



FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
Sunday April 3, 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

*Flowers are given in loving memory of Dorothy Fisk
by her family on the first anniversary of her death.*

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Patrick Collins

PRELUDE

This Little Light Of Mine

The Cherub Choir

Carol Woodman, director

Andrea Woodman Osker, accompanist

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Reverend Patrick Collins

One: Break open our hearts this morning to hear your word, O God.

All: Let our fears be vanquished, our spirits restored!

One: Come and let us worship with great joy!

All: Let us drop the things of the past which weighed us down!

One: God is about to do something new in our lives!

All: Let us rejoice and give thanks!

†HYMN

Let Us With A Gladsome Mind

Tune: Monkland

1 Let us with a glad - some mind praise the
2 God, with all - com - mand - ing might, filled the
3 All things liv - ing God does feed; with full
4 Let us with a glad - some mind praise the

Lord who is so kind:
new - made world with light:
mea - sure, meets their need: for God's mer - cies
Lord who is so kind:

shall en - dure, ev - er faith - ful, ev - er sure.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

GATHERING PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

We come into your presence, O Lord, with so many burdens and concerns on our hearts. You were ever in and with Jesus on his journey to Jerusalem, guiding his choices and strengthening his courage each step of the way. Be with us and strengthen us on our journeys. Bring us closer to you. Help us to be open to your words that heal and restore, that we may serve you more faithfully by serving others in need. We pray this in the name of Christ who taught us to pray together, saying...

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.

ANTHEM

Open Your Ears, O Faithful People
Traditional Hasidic Melody
The Children's Choir
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, director
Vance Briceland, piano

*Open your ears, O faithful people; open your ears and hear God's word.
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood; God has come to you.
God has spoken to the people, hallelujah! God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!
They who have ears to hear the message, they who have ears, now let them hear;
they who would learn the way of wisdom, let them hear God's word.
God has spoken to the people, hallelujah! God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!
Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah! Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah!*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Reverend Patrick Collins

During the sung response, children will depart for Church School.

RESPONSE

He's Got The Whole World

He's got the whole world in his hands, he's got the whole world in his hands, he's got the whole world in his hands, he's got the whole world in his hands.

GOSPEL LESSON

John 12:1-8
Common English Bible
Barbara Norrgard

Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, home of Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Lazarus and his sisters hosted a dinner for him. Martha served and Lazarus was among those who joined him at the table. Then Mary took an extraordinary amount, almost three-quarters of a pound, of very expensive perfume made of pure nard.

She anointed Jesus' feet with it, then wiped his feet dry with her hair. The house was filled with the aroma of the perfume. Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), complained, "This perfume was worth a year's wages! Why wasn't it sold and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief. He carried the money bag and would take what was in it.)

Then Jesus said, "Leave her alone. This perfume was to be used in preparation for my burial, and this is how she has used it. You will always have the poor among you, but you won't always have me."

ANTHEM

*Lord God Of Abraham
Cast Thy Burden Upon The Lord
From Elijah*
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
The Chancel Choir
Thomas Woodman, baritone

Solo

Draw near, all ye people, come to me!

Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, this day let it be known that Thou art God, and that I am Thy servant! Lord God of Abraham! Oh shew to all this people that I have done these things according to Thy word. Oh hear me, Lord, and answer me! Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, oh hear me and answer me, and shew this people that Thou art Lord God. And let their hearts again be turned!

