

**TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**Sunday, August 14, 2022**



*Faith First. Love Always.*

**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.

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## 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.



## SUPPORTING FIRST CHURCH

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



## MASK GUIDELINES

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

# FAITH FIRST. LOVE ALWAYS.

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

### PRELUDE

*Andante*

Alexandre François Boëly (1785-1858)

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

### †CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In a world uprooted at every turn, come beloved of God for replanting.

**All: Tend the garden of our love, O Lord!**

One: The Lord calls us to grow in faithfulness.

**All: Take away our greed and selfishness, O Lord!**

One: Where we have become ragged and wild, prune us in the way we should grow.

**All: Nurture the soil of our hope, O Lord!**

One: Let your hand be upon us, leading us to Jesus, the perfecter of our faith.

**All: Heal the roots of our faith, O Lord!**

One: In a world uprooted at every turn, come beloved of God for replanting.

**All: God will not rest until all are re-rooted, restored, and renewed.**

One: Let us worship the Lord who delights in our growth and righteous fruits.

**All: Let us praise God who is always with us in every season of life.**





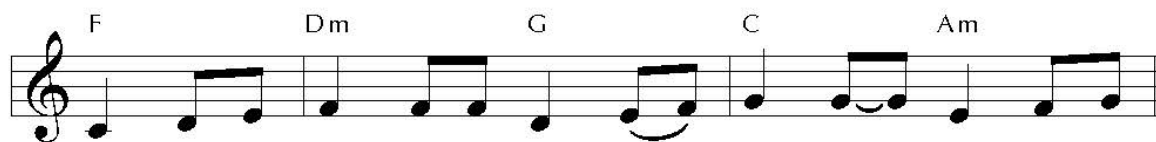
1 I sing a song of the saints of God, pa - tient and  
 2 They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, and God's love  
 3 They lived not on - ly in a - ges past; there are hun - dreds of



brave and true, who toiled and fought and lived and  
 made them strong; and they fol - lowed the right, for Je - sus'  
 thou - sands still; the world is bright with the joy - ous



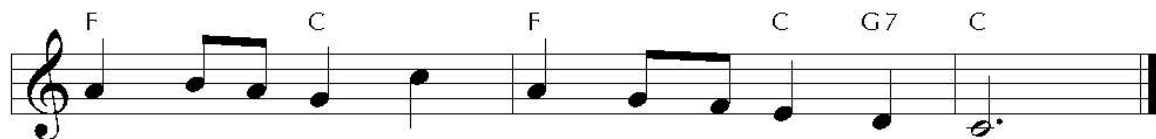
died for the Lord they loved and knew. And one was a  
 sake, the whole of their good lives long. And one was a  
 saints who love to do Je - sus' will. You can meet them in



doc - tor, and one was a queen, and one was a shep - herd - ess  
 sol - dier, and one was a priest, and one was slain by a  
 school, or in lanes, or at sea, in church, or in trains, or in



on the green: they were all of them saints of  
 fierce wild beast: and there's not an - y rea - son,  
 shops, or at tea; for the saints of God are just



God, and I mean, God help - ing, to be one too.  
 no, not the least, why I should - n't be one too.  
 folk like me, and I mean to be one too.



