is;  
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;  
but other hearts in other lands are beating  
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.**

**My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,  
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine;  
but other lands have sunlight too, and clover,  
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.  
O hear my song, O God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for their land and for mine.**

**BENEDICTION**

Rev. Patrick Collins

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

*Go Now In Peace*  
Craig Scott Symons

**POSTLUDE**

*Now Thank We All Our God*  
Sigfrid Karg Elert

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## **The First Congregational Church of Greenwich**

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

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**Associate 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**

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**Pastors Emeriti**

Reverend Dr. Thomas L. Stiers - Reverend Sally Colegrove

Reverend Patrick Collins

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

Dr. Craig Scott Symons

Rosemary Lamie

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Susan Asselin, RN

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