Chorus

*Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee. He never will suffer the righteous to fall:
He is at thy right hand. Thy mercy, Lord, is great, and far above the heavens.
Let none be made ashamed, that wait upon Thee!*

MESSAGE *Extravagantly Excessive And Extraordinarily Over The Top In Abundance
(and then some)*
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION

Joy
Choreography: Westchester Dance Artists
Music and Lyrics: Joy by For King & Country

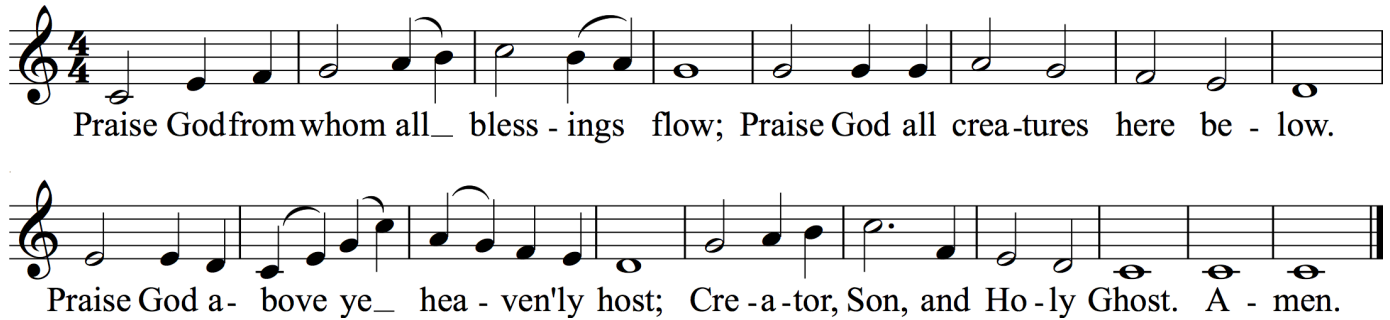
CALL TO OFFERING

Carol Woodman

ORGAN OFFERTORY

There Is A Fountain
Anthony Giamanco (b. 1958)

