

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Sunday, February 27, 2022
10 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 worship service. May it be a blessing to you.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP



*God puts the wiggle in children
and calls it good... and so do we!*

At First Church, we believe that the way we welcome children in worship directly affects the way they respond to God, the church, and to one another.

To welcome children as they are in worship, we've created the **PrayGround**, located in the front of the chapel (right side of the Meetinghouse) where children and others can engage in worship through movement and prayerful play.

The **PrayGround** offers space for movement and sensory materials for all ages to worship with and through. The presence of all God's children is a gift to the church, which offers hope for all.

Using your smartphone messaging app, text **FCCOG Donate** to **73256** or click [HERE](#) to access the online giving webpage.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

PRELUDE

Adoration

Florence Price (1887-1953)

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Reverend Patrick Collins

One: Beyond our busyness, above the cold winter floor, there is a glory rising born of heaven and reaching out to each one of us.

All: A light that shines through the clouds, an invitation seeking all of who we are, that transfigures the world.

One: That transforms darkness into hope, that brings life from a cross, where old life ends, and new life is born.

All: In glory Jesus meets us here, raising us from the depths of the valley to the height of the mountain, carrying the weight of our humanity to the heights of heavens glory.

One: Let us worship from the mountain and hear again, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"

Rev. Rob Smith

Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church

Apple Valley, MN



1 O Splen - dor of God's glo - ry bright, from light e -
 2 Come, Ho - ly Sun of heaven - ly love, rain down your
 3 O joy - ful be the pass - ing day with thoughts as
 4 O Lord, with each re - turn - ing morn, your im - age



ter - nal bring - ing light; O Light of Light, light's
 ra - diance from a - bove, and to our in - ward
 clear as morn - ing's ray, with faith like noon - tide
 to our heart is born; O may we ev - er



liv - ing spring, true Day, all days il - lu - min - ing:
 hearts con - vey the Ho - ly Spir - it's cloud - less ray.
 shin - ing bright, our souls un - shad - owed by the night.
 clear - ly view our Sav - ior and our God in you.

VISUAL MEDITATION

Wait For It
Music by: Shellee Layne Coley
Poem by: Kelly Ann Hall

Recreation work can get dark, My loves—
Light so sparse it takes willingness to catch a glimmer.

It is not a comfortable time and space,
and though you may not recognize Me,
I AM in it, waiting alongside you.
Speaking your eyes wide open,
illuminating faces, guiding Lights,
scattering flickers of hope
and traces of warmth not only to sustain you...

but lead you by your willingness
to holiness embodied,
where we can reflect one another, altered—
Me wearing your humanity, You hosting My divinity.
It sounds too good to be true, but I tell you...
you will discover unmistakable beauty
in unmade-up places.

Wait for it.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

RESPONSE

Jesus Loves Me!

Children will depart for Church School

**Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong.**

**Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

FIRST LESSON

Exodus 34: 29-35
New International Version
Pat Mendelsohn

When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands, he was not aware that his face was radiant because he had spoken with the Lord. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, his face was radiant, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; so Aaron and all the leaders of the community came back to him, and he spoke to them. Afterward all the Israelites came near him, and he gave them all the commands the Lord had given him on Mount Sinai.

When Moses finished speaking to them, he put a veil over his face. But whenever he entered the Lord's presence to speak with him, he removed the veil until he came out. And when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, they saw that his face was radiant. Then Moses would put the veil back over his face until he went in to speak with the Lord.

ANTHEM

Every Time I Feel The Spirit
Arr. William Dawson (b. 1899-1990)
The Chancel Choir
Thomas Woodman, baritone

Every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.

*Upon the mountain my Lord spoke out of his mouth came fire and smoke;
Looked all around me looked so fine I till I asked my Lord if all was mine.*

*Jordan's River is chilly and cold it chills the body but not the soul.
There ain't but one train upon this track it runs to heaven and right back*

SECOND LESSON

Luke 9: 28-43
New Revised Standard Version

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

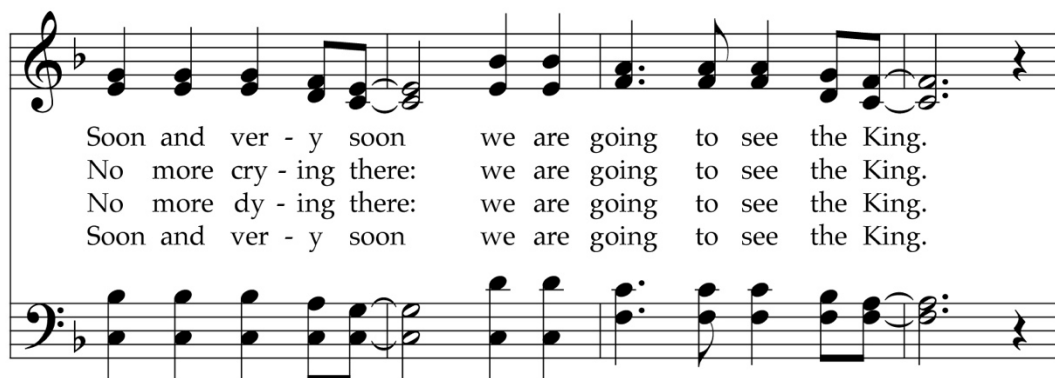
On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, “Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.” Jesus answered, “You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here.” While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

MESSAGE

Let's Face It
Reverend Patrick Collins



1 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.
 2 No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 3 No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 4 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.



Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.
 No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.



Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.
 No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're going to see the King!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

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.

