

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Sunday, August 28, 2022

LAITY
SUNDAY



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.

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.



FAITH FIRST. LOVE ALWAYS.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Debbie Silverthorn

PRELUDE

Miracle Of Miracles
(Fiddler On The Roof)
Jerry Bock (1928-2010)
Thomas Woodman, bass
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, piano

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

What Is A Miracle To You?

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Betsy Kreuter

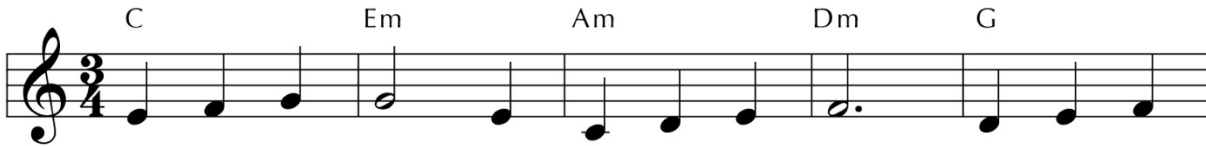
One: We have gathered together, seeking to know our God;
All: **With great rejoicing we come to the house of the Lord today!**
One: O God, reach out your hand and touch our mouths,
All: **That authentic praise may flow freely from our lips.**
One: Put your words on our tongues, O Lord,
All: **That we might exalt you with reverence and awe.**
One: Empower us to speak truth to the nations,
All: **And to build your kingdom here on earth.**
One: Come, let us worship the Lord!
All: **Let us celebrate the presence of God here in this place and in all our lives.**

† Please rise in body or in spirit

†HYMN

God Of The Sparrow

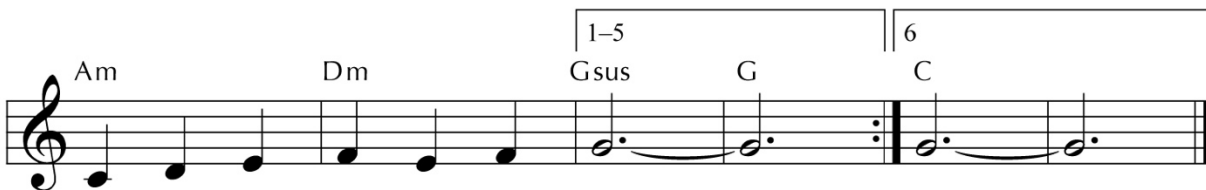
Tune: Roeder



1 God of the spar - row God of the whale God of the
 2 God of the earth - quake God of the storm God of the
 3 God of the rain - bow God of the cross God of the
 4 God of the hun - gry God of the sick God of the
 5 God of the neigh - bor God of the foe God of the
 6 God of the a - ges God near at hand God of the



swirl - ing stars How does the crea - ture say Awe
 trum - pet blast How does the crea - ture cry Woe
 emp - ty grave How does the crea - ture say Grace
 prod - i - gal How does the crea - ture say Care
 prun - ing hook How does the crea - ture say Love
 lov - ing heart How do your chil - dren say Joy



How does the crea - ture say Praise
 How does the crea - ture cry Save
 How does the crea - ture say Thanks
 How does the crea - ture say Life
 How does the crea - ture say Peace
 How do your chil - dren say Home

† Please rise in body or in spirit

PRAYER (in Unison)

Ainsley Sahrbeck

Loving God, help us to see the miracles that surround us every day. Strengthen our faith that miracles can happen in our own lives. Everything we need begins in you. When we are feeling broken, bring us restoration. For those who feel weak, bring strength. If we are grieving, bring us comfort. When we have doubts, bring us to faith. When the burdens of life overwhelm us, help us to find ease. Guide us to your light and grace. Open our hearts to the possibility of miracles. Amen.