## PRAYER (in Unison)

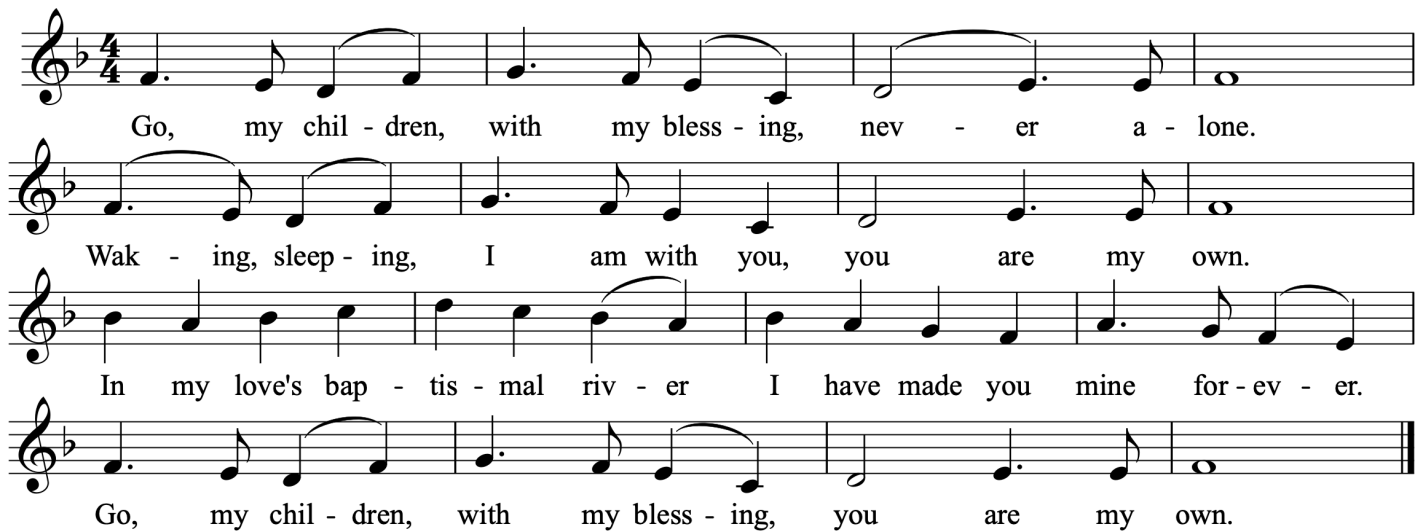
Lord of the vineyard, we ask for your presence and your guidance. In your holy wisdom, tend the vines of our hearts. Teach us your righteousness, that our lives may flower with justice. We come as wild grapes, yearning to grow fruitful in your love. Show us the way, through Jesus your Son, to discern your will, hear your word, and grow in your ways, as we deepen the roots of our faith. Amen.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*(Children return to their seats during the singing of the response)*

## 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

*Isaiah 5: 1-7*  
The Message  
Mariann Ekernas

I'll sing a ballad to the one I love,  
a love ballad about his vineyard:  
The one I love had a vineyard,  
a fine, well-placed vineyard.  
He hoed the soil and pulled the weeds,  
and planted the very best vines.  
He built a lookout, built a winepress,  
a vineyard to be proud of.  
He looked for a vintage yield of grapes,  
but for all his pains he got garbage grapes.

“Now listen to what I’m telling you,  
you who live in Jerusalem and Judah.  
What do you think is going on  
between me and my vineyard?  
Can you think of anything I could have done  
to my vineyard that I didn’t do?  
When I expected good grapes,  
why did I get bitter grapes?

“Well now, let me tell you  
what I’ll do to my vineyard:  
I’ll tear down its fence  
and let it go to ruin.  
I’ll knock down the gate  
and let it be trampled.  
I’ll turn it into a patch of weeds, untended, uncared for—  
thistles and thorns will take over.  
I’ll give orders to the clouds:  
‘Don’t rain on that vineyard, ever!’”

Do you get it? The vineyard of God-of-the-Angel-Armies  
is the country of Israel.  
All the men and women of Judah  
are the garden he was so proud of.  
He looked for a crop of justice  
and saw them murdering each other.  
He looked for a harvest of righteousness  
and heard only the moans of victims.

## ANTHEM

*The Lord Is A Mighty God*  
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1874)  
The Summer Choir

*The Lord is a mighty God and a mighty ruler over all false idols.*

Psalm 95:3

## SECOND LESSON

*Luke 12: 49-56*  
The Message

“I’ve come to start a fire on this earth—how I wish it were blazing right now! I’ve come to change everything, turn everything rightside up—how I long for it to be finished! Do you think I came to smooth things over and make everything nice? Not so. I’ve come to disrupt and confront! From now on, when you find five in a house, it will be—

Three against two,  
 and two against three;  
 Father against son,  
 and son against father;  
 Mother against daughter,  
 and daughter against mother;  
 Mother-in-law against bride,  
 and bride against mother-in-law.”

