FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Sunday, February 6, 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

Talk About A Child Arr. Calvin Taylor (b. 1948) Dr. Craig Scott Symons, piano

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: I give you thanks, O God, with my whole heart. I sing your praise and give thanks for your steadfast love and faithfulness. You have exalted your name and

your word above everything.

All: On the day I called, you answered me. You increased my strength of soul.

One: Though God is high, God regards the lowly; but the haughty God perceives from

far away.

All: Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath

of my enemies. You stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers

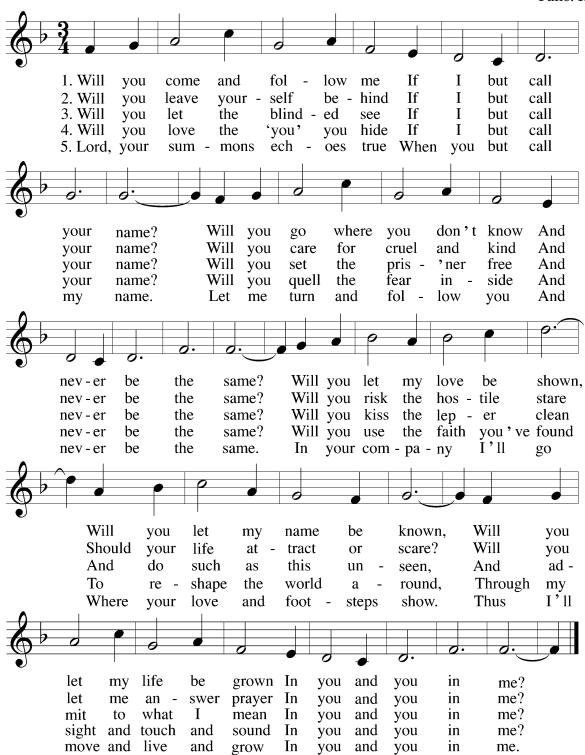
me.

One: God will fulfill God's purpose for me. Your steadfast love, O God, endures

forever.

All: Do not forsake the work of your hands.

Tune: Kelvingrove



You call us, wanderer of seashores and sidewalks, inviting us to sail out of our smug harbors into the uncharted waters of faith. You call us to wander off from our predictable paths to follow you into the unpredictable footsteps of the kingdom; to leave the comfort of our homes and accompany you into the uncomfortable neighborhoods we usually avoid.

As we wait, in our simple, sometimes crazy, constantly uncertain lives, speak to us, Spirit of Grace: of that hope which is our anchor; of that peace which is our rock; of that grace which is our refuge. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

RESPONSE Jesus Loves Me!

Children will return to their seats

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 Psalm 138

New International Version
Al Primo

I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart; before the "gods" I will sing your praise.

I will bow down toward your holy temple

and will praise your name for your unfailing love and your faithfulness,

for you have so exalted your solemn decree

that it surpasses your fame.

When I called, you answered me; you greatly emboldened me.

May all the kings of the earth praise you, Lord,

when they hear what you have decreed.

May they sing of the ways of the Lord,

for the glory of the Lord is great.

Though the Lord is exalted, he looks kindly on the lowly;

though lofty, he sees them from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble,

you preserve my life.

You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes;

with your right hand you save me.

The Lord will vindicate me; your love, Lord, endures forever—
do not abandon the works of your hands.

ANTHEM

There Is A Balm In Gilead Arr. William Dawson (1899-1990) The Chancel Choir Carolyn Paulus, soprano

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole. There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain; But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.

Oh, there is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole. There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

If you cannot sing like angels, if you cannot preach like Paul; you can tell the love of Jesus and say he died for all.

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole. There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Jeremiah 8:22

SECOND LESSON

Luke 5: 1-11 Common English Bible

One day Jesus was standing beside Lake Gennesaret when the crowd pressed in around him to hear God's word. Jesus saw two boats sitting by the lake. The fishermen had gone ashore and were washing their nets. Jesus boarded one of the boats, the one that belonged to Simon, then asked him to row out a little distance from the shore. Jesus sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he finished speaking to the crowds, he said to Simon, "Row out farther, into the deep water, and drop your nets for a catch."

Simon replied, "Master, we've worked hard all night and caught nothing. But because you say so, I'll drop the nets."

So they dropped the nets and their catch was so huge that their nets were splitting. They signaled for their partners in the other boat to come and help them. They filled both boats so full that they were about to sink. When Simon Peter saw the catch, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Leave me, Lord, for I'm a sinner!" Peter and those with him were overcome with amazement because of the number of fish they caught. James and John, Zebedee's sons, were Simon's partners and they were amazed too.

Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid. From now on, you will be fishing for people." As soon as they brought the boats to the shore, they left everything and followed Jesus.

MESSAGE

Meet Me Halfway Reverend Patrick Collins

†HYMN

Tune: Repton



- 1 How clear is our vo ca tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
- 2 But if, for-get ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
- 3 We mar vel how your saints be-came in hin-dranc-es more sure:
- 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to geth er or a lone



to live ac-cord-ing to your word and dai-ly learn, re-freshed, reif world-ly pres-sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not unwhose joy - ful vir-tues put to shame the ca-sual way we wear your in old rou-tines or ven-tures new, may we not cease to look to



† Please rise in body or in spirit

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

OFFERTORY SOLO

By An' By Harry T. Burleigh Thomas Woodman, bass

Oh by and by, by and by I'm goin' to lay down this heavy load.

I know my robe's goin' to fit me well; I'm goin' to lay down my heavy load; I tried it on at the gates of hell, I'm goin' to lay down my heavy load.

Oh, some of these mornin's bright an' fair, I'm goin' to lay down my heavy load; Gonna take-a my wings an' cleave the air, I'm goin' to lay down my heavy load.

†DOXOLOGY



† Please rise in body or in spirit

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation
Prayer of Consecration
Words of Institution
Receiving the Bread and Cup

In the tradition of our church, let us partake of the bread (gluten-free) and the cup together, remembering our individual uniqueness in the eyes of God, and our diversity and unity within the Body of Christ.

Those receiving communion are asked to come forward by the center aisle, receive the bread and an individual cup, return to your seat by the side aisle, where you will consume the bread and juice and put your mask back in place.

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The bread has been broken, the cup has been poured, the meal has been shared. Gracious God, we give thanks for bread for the journey, for your wisdom guiding us along the way. May there be friends to share the road as we dare to dream of creation renewed, and hope in the promise of justice for all. Amen.

Tune: Winchester New



† Please rise in body or in spirit

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Toccata In E Minor Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

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MUSIC NOTES

After a long hiatus, our weekly **Music Notes** segment returns to the Sunday bulletin.

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. Today's Chancel Choir anthem, "There is a balm in Gilead", is a spiritual whose lyrics can be found in Jeremiah 8:22: ""Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is there no healing for the wounds of my [God's] people?". This arrangement is by William Dawson (1899-1990) and taught at the famous Tuskegee Institute from 1931-1956. I had the privilege of singing with "Uncle Bill", as he was affectionately known, on many occasions when he would spend time with the Wayne State University (Detroit) Men's Glee Club and work on his spirituals with the group.

Tom Woodman will sing an arrangement of "By an' By" by Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949). Burleigh's career was filled with many performances as a baritone (he was soloist for St. George's Episcopal in Stuyvesant Square in NYC), a composer, and arranger. From Wikipedia: "In the late 1890s, Burleigh also began to publish his own arrangements of art songs. About 1898, he began to compose his own songs and by the late 1910s, Burleigh was one of America's best-known composers of art songs. Beginning around 1910, Burleigh also worked editing music for G. Ricordi, an Italian music publisher with offices in New York. Through the 1920s and 1930s, Burleigh continued to promote especially the spirituals through publications, lectures, and arrangements. His lifelong advocacy for the spiritual eclipsed his singing career, as well as his arrangements of art songs. He retired in 1946 because of ill health, and his son moved him from Long Island to a retirement home in Stamford, Connecticut, where he died on September 12. 1949."

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.

Today is All-Ages worship in the Meetinghouse. Church School resumes next Sunday, February 13, 2022.





JANUARY RUMMAGE ROOM HOURS

New hours for sales and donation drop off are Monday - Thursday 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

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Ministers - All Members Of The First Congregational Church Of Greenwich

Senior Pastor Reverend Patrick Collins Reverend Cydney Van Dyke **Associate Pastor** Minister of Music Dr. Craig Scott Symons **Faith Formation and Education Coordinator** Rosemary Lamie **Director of Church Administration and Finance** Steve Summerton Parish Nurse Susan Asselin, RN **Church Office Coordinator** Wendy Spezzano **Director of Public Relations** Stephen Lucin **Livestream Director Daniel Lepoutre** Audio Technician **Bob Small Database Administrative Assistant** Sue Wilder Curtis Gay, Qasim Hussaini Sextons **Sunday Sexton** Julio Yika Jennifer DiCarlo **Director of Preschool** Preschool Administrative Assistant Melanie Garnett Pastors Emeriti Reverend Dr. Thomas L. Stiers - Reverend Sally Colegrove

