

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EASTER
Sunday April 24, 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.

MASK UPDATE

All gatherings at the church are now mask optional.
The offices are open by appointment only during business hours.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

PRELUDE

Adagio
André Caplet (1878 – 1925)
Paul Ghaffari, violin
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

Reverend Patrick Collins

One: We gather together in the name of the One who bids us come.
All: **We gather together to hear the words of the One who is Love.**
One: We gather together to sing praises of the One who teaches peace.
All: **Come, let us worship!**

1 Praise the Lord! God's glo - ries show,
2 Earth to heaven ex - alt the strain, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Strings and voic - es, hands and hearts,

saints with - in God's courts be - low,
Send it, heaven, to earth a - gain, Al - le - lu - ia!
in the con - cert, bear your parts,

an - gels round the throne a - bove,
Age to age, God's mer - cies trace, Al - le - lu - ia!
All that breathes, your Lord a - dore,

all who see and share God's love.
Praise God's prov - i - dence and grace! Al - le - lu - ia!
sing - ing praise for - ev - er - more,

GATHERING PRAYER

Reverend Patrick Collins

God of all creation, you love justice and you establish peace on earth. We bring before you the turmoil of today's world and we ask that you send your spirit and renew the face of the earth. Help us to be compassionate towards the whole human family, strengthen the will of all those who fight for justice and for peace, and give us that peace which the world cannot give. Amen.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

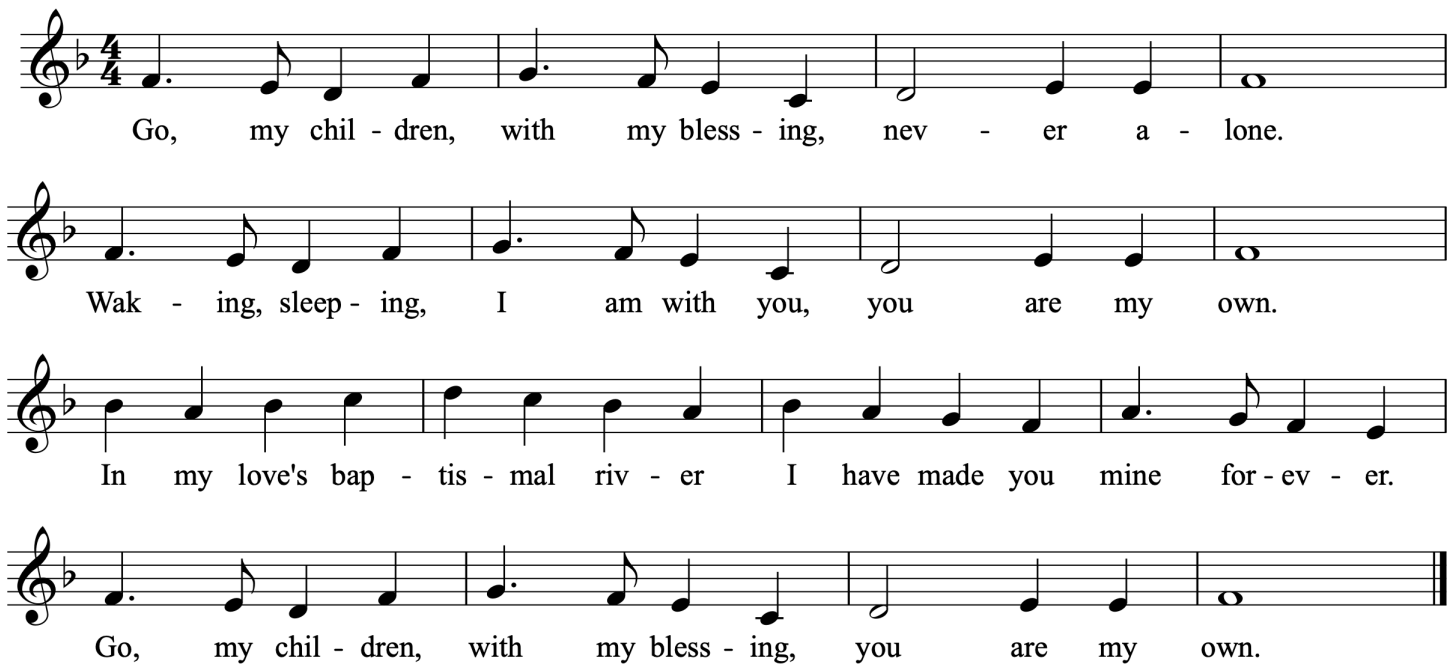
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

During the sung response, children will be dismissed to the Lounge.