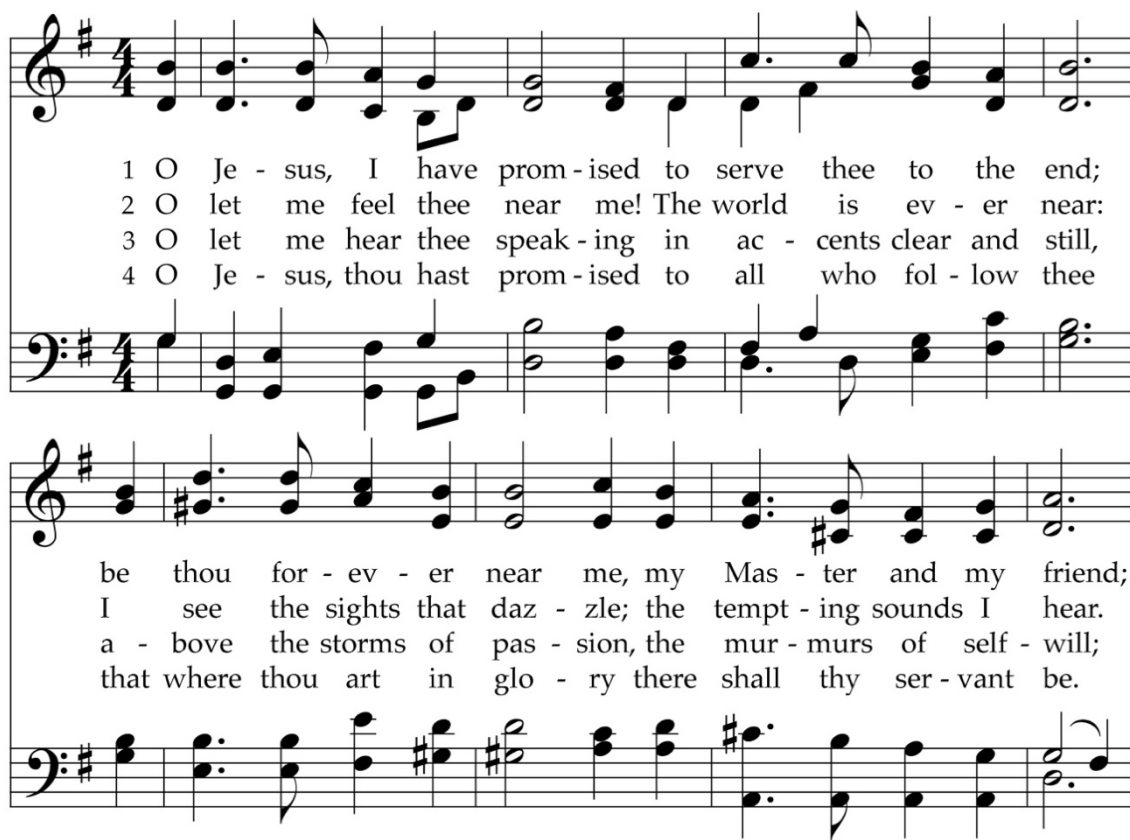
Then he turned to the crowd: “When you see clouds coming in from the west, you say, ‘Storm’s coming’—and you’re right. And when the wind comes out of the south, you say, ‘This’ll be a hot one’—and you’re right. Frauds! You know how to tell a change in the weather, so don’t tell me you can’t tell a change in the season, the God-season we’re in right now.

## MESSAGE

*Looking For A Crop Of Justice*  
 Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

## †HYMN

*O Jesus, I Have Promised*  
 Tune: Angel’s Story



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;  
 2 O let me feel thee near me! The world is ev - er near:  
 3 O let me hear thee speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,  
 4 O Je - sus, thou hast prom - ised to all who fol - low thee

be thou for - ev - er near me, my Mas - ter and my friend;  
 I see the sights that daz - zle; the tempt - ing sounds I hear.  
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will;  
 that where thou art in glo - ry there shall thy ser - vant be.