MESSAGE

Our Miracle Universe
Henry Hull

MESSAGE

Are You Ready?
Andrea Woodman

ANTHEM

Above All Praise And Majesty
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
The Summer Choir

Above all praise and all majesty, Lord thou reignest evermore. Hallelujah.

READING

Mariann Ekernas
From *Unthinkable* by Jamie Raskin

MESSAGE

The Power Of Prayer
Steve Weigner

MESSAGE

Microcosms and Macrocosms
Lynn Hawxhurst

1 The Might - y God with pow - er speaks, and all the world o - beys;
 2 God comes not with a si - lent form, but rid - ing on the winds;
 3 The heavens de - clare your jus - tice, Lord, as end - less as the sky;

from dawn un - til the set - ting sun, God's won - der earth dis - plays.
 be - fore God's face, the rag - ing storm its blast of thun - der sends.
 a - gainst the taunts of dis - be - lief, our God will tes - ti - fy.

The per - fect beau - ty all a - round from Zi - on's height shines forth;
 All hail the Judge, in bold ar - ray, whose prom - ise is to bless;
 Re - ceive my heart - felt gift of thanks, as hon - or to your might;

and stars a - cross the fir - ma - ment so bright - ly beam their worth.
 who sees our sins, yet al - so feels our thirst for righ - teous - ness.
 re - fresh my faith with each new day; pro - tect me through the night.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Mario Lotufo

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

Mary Fike

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

I Want Jesus To Walk With Me
Anna Laura Page (b. 1943)
Silverthorn Handchime Quartet
Debbie Silverthorn, Colette Rogers,
Pat Geismar, Bob Small

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures

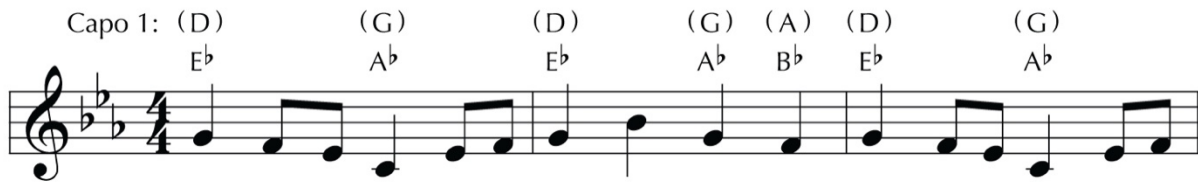
here be-low; praise him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise

Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

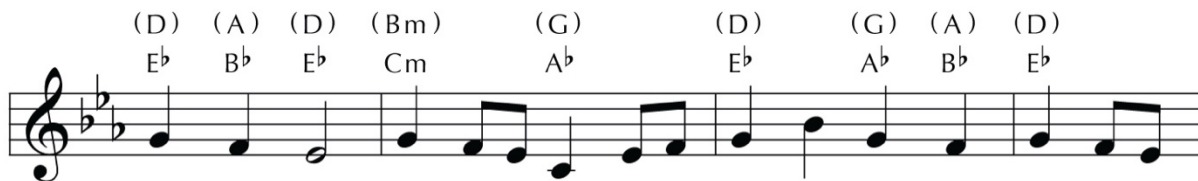
† Please rise in body or in spirit

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lynn Robertson



1 God, you spin the whirl-ing plan - ets, fill the seas and
 2 You have called us to be faith - ful in our life and
 3 God, your word is still cre - at - ing, call - ing us to



