

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Sunday, September 11, 2022

HOMECOMING SUNDAY



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.



Thanks to Paul Ghaffari, Car Westbrook, and Cara Olmsted for providing violin trio "entrance music" outdoors prior to worship.

FAITH FIRST. LOVE ALWAYS.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

*Please sign and pass the red Fellowship Pad found at the end of your row near the center aisle,
then pass it back to the center aisle, noting the names of those worshipping near you
so you may greet them at the end of worship.*

PRELUDE

Day By Day

Stephen Schwartz (b. 1948)

Y'All Come Choir

Vance Briceland, piano

Tod Hedrick, bass

Alan Johnson, drums

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, director

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Reverend Patrick Collins

One: God brings us through the floods.

All: **God's promise lights the sky.**

One: Rejoice, for your God saves.

All: **We rejoice in God's limitless love.**

†HYMN

Lord Jesus, Think On Me

Tune: Southwell

Opening movement from *Noye's Fludde*

Benjamin Britten



1. Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin; from
2. Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray; through
3. Lord Je - sus, think on me, when flows the tem - pest high; when
4. Lord Je - sus, think on me, that when the flood is past, I

earth-born pas - sions set me free, and make me pure with - in.
dark - ness and per - ple - xi - ty point thou the heaven - ly way.
on doth rush the e - ne - my O sa - viour, be thou nigh.
may e - ter - nal bright ness see, and share thy joy at last.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

PRAYER (in Unison)

In the damp dark uncertainty, in the ominous threat of the storm, appears a gentle arc of colours the rainbow that remembers the light. In the silent questions of doubt, in the disturbing vertigo of your seeming absence whispers a silent promise the covenant of your forever being-here.

We praise you, God, for rainbows and promises and the courage we find in their comforting presence. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 6-9: (selected verses)

Pat Larrabee

The Lord saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time, and his heart was deeply troubled. So the Lord said, "I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created."

But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.

Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God.

So, God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. So, make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out."

"Everything on earth will perish. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark. You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground will come to you to be kept alive."

Noah did everything just as God commanded him.

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month—on that day all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened. And rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights.

For forty days the flood kept coming on the earth, and as the waters increased, they lifted the ark high above the earth. The waters rose and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water. They rose greatly on the earth, and all the high mountains under the entire heavens were covered. The waters rose and every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out; people and animals and the creatures that move

along the ground and the birds were wiped from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those with him in the ark.

After forty days Noah opened a window he had made in the ark and sent out a dove. When the dove returned to him in the evening, there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf!

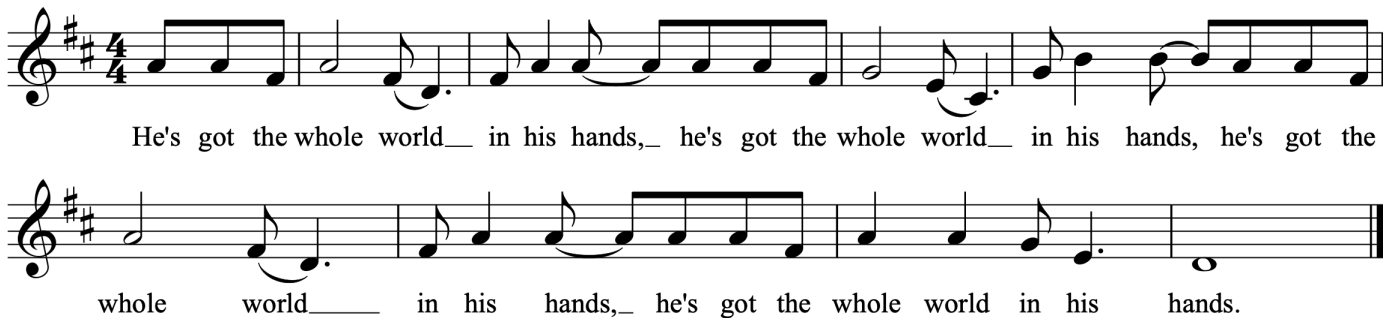
Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: “I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you—every living creature on earth. I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind.

(During the Response, the children will depart for Church School in the Undercroft)

RESPONSE

He's Got The Whole World In His Hands



MESSAGE

New God, New Thing: The Flood and Promise
Reverend Patrick Collins

†HYMN

Sing Out, Earth And Skies

Tune: Sing Out



CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Kumbaya
Paul Sjolund (b. 1935)
The Chancel Choir

