



THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
Sunday March 20, 2022



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 Patrick Collins

PRELUDE

Preamble

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Only the hungry search for bread. Only the thirsty look for water.

All: **This is a place for those who are hungry and thirsty in spirit.**

One: Only those who ache for meaning will pursue it. Only those who yearn for a deeper life will seek it.

All: **This is a place for those who ache and yearn for something more.**

One: So let us come here today with our hunger and thirst, our unsatisfied longings, our heart-felt yearnings,

All: **and let the God of life satisfy our souls.**

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

GATHERING PRAYER

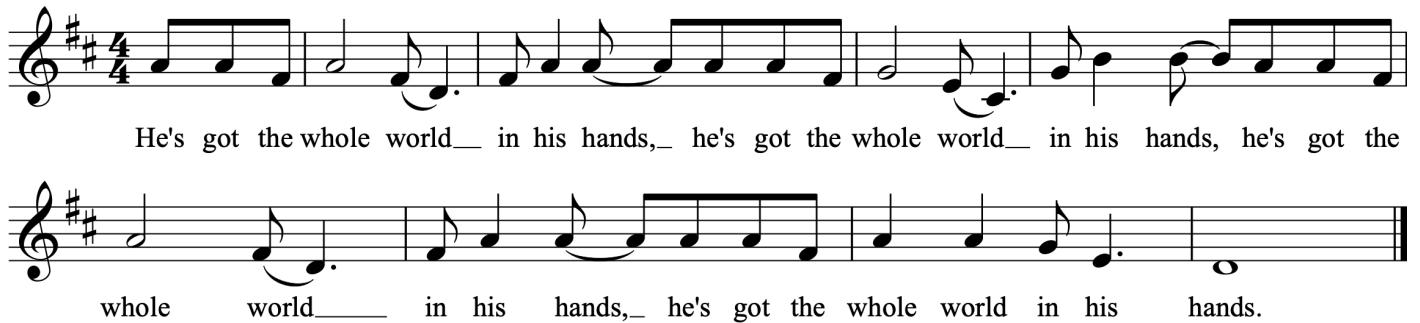
You, God, are our God, earnestly we seek you; we thirst for you, we long for you with our whole selves. We are like drought-cracked earth desperately hoping for rain. We have seen you in this place, with these people, seen your power and your glory. Your love is better than life, and so we glorify you; as long as we live, we praise you; with our voices and our bodies, we praise you. You fill and fulfill us here at this table, and so we sing our thanks and praise to you. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

During the sung response, children will depart for Church School

RESPONSE

He's Got The Whole World



FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 55: 1-9
New International Version
Pat Larrabee

“Come, all you who are thirsty,
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without cost.
Why spend money on what is not bread,
and your labor on what does not satisfy?
Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good,
and you will delight in the richest of fare.
Give ear and come to me;
listen, that you may live.
I will make an everlasting covenant with you,
my faithful love promised to David.
See, I have made him a witness to the peoples,
a ruler and commander of the peoples.

Surely you will summon nations you know not,
and nations you do not know will come running to you,
because of the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel,
for he has endowed you with splendor.”
Seek the Lord while he may be found;
call on him while he is near.
Let the wicked forsake their ways
and the unrighteous their thoughts.
Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.
“For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways,”
declares the Lord.
“As the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

ANTHEM

Turn The Face From My Sins
Thomas Attwood (1765-1838)
The Chancel Choir
Hanna Golodinskii, soprano

*Turn thy face from my sins, and put out all my misdeeds.
Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.*

Psalm 51; 9-11

SECOND LESSON

Luke 13: 1-9
Common English Bible

Some who were present on that occasion told Jesus about the Galileans whom Pilate had killed while they were offering sacrifices. He replied, “Do you think the suffering of these Galileans proves that they were more sinful than all the other Galileans? No, I tell you, but unless you change your hearts and lives, you will die just as they did. What about those eighteen people who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them? Do you think that they were more guilty of wrongdoing than everyone else who lives in Jerusalem? No, I tell you, but unless you change your hearts and lives, you will die just as they did.”

Jesus told this parable: “A man owned a fig tree planted in his vineyard. He came looking for fruit on it and found none. He said to his gardener, ‘Look, I’ve come looking for fruit on this fig tree for the past three years, and I’ve never found any. Cut it down! Why should it continue depleting the soil’s nutrients?’ The gardener responded, ‘Lord, give it one more

year, and I will dig around it and give it fertilizer. Maybe it will produce fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.”