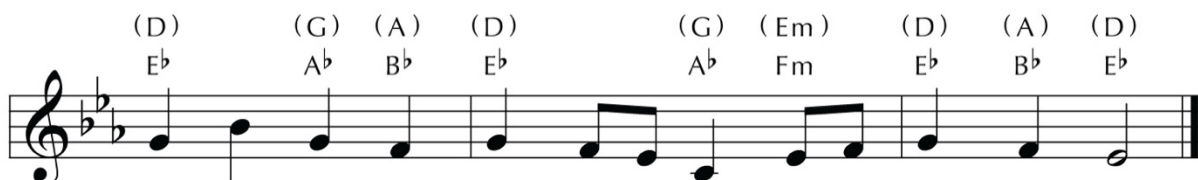
spread the plain, mold the moun - tains, fash - ion blos - soms, call forth
 min - is - try. We re - spond in grate - ful wor - ship joined in
 life made new. Now re - veal to us fresh vis - tas where there's



sun - shine, wind, and rain. We, cre - at - ed in your im - age,
 one com - mu - ni - ty. When we blur your gra - cious im - age,
 work to dare and do. Keep us clear of all dis - tor - tion.



would a true re - flec - tion be of your jus - tice,
 fo - cus us and make us whole. Healed and strength - ened
 Pol - ish us with lov - ing care. Thus, new crea - tures



grace, and mer - cy and the truth that makes us free.
 as your peo - ple, we move on - ward toward your goal.
 in your im - age, we'll pro - claim Christ ev - ery - where.

BENEDICTION

Carol Woodman

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

My Little World

Ralph Carmichael (1927-2021)

Carol Woodman, soprano

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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.

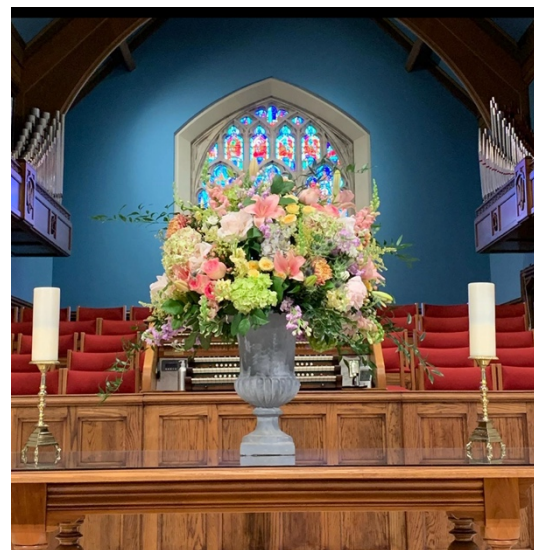
COMMUNITY HOUR

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.

FINAL SUMMER BEACH SERVICE SEPTEMBER 4 at 8 A.M.



Our final beach service will be on September 4.
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.



SAVE THE DATE!



HOMECOMING 2022

Sunday, September 11, 2022 | Following Worship

food is provided - burgers, hot dogs, chicken and
vegan options, as well as salads & dessert
magician and lots of games





HOMECOMING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Welcoming Committee is looking for able-bodied volunteers to help set up tables and chairs for the Homecoming festivities on September 11th in the Memory Garden and front lawn.

Volunteer start time is 8:30 a.m. and should be completed by 10am worship. As soon as the tables and chairs are set up, the Welcoming Committee can set up the rest of the event.

If you are interested in volunteering, please email Meg Dempsey
megdempseyconsulting@gmail.com

We're almost there!

Help us push the campaign all the way to the finish line!



First Church has received 91 pledges, raising nearly **\$101,564** of its much-needed **\$108,000** to cover the costs of a few urgent capital repair projects, including **Meetinghouse AC air handlers** (roughly \$65K), the **Liftavator** (roughly \$19K) and **Slate shingles on the Meetinghouse roof** (roughly \$24K).

As always, we need and greatly appreciate the continued support that you show to *your* church and *your* community.

Thank you for all that you do!

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

108 Sound Beach Avenue Old Greenwich CT 06870

203-637-1791 • www.fccog.org

Ministers - All Members Of The First Congregational Church Of Greenwich

Senior Pastor

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

Bob Small

Sue Wilder

Enkel Mari

Curtis Gay, Qasim Hussaini

Julio Yika

Jennifer DiCarlo

Reverend Dr. Thomas L. Stiers - Reverend Sally Colegrove



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OF CHRIST
a just world for all