RESPONSE

Go, My Children, With My Blessing



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.

In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.

Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own.

FIRST LESSON

Acts 5: 27-32
Common English Bible
Helen Ingraham

The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name," he said. "Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood."

Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than human beings! The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to repentance and forgive their sins. We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

ANTHEM

Psalm 150
César Franck (1822-1890)
The Chancel Choir

SECOND LESSON

John 20: 19-31
Common English Bible

It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you.” Then he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone’s sins, they are forgiven; if you don’t forgive them, they aren’t forgiven.”

Thomas, the one called Didymus, one of the Twelve, wasn’t with the disciples when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, “We’ve seen the Lord!”

But he replied, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, put my finger in the wounds left by the nails, and put my hand into his side, I won’t believe.”

After eight days his disciples were again in a house and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus entered and stood among them. He said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side. No more disbelief. Believe!”

Thomas responded to Jesus, “My Lord and my God!”

Jesus replied, “Do you believe because you see me? Happy are those who don’t see and yet believe.”

Then Jesus did many other miraculous signs in his disciples’ presence, signs that aren’t recorded in this scroll. But these things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God’s Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name.

MESSAGE

Shalom
Reverend Patrick Collins

1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!
 2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst his pris - on,
 3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,
 4 Nei - ther could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,

God has brought forth Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness,
 and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has ris - en.
 with the roy - al feast of feasts comes its joy to ren - der;
 nor the watch - ers, nor the seal hold you as a mor - tal:

loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;
 All the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing
 comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion
 but to - day, a - mong your own, you ap - pear, be - stow - ing

led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.
 from the Light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.
 wel - comes in un - wea - ried strains Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!
 your deep peace, which ev - er - more pass - es hu - man know - ing.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reverend 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.

CALL TO OFFERING

SOLO

Be Thou My Vision
Arr. Tom Trenney (b. 1977)
Daniel Young, tenor
Paul Ghaffari, violin

DOXOLOGY



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures

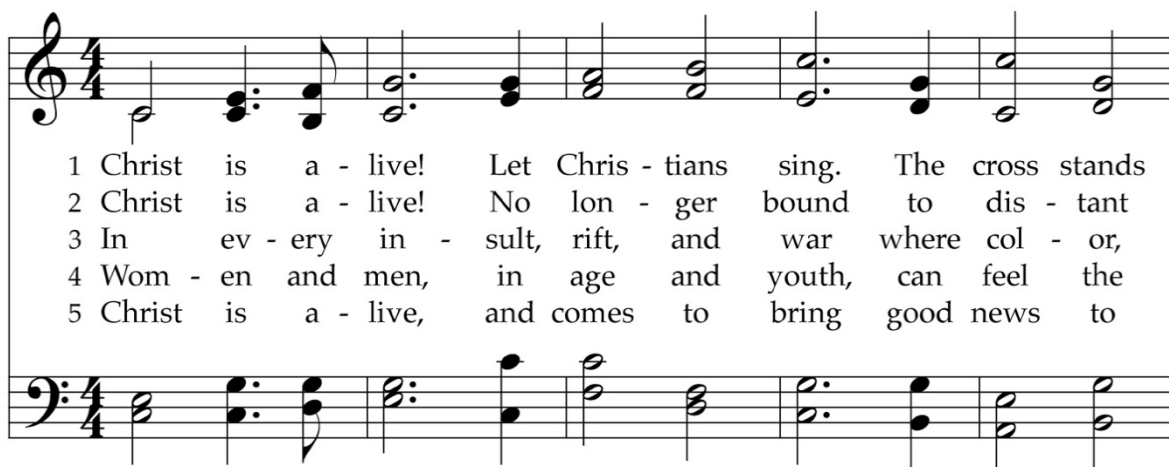
high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise

God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it

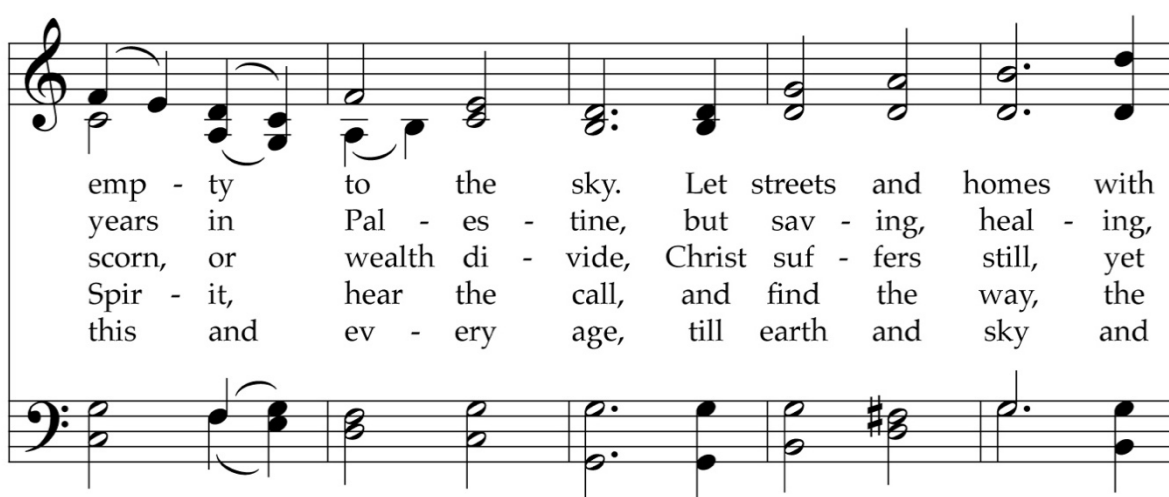
one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

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

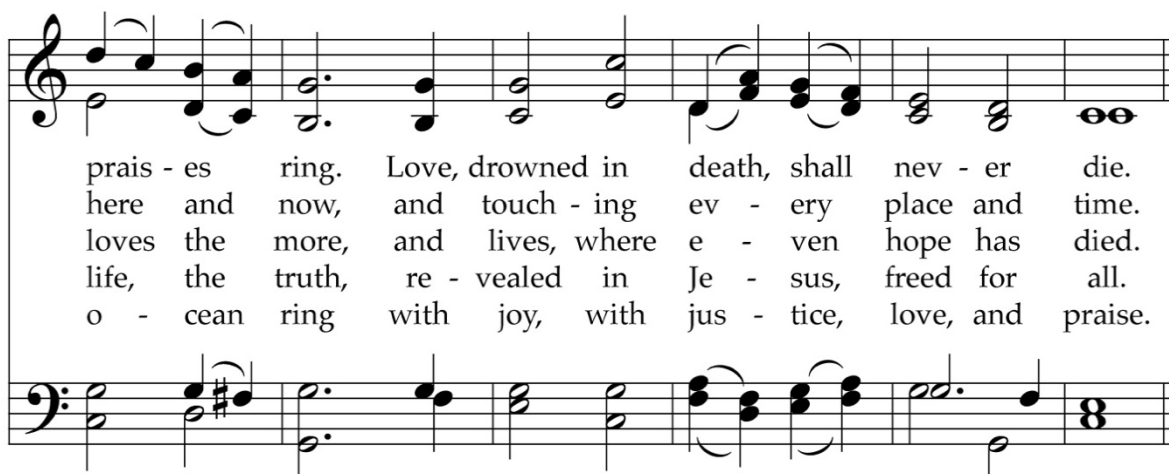
PRAYER OF DEDICATION



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No lon - ger bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Christ Lay In The Bonds Of Death
J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

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TODAY'S EVENTS

COMMUNITY HOUR

Join us for Community Hour in the auditorium
following worship this morning!



There is Regular Church School today.
Children will go to the Lounge right after the
Children's Message where we will regroup
depending on the number of
children and teachers we have.

Among other lessons, we will celebrate Earth Day and explore the
biblical basis for our honoring this day.



OFFERING ENVELOPES

The Offering Envelopes have arrived!
They can be picked up during Community Hour.

THE RUMMAGE ROOM

The Rummage Room this week is seeking cookware, new swimsuits, outdoor decor and entertaining supplies, children's toys, and boys clothing for one year olds.

Volunteer opportunity: The Rummage Room is seeking a person to assist the treasurer with comparing cash register tape with credit card charges. If this may be a good fit for you, please call Erna Olson at 203-656-4349.



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)

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Bobbie Hopkins (rbhop029@gmail.com)

Nanette Laffan (nlaffan@optonline.net)

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
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
Sue Wilder
Curtis Gay, Qasim Hussaini
Julio Yika
Jennifer DiCarlo
Reverend Dr. Thomas L. Stiers - Reverend Sally Colegrove



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a just world for all