DOXOLOGY



PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

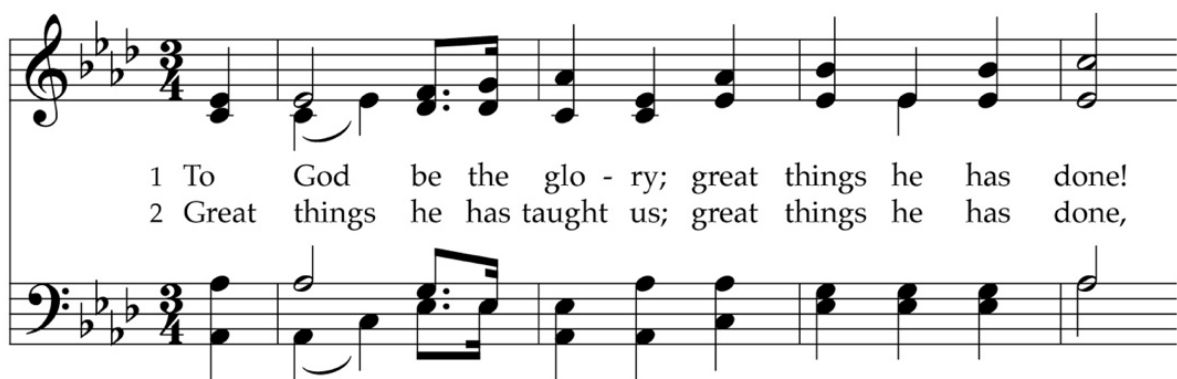
Receiving the Bread and Cup

*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.*

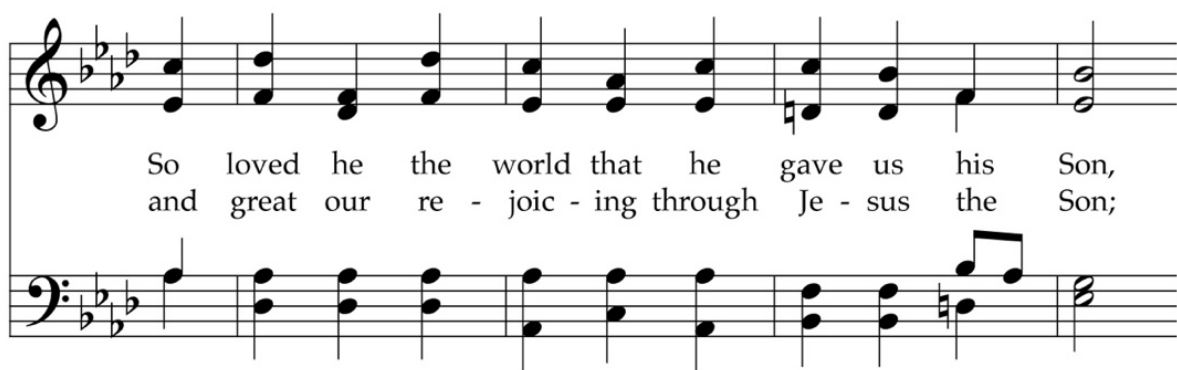
*Those receiving communion are asked to come forward by the center aisle,
receive an anointing from a pastor, then receive the bread and an individual cup,
and return to your seat by the side aisle, where you will consume the bread and juice.*

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

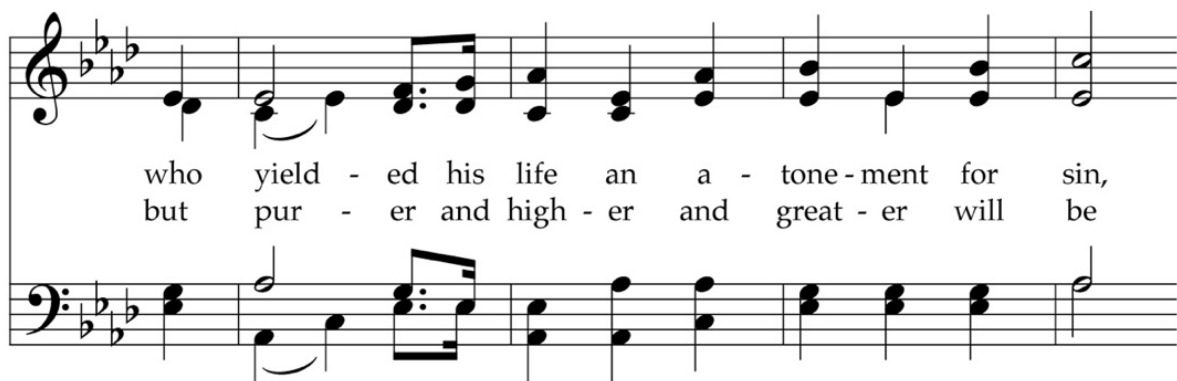
The bread has been broken, the cup has been poured, the meal has been shared. Gracious God, we give thanks for bread for the journey, for your wisdom guiding us along the way. May there be friends to share the road as we dare to dream of creation renewed, and hope in the promise of justice for all. Amen.



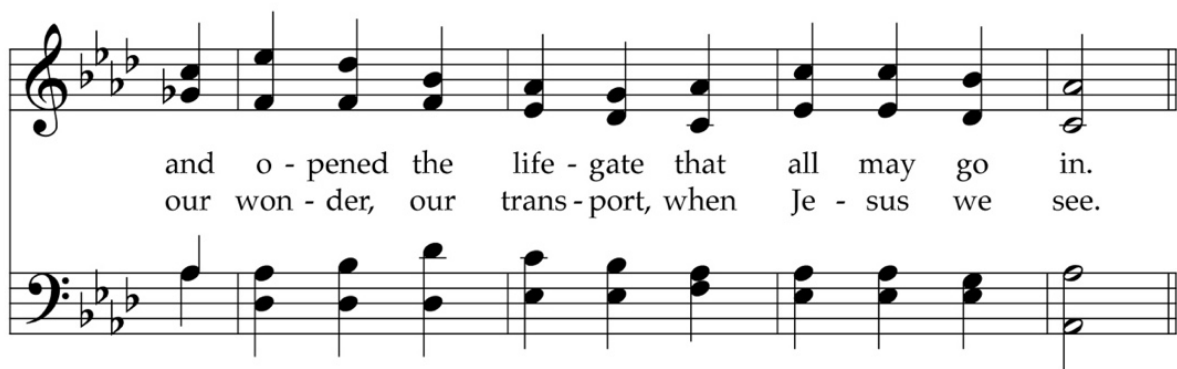
1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!
2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,



So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;



who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,
but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be



and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,

and give him the glory: great things he has done!