CALL TO OFFERING

Mario Lotufo

OFFERTORY SOLO

Give Me Jesus
Arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003)
Hanna Golodinskii, soprano

*In the morning, when I rise, In the morning, when I rise
In the morning, when I rise, give me Jesus.
Give me Jesus, give me Jesus, you can have all this world, give me Jesus.*

*Dark midnight was my cry, dark midnight was my cry, dark midnight was my cry, give me Jesus.
Oh when I come to die, oh when I come to die, oh when I come to die, give me Jesus.
Give me Jesus, give me Jesus, you can have all this world, give me Jesus.*

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures
here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Unison

1 Sing glo - ry to the name of God, whose ho - ly splen-dor shines a -
 2 The name of God is full of might: re - sound-ing thun-der, flash-ing
 3 The name of God is wild and free, a - whirl in ho - ly mys-ter-
 4 May God for - ev - er be our peace; may hymns of glo - ry nev - er

Harmony *Unison*

broad.
 light.
 y.
 cease:

Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

En - throned a - bove the
 The wil - der - ness can-
 A se - cret wrapped in
 Let all the faith - ful

crash - ing waves, the God of grace and glo - ry saves.
 not con - tain the ech - oes of the great re - frain:
 smoke and fire, still chant-ed by the tem-ple choir:
 peo - ple come; sing praise to God, the Three-in - One:

Harmony

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia,

Unison

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows two staves of musical notation. The top staff is labeled 'Harmony' and the bottom staff is labeled 'Unison'. Both staves are in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia,' for the Harmony part and 'al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!' for the Unison part. The music features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests and ties.

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

I'm Gonna Sing When The Spirit Says Sing
Anthony Giamanco (b. 1958)

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MUSIC NOTES

As February is *Black History Month*, most of the music sung or played in worship during the month will be of a gospel or spiritual nature.

The prelude is a piece by Florence Price written around 1951. She was born in Little Rock, AR, educated at the New England Conservatory of Music, and noted as the first African American woman to be recognized as a symphonic composer, and first to have a composition played by a major orchestra – the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in 1933.

The Chancel Choir sings another of their favorite anthems “Ev’ry time I feel the spirit” arranged by William Dawson, (1899-1990) and taught at the famous Tuskegee Institute from 1931-1956.

During the offertory, Hanna Golodinskii sings a souful arrangement of “Give me Jesus” by Moses Hogan. Born in New Orleans, Louisiana, Hogan was a pianist, conductor and arranger of international renown. A graduate of the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA) and Oberlin Conservatory of Music in Ohio, he also studied at New York's Juilliard School of Music

and Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. Mr. Hogan's many accomplishments as a concert pianist included winning first place in the prestigious 28th annual Kosciuszko Foundation Chopin Competition in New York.

The postlude is by Anthony Giamanco, a Detroit area composer and friend of mine, sets the familiar spiritual in an exuberant flashy setting for organ to wrap up our tribute to Black History Month.

Dr. Craig Scott Symons
Minister of Music

TODAY'S EVENTS



In light of the rapid spread of COVID-19,
Community Hour is suspended until further notice.

Children begin in church with their families and will go to their classes after the Children's Message --

- 3's, 4's and Kindergarten in the Auditorium
- 1st and 2nd graders in Rick's Room
- 3rd and 4th graders in the Lounge
- 5th and 6th graders in the 3rd Floor Office.



Church School Task Force members and teachers are in the hallway to help children find their rooms.

Join A New Music Ensemble!!



Join us as we embark on a new musical journey with the
Silverthorn Handchimes
beginning Thursday, March 10
11 a.m. 12 p.m. in the Meetinghouse.

This is a chance for folks to get to learn about chimes/bells as a new ensemble for our First Church music ministry, particularly for someone that prefers a daytime availability. The group will not have a performance deadline but will learn and grow in skills and an appearance in worship could occur as members feel confident. Music experience (or handbell/chime) isn't necessary, but is helpful.

To share your intent to attend, email Craig Symons at craigs@fccog.org
or voicemail at 203-637-1791 ext 822 before March 6
to give Craig time for assigning chimes and choosing music.

REHEARSALS FOR CHERUB, CHILDREN, & YOUTH CHOIRS RESUMES TODAY!

After an extended pause for Omicron, our youngest choirs resume rehearsals today. All staff and participants will be masked. During this winter/early spring session, this is a perfect opportunity to explore a bit of singing with these groups.

Times and locations are as follows:

Cherub Choir Kindergarten – 2nd Grade: Carol Woodman, director;
Silver Room (lower level/preschool area) 11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Children's Choir 3rd Grade – 6th Grade: Craig Symons, director;
Music Room (3rd floor/choir room area) 11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Youth Choir 7th Grade – 12th Grade: Danny Young, director;
Choir Room (3rd floor) 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

LENT AT FIRST CHURCH



ASHES TO GO

Wednesday, March 2

6:00 am to 9:30 am

Start your morning on Ash Wednesday with a new approach to a centuries-old Christian tradition in the parking lot of the First Congregational Church from 6 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. You are invited to come and receive ashes and a special blessing from the pastors.

NEXT WEEK IN WORSHIP

Sunday, March 6

10:00 am

Every Sunday in Lent the congregation will be invited to experience an element of worship using our bodily senses. Next Sunday we look forward to engaging together deeply, physically, and spiritually with the elements of Communion.

LENTEN DINNERS

Tuesday, March 8

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Join us this Tuesday for a community meal hosted by one of our committees followed by a faith formation and education program on the spiritual practice of yoga. Together, we will learn some of the history and spirituality of the practice, as well as learn a few simple practices you can use every day.

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

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203-637-1791 • www.fccog.org

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