MESSAGE

A Change Of Heart
Reverend Patrick Collins

†HYMN

Thy Word

Refrain (Unison)

The musical score is written for a unison voice part. It begins with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The score is divided into several systems, each with a treble and bass staff. Chord symbols are placed above the notes to indicate the harmonic structure. The lyrics are: 'Thy word is a lamp un - to my feet and a light un - to my path. 1. When I feel a - fraid, 2. Now I will not for - get your think I've lost my way, still you're there right be - side me, and love for me and yet my heart for - ev - er is wan - der - ing. noth - ing will I fear as long as you are near. Je - sus, be my guide and hold me to your side, and Please be near me to the end. I will love you to the end.' The score ends with a double bar line and the instruction 'D.C.' (Da Capo).

Thy word is a lamp un - to my feet and a light un - to my path. 1. When I feel a - fraid, 2. Now I will not for - get your think I've lost my way, still you're there right be - side me, and love for me and yet my heart for - ev - er is wan - der - ing. noth - ing will I fear as long as you are near. Je - sus, be my guide and hold me to your side, and Please be near me to the end. I will love you to the end.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

“WALKING” THE LABRYINTH

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.

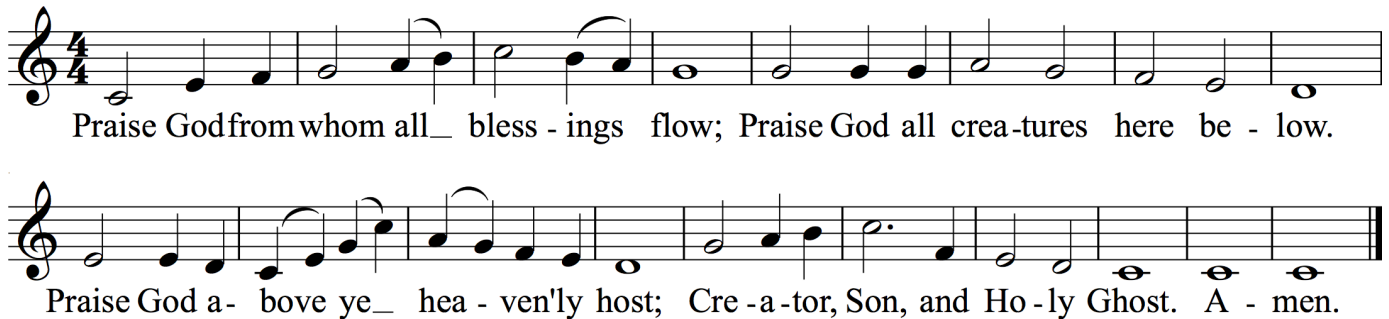
CALL TO OFFERING

Lynn Hawxhurst

ORGAN OFFERTORY

Recit de Chromhorne
François Couperin (1668-1733)

DOXOLOGY



Praise God from whom all_ bless - ings flow; Praise God all crea-tures here be - low.

Praise God a- bove ye_ hea - ven'ly host; Cre - a - tor, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

1 Guide my feet while I run this race;
(yes, my Lord!)

guide my feet while I run this race;
(yes, my Lord!)

guide my feet while I run this race, for I

don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

- 2 Hold my hand ...
- 3 Stand by me ...
- 4 I'm your child ...

- 5 Search my heart ...
- 6 Guide my feet ...

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

I Cry Unto Thee
Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau (1663–1712)

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COVID-19 MASK POLICY UPDATE

WORSHIP:

The Re-Opening Task Force met recently and determined **we will continue to wear masks during the worship hour.** From the beginning of the pandemic, the Re-Opening Task Force decided to wait 30 days after any changes were made to community wide policies and procedures out of an abundance of caution. We are following that protocol on masking guidance in addition to taking into consideration that our youngest church members can still not be vaccinated. The task force will meet at the end of the month and decide on the use of masks during worship. We look forward to seeing everyone's beautiful faces during worship, singing and praying to our God and Creator, which we sincerely hope will be soon.

NON-WORSHIP:

The Re-Opening Task Force recognizes that the groups using our spaces during the week and on the weekends serve populations who are eligible for full vaccination, which is our best tool for protection from the virus. **As such, the task force determined it was safe to follow the community protocols to go mask optional.** All committees, groups, and outside organizations now have the choice to mask while in the building.