†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

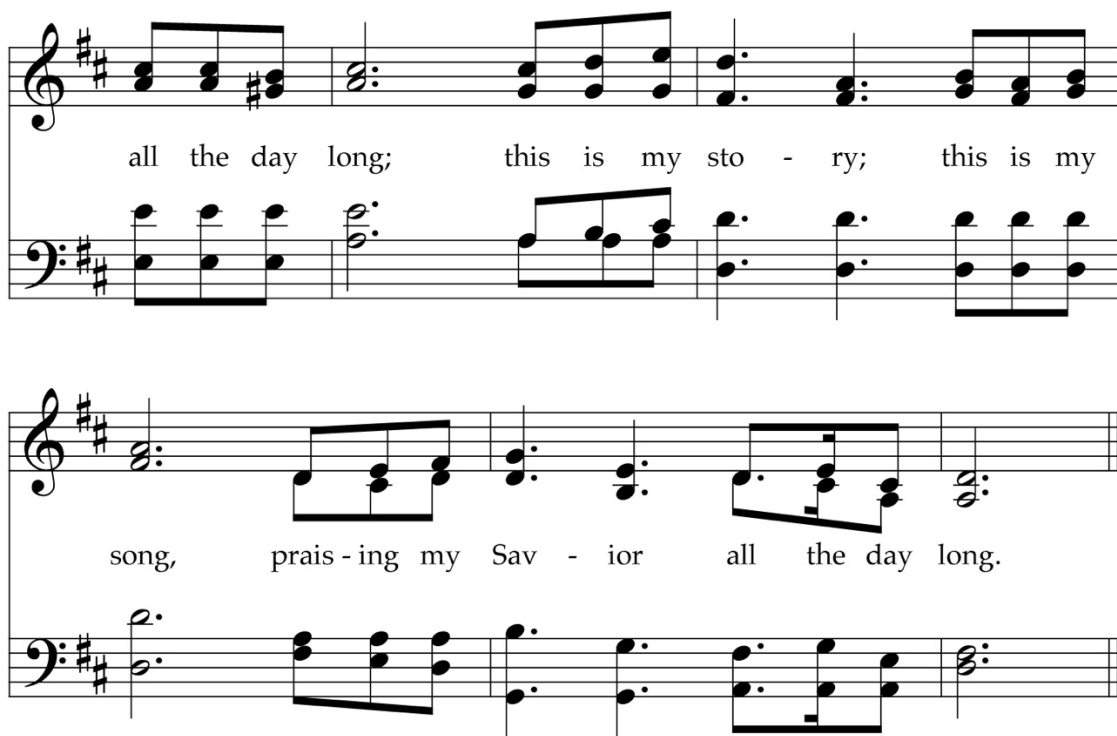
1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! O what a
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my

fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine! Heir of sal-va-tion,
 rap-ture now burst on my sight; an-gels de-scend-ing,
 Sav-ior am hap-py and blest, watch-ing and wait-ing,

pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
 bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
 look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto-ry; this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior



all the day long; this is my sto - ry; this is my
song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

BENEDICTION AND PRAYER BEFORE THE MEAL

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

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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.



The Church Life mobile app will no longer be available for download in either the Google or Apple app stores beginning November 1, 2022.

Anyone who already has the app installed can continue using it. However, if you don't have the app installed, or if you uninstall it for any reason, you will not be able to download and reinstall it beginning 11/1/2022.

Individuals can begin using the Web version of the Church Life app by visiting churchlife.mobi in any browser on a mobile device or on a PC/Mac computer and logging in using current credentials. The churchlife.mobi looks almost exactly like the mobile app, and will have the same experience when giving online. A shortcut of this can be saved to a mobile device or computer.

With churchlife.mobi, there are some changes to keep in mind. First, while you won't receive push notifications on your phone, you'll still receive email notifications. Second, you won't be able to add contacts directly to your phone, but you can still search for contact information and manually add it.



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



Please join us immediately following worship in the memory garden and on the front lawn as our Homecoming celebration continues with camaraderie and nourishment - burgers, hotdogs, vegan options, salads, desserts, and drinks. Entertainment and games for all ages, and guests are welcome.



Church School is back and in the Undercroft (preschool area) once again! And we need your help to make it another great year for our children and youth!

Church School is looking for lead teachers, assistant teachers, upper middle school and high school helpers, substitutes, and one-time Helping Hands.

Church School kicks off TODAY, Homecoming Sunday with classroom meet and greets, and classes officially begin next Sunday, September 18th!

All lessons and supplies will be provided.

No previous teaching experience required.

If you want the children of First Church to learn about God, love, and community, then you're the right person!

Please email Pastor Cydney cydneyv@fccog.org with any questions or interest.



WE'RE ALMOST THERE!

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

First Church has received 91 pledges, raising nearly **\$101,764** 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!



CALL-A-RIDE GREENWICH FREE TRANSPORTATION FOR SENIORS AND MORE

At CALL-A-RIDE, we provide free transportation weekdays for seniors age 60 or over within the Town of Greenwich. Our volunteer drivers also serve to create an atmosphere of understanding and camaraderie aiding seniors toward a full enjoyment of life.

We currently have a roster of some 58 volunteer drivers who cover 24 shifts Monday through Friday each week. Morning shifts run from 8:30 AM-12:15 PM and afternoon shifts run from 12:15 PM to 4:00 PM. Some drivers have regularly committed weekly shifts and others are available on a substitute basis. Drivers must be 25 years of age or older, possess a valid driver's license and be approved by C-A-R's automobile insurer. Many current drivers have volunteered with C-A-R for many years and derive a high degree of satisfaction from their service to others through C-A-R.

We are always looking for volunteer drivers – hopefully you will be so inclined, and in that event, kindly make initial contact with our office.

CALL-A-RIDE OF GREENWICH, INC.

37 Lafayette Place

Greenwich, CT 06830

Phone: (203) 661-6633

Dispatchers: Ron March, Hilary Gunn

E-mail: call-a-ride@optimum.net

<https://callaridegreenwich.org>

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

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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

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Livestream Director

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Sextons

Sunday Sexton

Director of Preschool

Assistant Director of Preschool

Pastors Emeriti

Reverend Patrick Collins

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

Dr. Craig Scott Symons

Susan Asselin, RN

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Curtis Gay, Qasim Hussaini

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OF CHRIST
a just world for all