† Please rise in body or in spirit





I shall not fear the bat - tle if thou art by my side,  
My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;  
O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;  
And, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;

nor wan - der from the path - way if thou wilt be my guide.  
but, Je - sus, draw thou near - er and shield my soul from sin.  
O speak, and make me lis - ten, thou guard - ian of my soul.  
O give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my friend.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### 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 Robertson

### OFFERTORY SOLO

*Never Alone*  
E. C. Heidelberg  
Carol Woodman, soprano

*I never worry, for should I worry, the sorrows may come my way?  
I've someone to hide me, to comfort and guide me, to watch over me day by day.  
Never alone because I know my Lord is with me. Never alone, he's always standing by.  
Jesus has promised to take my hand and lead me; never alone am I  
Lord, I would serve thee, would honor and serve thee, I love and adore thee I'll live for thee day after day.*

## †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

1 Fight the good fight with all thy might.  
 2 Run the straight race through God's good grace;  
 3 Cast care a - side; lean on thy guide.  
 4 Faint not nor fear: God's arms are near.

Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right.  
 lift up thine eyes, and seek Christ's face.  
 God's bound - less mer - cy will pro - vide.  
 God chang - eth not, and thou art dear.

Lay hold on life, and it shall be  
 Life with its way be - fore us lies;  
 Trust, and thy trust - ing soul shall prove  
 On - ly be - lieve, and thou shalt see

thy joy and crown e - ter - nal - ly.  
 Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.  
 Christ is its life, and Christ its love.  
 that Christ is all in all to thee.



## BENEDICTION

## CHORAL RESPONSE

## POSTLUDE

*Prelude In D Minor*  
J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

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***Directly following the service, one of our pastors will remain in the Chapel to be available to anyone who has a pastoral care concern.***

Join us for Community Hour in the back of the Meetinghouse following worship this morning, where our hosts for the month of August are members of the Church Council. Individually wrapped snacks and coffee or tea are served where you can greet each other and continue sharing God's love in an informal atmosphere.

## COMMUNITY HOUR

## MEETINGHOUSE FLOWERS

Flowers in the Meetinghouse on Sunday mornings are something we all enjoy. These flowers not only beautify our worship space, but are given to honor very special people or occasions in our lives. In addition to remembering a loved one, you can give flowers in celebration of:

- Marriages
- Anniversaries
- Baptisms
- Birthdays
- To say "congratulations" or "thank you."

Donors can be an individual or a group.



Consider a Sunday this year when you would like to thank God and honor a special person or memorable moment in your life with a gift of flowers. Mail or drop off your check for \$100 to the Church Office (payable to First Congregational Church) with detailed information on who or what you would like recognized and we'll take care of the rest! Following worship, your flowers can be taken home or will be reorganized into smaller arrangements and distributed to homebound or ill members who would enjoy a token of beauty in their homes. Deadline for donations is *at least 2 weeks in advance of the Sunday* to guarantee floral arrangements.



## SUMMER BEACH SERVICES SUNDAY AT 8 A.M.

Please join us at Tod's/Greenwich Point for early morning worship. You don't have to be a Greenwich resident to attend!

Tell the person at the park entrance that you're there for First Congregational worship and you'll get in.

## THE RUMMAGE ROOM

The Rummage Room is closed for summer break and restocking.

**The Grand Reopening will be Tuesday, September 6th at 11:00 a.m.**

Please do not leave any donations during this time. We look forward to accepting donations once the shop reopens.



## THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

108 Sound Beach Avenue Old Greenwich CT 06870

203-637-1791 • [www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org)

**Ministers - All Members Of  
The First Congregational Church Of Greenwich**

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Associate Pastor  
Minister of Music  
Parish Nurse  
Church Office Coordinator  
Financial Administrator  
Director of Public Relations  
Livestream Director  
Audio Technician  
Database Administrative Assistant  
Facilities Manager  
Sextons  
Sunday Sexton  
Director of Preschool  
Pastors Emeriti

Reverend Patrick Collins  
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke  
Dr. Craig Scott Symons  
Susan Asselin, RN  
Wendy Spezzano  
Greg Girolamo  
Stephen Lucin  
Daniel Lepoutre  
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