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Voluntary in C Major
Arlen Clarke (b. 1954)

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COVID-19 MASK POLICY UPDATE

The Re-Opening Task Force decided, at a recent meeting, to make masking optional for in-person worship services. Please know that you are welcome to join us for in-person worship if you choose to continue to wear a mask or not. All gatherings at the church are now mask optional. The offices will remain open by appointment only during business hours.

The Re-Opening Task Force will continue to monitor the situation and, if needed, will revisit safety protocols and procedures.

TODAY'S EVENTS

COMMUNITY HOURL

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

Even though it is a Communion Sunday, 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 will be in the hallway to help children find their classrooms.



Remember to keep writing Peace Prayers and decorating the Peace Doves. Supplies and directions will be in the back of the church and in Community Hour. Then watch for the display on Easter Sunday.

Finally mark your calendar for
Saturday, April 23rd 11 am to 1 pm
when we will have a special Earth Day Planting Project at Pilgrim Towers in nearby Stamford. Everyone is invited!



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, April 10

Palm Sunday marks the end of the season of Lent and the start of Holy Week, one of the most sacred and moving weeks in the life of the church. Come worship with us!

LENTEN DINNER

Tuesday, April 5, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Auditorium

Join us this Tuesday for a community meal hosted by the Church School Task Force, Faith Formation & Education, and Personnel Committees. Following our meal everyone is invited to join us for a special sensory educational experience.

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

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 14 6 P.M. - 8 P.M.

Supper and Service

Join us in the auditorium for a supper of vegetable and lemon chicken soup. Please bring a side dish for 8-10 people.

At 7 p.m. we will enter the sanctuary for a solemn candlelight service. We'll provide childcare.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 15 12 P.M. - 2 P.M.

Good Friday Service & Community Cross Walk

All are welcome to join us in the Meetinghouse at 12 p.m. for a prayer service concluding with a community cross walk to the beach. Together, we will carry the wooden cross used at the Sunrise Service.

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 16 10 A.M. - 12 P.M.

Holy Saturday Family Event

All are welcome to join in a variety of fun and festive activities for all ages, Including Egg Dyeing and an Easter Egg Hunt.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 17

6 A.M. Sunrise Service at Greenwich Point

9 A.M. & 11 A.M. Easter Service in-person in the Meetinghouse and streaming live online

Easter Flowers and Brass

The Deacons invite contributions for flowers & brass in the Meetinghouse this Easter. You may give to one, the other, or both. Any amount is welcome. Any amount is welcome.

Please deliver this completed form with your check to the Church Office
(payable to *The First Congregational Church of Greenwich*)
on or before **Sunday, April 10.**

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Please accept my contribution to the (check one or both):

_____ Easter Flower Fund

_____ Easter Brass

In MEMORY of:

In HONOR of:

By:

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$_____

(Please print names legibly to minimize spelling errors.)

COLORING PAGE



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

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Associate Pastor
Minister of Music
Faith Formation and Education Coordinator
Parish Nurse
Church Office Coordinator
Director of Public Relations
Livestream Director
Audio Technician
Database Administrative Assistant
Sextons
Sunday Sexton
Director of Preschool
Pastors Emeriti

Reverend Patrick Collins
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke
Dr. Craig Scott Symons
Rosemary Lamie
Susan Asselin, RN
Wendy Spezzano
Stephen Lucin
Daniel Lepoutre
Bob Small
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OF CHRIST
a just world for all