

Greenwich Point Beach Service

Sunday, August 14, 2022

8:00 a.m.



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.



Faith First. Love Always.

GREETING AND GATHERING PRAYER

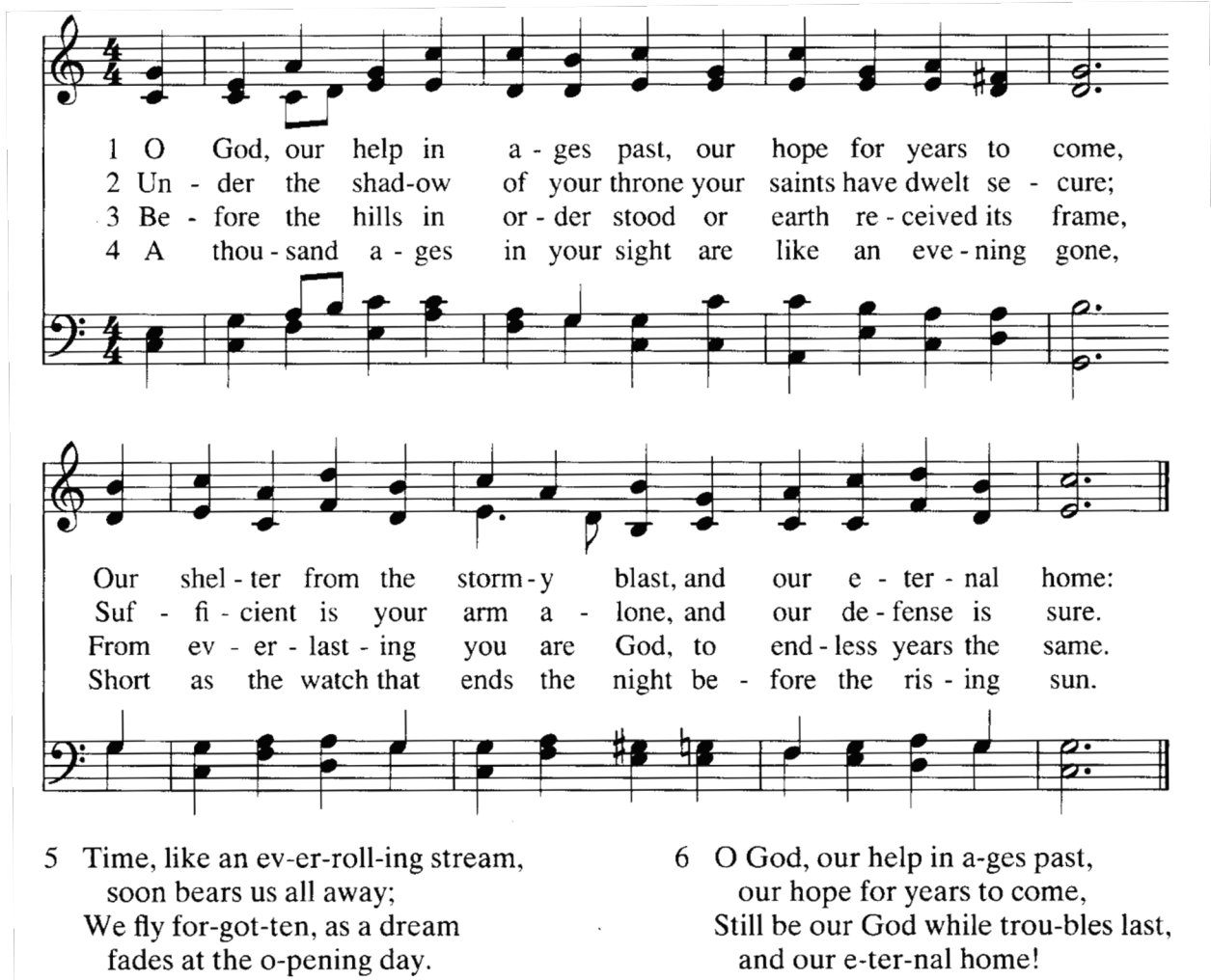
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

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.**

HYMN

O God, Our Help In Ages Past



The image displays the musical score for the hymn "O God, Our Help In Ages Past". It features two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the remaining lines, including a double bar line at the end of the second system.

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad-ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,

Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
Suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
From ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
Short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream,
soon bears us all away;
We fly for - got - ten, as a dream
fades at the o - pen - ing day.

6 O God, our help in a - ges past,
our hope for years to come,
Still be our God while trou - bles last,
and our e - ter - nal home!

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 5: 1-7
The Message

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.

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

COMMUNION

We practice open Communion – all who wish to know the presence of Christ and to participate in the community of God’s people are welcome to receive Communion, including children of all ages, and regardless of church membership or denominational affiliation. All are welcome to the table of God.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & 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.

HYMN

Morning Has Broken

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black-bird has
2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the

spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet-ness of the wet
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion; praise ev - ery

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

BENEDICTION