

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Sunday, September 4, 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.



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

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

PRELUDE

Dialogue

François Couperin (1668-1733)
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Reverend Patrick Collins

One: We gather here in anticipation,
All: **seeking an encounter with our Holy God,**
One: who comes among us when we least expect it,
All: **who invites us to wrestle with our questions and doubts,**
One: who richly blesses us and calls us each by name.
All: **Let's worship God together!**

1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or-der hu-man life

we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.
 help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 that sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-que-rs strife.

May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,

e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
 blend-ing hu-man skills to- geth-er gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
 bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
 mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.

PRAYER (in Unison)

God of power and might, you sent prophets to your people, calling us back to your covenant, and teaching us your ways. In the fullness of time, you sent us your Son Jesus, teaching with such authority, that our eyes were opened to see your ways anew. Open our hearts and minds, that we may understand and proclaim your teachings for all to hear. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

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

RESPONSE

Go, My Children, With My Blessing

The musical score is written for a single voice on a treble clef staff in 4/4 time. It consists of four lines of music with lyrics underneath. The first line is: 'Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.' The second line is: 'Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.' The third line is: 'In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.' The fourth line is: 'Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own.' The music features various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some notes beamed together. There are also rests and a final double bar line at the end of the fourth line.

FIRST LESSON

1 Corinthians 10: 1-13

Common English Bible

Joe McBride

Brothers and sisters, I want you to be sure of the fact that our ancestors were all under the cloud and they all went through the sea. All were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. All ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. They drank from a spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. However, God was unhappy with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. These things were examples for us, so we won't crave evil things like they did. Don't worship false gods like some of them did, as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink and they got up to play. Let's not practice sexual immorality, like some of them did, and twenty-three thousand died in one day. Let's not test Christ, like some of them did, and were killed by the snakes. Let's not grumble, like some of them did, and were killed by the destroyer. These things happened to them as an example and were written as a warning for us to whom the end of time has come. So those who think they are standing need to watch out or else they may fall. No temptation has seized you that isn't common for

people. But God is faithful. He won't allow you to be tempted beyond your abilities. Instead, with the temptation, God will also supply a way out so that you will be able to endure it.

ANTHEM

With A Voice Of Singing
Martin Shaw (1875-1958)
The Summer Choir

*With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia!
Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered His people, Alleluia!
O be joyful in God, all ye lands.
O sing praises to the honor of His name, make His praise to be glorious.
With a voice of singing, declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia!*

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 32: 22-32
Common English Bible

Jacob got up during the night, took his two wives, his two women servants, and his eleven sons, and crossed the Jabbok River's shallow water. He took them and everything that belonged to him, and he helped them cross the river. But Jacob stayed apart by himself, and a man wrestled with him until dawn broke. When the man saw that he couldn't defeat Jacob, he grabbed Jacob's thigh and tore a muscle in Jacob's thigh as he wrestled with him. The man said, "Let me go because the dawn is breaking."

But Jacob said, "I won't let you go until you bless me."

He said to Jacob, "What's your name?" and he said, "Jacob." Then he said, "Your name won't be Jacob any longer, but Israel, because you struggled with God and with men and won."

Jacob also asked and said, "Tell me your name."

But he said, "Why do you ask for my name?" and he blessed Jacob there. Jacob named the place Peniel, "because I've seen God face-to-face, and my life has been saved." The sun rose as Jacob passed Peniel, limping because of his thigh. Therefore, Israelites don't eat the tendon attached to the thigh muscle to this day, because he grabbed Jacob's thigh muscle at the tendon.

MESSAGE

A Well-Earned Limp
Reverend Patrick Collins

MULTIMEDIA REFLECTION

Scars (Acoustic Version)
I Am They

CALL TO OFFERING

Mario Lotufo

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Ye Servants Of God
Henry Coleman (1888-1965)
The Summer Choir

*Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim, and publish abroad His wonderful Name;
the Name all victorious of Jesus extol; His kingdom is glorious; He rules over all.*

*"Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!" Let all cry aloud, and honor the Son;
the praises of Jesus the angels proclaim, fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.*

*So let us adore and give Him His right: all glory and pow'r, all wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing, with angels above, and praises unceasing for infinite love.*

†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

COMMUNION

Invitation

Words of Institution

Communion Prayer

Taking of Elements

*In the tradition of our church, let us partake of the bread (gluten-free) and the cup together,
remembering our individual uniqueness in the eyes of God
and our diversity and unity within the Body of Christ.*

*Those receiving communion are asked to come forward by the center aisle,
receive the bread and an individual cup, return to your seat by the side aisle, where you will
consume the bread and juice.*

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.

†HYMN

Awake, My Soul, And With The Sun

Tune: Morning Hymn

1 A - wake, my soul, and with the sun your dai - ly
2 Lord, I my vows to you re - new. Dis - perse my
3 Di - rect, con - trol, sug - gest, this day, all I de -

stage of du - ty run; shake off dull sloth, and
sins as morn - ing dew; guard my first springs of
sign or do or say, that all my powers, with

joy - ful rise to pay your morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
thought and will, and with your - self my spir - it fill.
all their might, in your sole glo - ry may u - nite.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Plein Jeu

François Couperin

All hymns reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726454. All rights reserved.

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 September are members of the Asset Management Committee.

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



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. 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 by Wednesday, September 7th.

THE RUMMAGE ROOM

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



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!



NEXT SUNDAY!!



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.

Please bring a **salad** (if your last name begins A to O) or a **dessert** (if your last name begins P-Z). **Both should serve 10-12.**



ALL VOICES & ALL AGES NEEDED FOR HOMECOMING SUNDAY COMBINED ANTHEM!

Join us in the Meetinghouse at 9 a.m. Sunday, September 11 for a combined vocal experience as we gather any voices and any ages to sing the familiar “Day by Day” from *Godspell*. It’s just the standard melody version, with no fancy parts, so everyone is welcome to take part at the beginning of worship. Hope to see you there!!

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

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

Wendy Spezzano

Greg Girolamo

Stephen Lucin

Daniel Lepoutre

Bob Small

Sue Wilder

Curtis Gay, Qasim Hussaini

Julio Yika

Jennifer DiCarlo

Kayla Vozzella

Reverend Dr. Thomas L. Stiers - Reverend Sally Colegrove



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all