TODAY'S EVENTS

COMMUNITY

HOUR

Community Hour in the auditorium is back!
During our time of fellowship masks are optional.
Please participate as you feel comfortable.

Children begin in church with their families and will go to their classes after the Children's Message. Church School Task Force members and teachers are in the hallway to help children find their classrooms.



REHEARSALS FOR CHERUB, CHILDREN, & YOUTH CHOIRS

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

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



Next Week In Worship

Sunday, March 27

Every Sunday in Lent we will experience an element of worship using our bodily senses. Next Sunday we will celebrate with movement the joy of life.

Lenten Dinner

Tuesday, March 22, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Auditorium

Join us this Tuesday for a community meal and special film screening of Mission:Joy hosted by the church staff. Mission:Joy shares the story of the meeting of Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Dali Lama. If you can't join us in-person we have a special link for you to screen the film at home.

Lenten Project 2022 - Appeal for Ukraine

Uniting in prayer, action, and giving - please join in supporting our 2022 Lenten Project, The First Congregational Church Appeal for Ukraine. We are asking for donations to relieve the emergency needs of those affected by the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine and neighboring countries. Donations will be divided among three highly respected agencies. They are:

Americares

International Rescue Committee

United Church of Christ - Ukraine Emergency Appeal

To give to the First Congregational Church Appeal for Ukraine, go to My First Church and select Appeal for Ukraine from the drop-down menu. You may also send a check to First Church with "Appeal for Ukraine" in the memo line, or text FCCOG UKRAINE to 73256.

Because of the immediacy of the need, we will make an initial allocation of funds as soon as we have raised a meaningful amount. Please give this your prompt prayerful consideration.

We stand as a people of faith in love and compassion with the people of Ukraine and all who are affected.

Questions? Please contact laurenghaffari@gmail.com

MUSIC NOTES

The Chancel Choir anthem is by the English composer Thomas Attwood. His career began with an appointment as organist at St. Paul's Cathedral in London while also a court composer for the Chapel Royal. In 1823, he was chosen to be a professor at the Royal Academy of Music. His funeral took place at St. Paul's and is buried in the crypt of the church.

The postlude is by the German composer F. W. Zachau, who was organist at several prominent German churches. He was also the first teacher of G. F. Handel. "Zachow's teaching was so effective, that in 1702 at the age of seventeen, Handel accepted a position as organist at the former Dom in Halle. It is said that after Zachow died in 1712, Handel became a benefactor to his widow and children in gratitude for his teacher's instruction. In 1713, J.S. Bach was invited as Zachow's successor." (Wikipedia)

Nominations Open for Positions on Church Committees

The Standing Committees are the backbone of our congregation lending vital support to the staff to carry out the programs and operations of the church. Please look deep within your heart and nominate yourself, a family member, or a friend.

In turn, service on a committee is an opportunity to give back and bring us all closer together as a community and ultimately to God. Most committees meet once a month on Wednesday evening. The work of the committees is varied and there's something for everyone. Some opportunities for service....

- *Interested in meeting new people, think about joining Welcoming.*
- *Want to make a meaningful connection with members who are experiencing difficult times, the Caring Ministry provides support and resources.*
- *Have some creative ideas on bringing the community together, join Faith Formation.*
- *Enjoy planning activities for children, try the Church School.*
- *Want to do hands-on service, Outreach is the spot for you.*
- *Willing to lend your professional expertise, one of the administrative committees may be for you (Asset Management, Budget, Personnel, Preschool, Stewardship)*
- *Like to participate in worship, join the Diaconate*

Please reach out to us or any member of the Nominating Committee listed below for more information. We look forward to talking with you to share the work of the many committees and finding a good fit for your time and interests.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

2022 Nominating Committee

Donna Hascher & Pat Mendelsohn — Co-Chairs

(donna.hascher@gmail.com)

(patmendelsohn@aol.com)

Ginny Breismeister (ginbreis22@gmail.com)

Chris Cantwell (ctcantwells@sbcglobal.net)

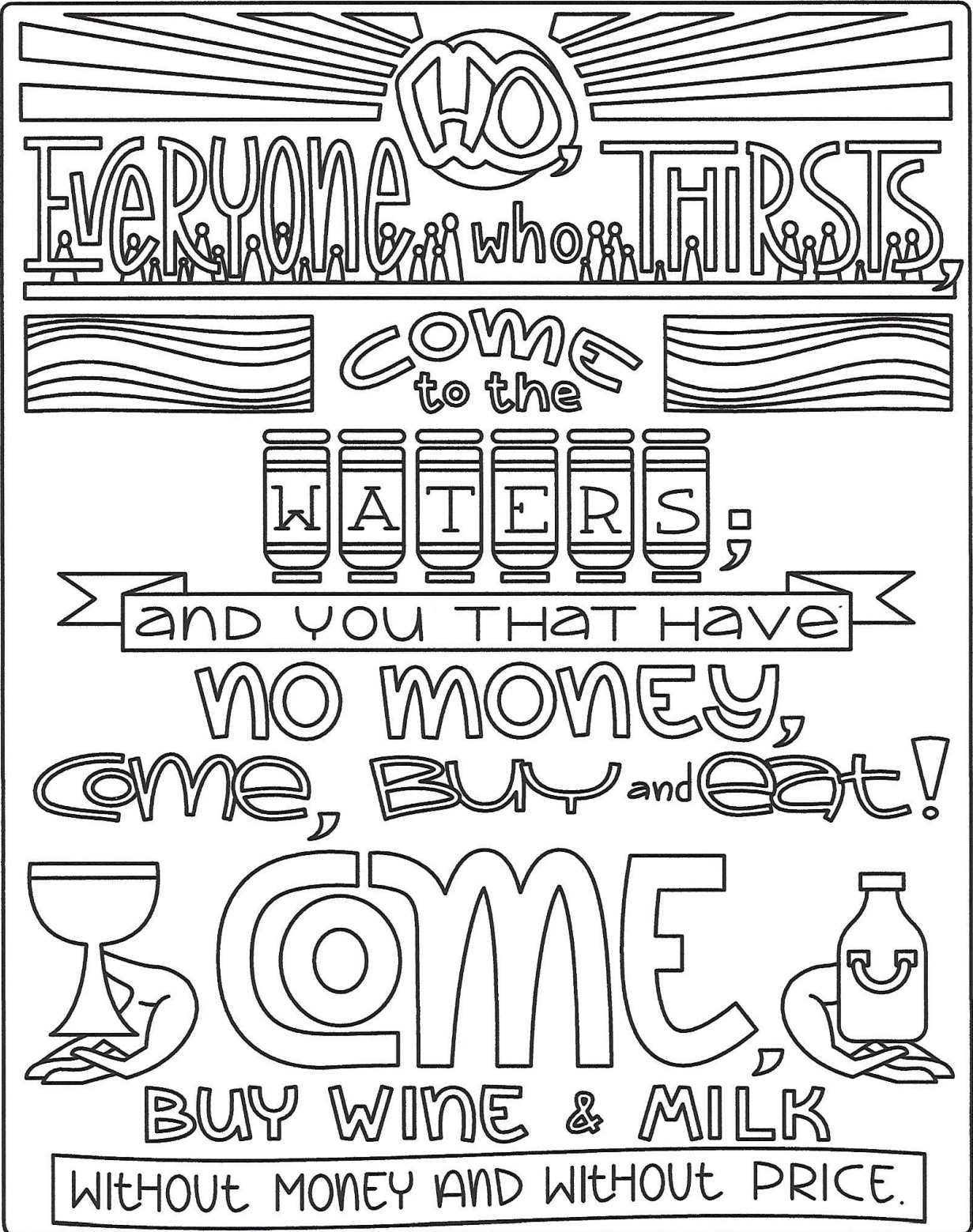
Rev. Patrick Collins (patrickc@fccog.org)

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Nanette Laffan (nlaffan@optonline.net)

COLORING PAGE



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

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Ministers - All Members Of The First Congregational Church Of Greenwich

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Minister of Music

Faith Formation and Education Coordinator

Director of Church Administration and Finance

Parish Nurse

Church Office Coordinator

Director of Public Relations

Livestream Director

Audio Technician

Database Administrative Assistant

Sextons

Sunday Sexton

Director of Preschool

Preschool Administrative Assistant

Pastors Emeriti

Reverend Patrick Collins

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

Dr. Craig Scott Symons

Rosemary Lamie

Steve Summerton

Susan Asselin, RN

Wendy Spezzano

Stephen Lucin

Daniel Lepoutre

Bob Small

Sue Wilder

Curtis Gay, Qasim Hussaini

Julio Yika

Jennifer DiCarlo

Melanie Garnett

Reverend Dr. Thomas L. Stiers - Reverend Sally Colegrove



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