

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Sunday, October 23, 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 Patrick Collins

*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.*

CALL TO ANNUAL GIVING

PRELUDE

Prelude On “For The Beauty Of The Earth”
Margaretha Christina de Jong (b. 1961)
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God, you desire truth in our inward being;

All: Teach us wisdom in our secret hearts.

One: We have all that we need.

All: Still we want what others have.

One: Return our attention to what is ours,

All: For the faithful use of every resource.

One: Give us a heart of gratitude, O God,

All: That we might seek the well-being of our neighbors,

One: And share out of our abundance,

All: So all might be satisfied. Amen.

† Please rise in body or in spirit



1 How love - ly, Lord, how love - ly is your a - bid - ing place;
 2 In your blest courts to wor - ship, O God, a sin - gle day
 3 A sun and shield for - ev - er are you, O Lord Most High;



my soul is long-ing, faint - ing, to feast up - on your grace.
 is bet - ter than a thou - sand if I from you should stray.
 you show - er us with bless - ings; no good will you de - ny.



The spar - row finds a shel - ter, a place to build her nest;
 I'd rath - er keep the en-trance and claim you as my Lord
 The saints, your grace re - ceiv - ing, from strength to strength shall go,



and so your tem - ple calls us with - in its walls to rest.
 than rev - el in the rich - es the ways of sin af - ford.
 and from their life shall riv - ers of bless - ing o - ver - flow.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

PRAYER (in Unison)

God of Abundance,

You know our every weakness and yet love us without ceasing. We offer ourselves to you, imperfect as we are, to serve you and care for others as you direct us.

Grant us your wisdom. May we act justly, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Forgive us for the harm we have caused through word and action, and by what we have left unsaid and undone, and restore to us the joy of following your will for us. Help us to see how we might live differently to honor you in all we do. In the name of Jesus Christ, our model and guidepost, Amen.

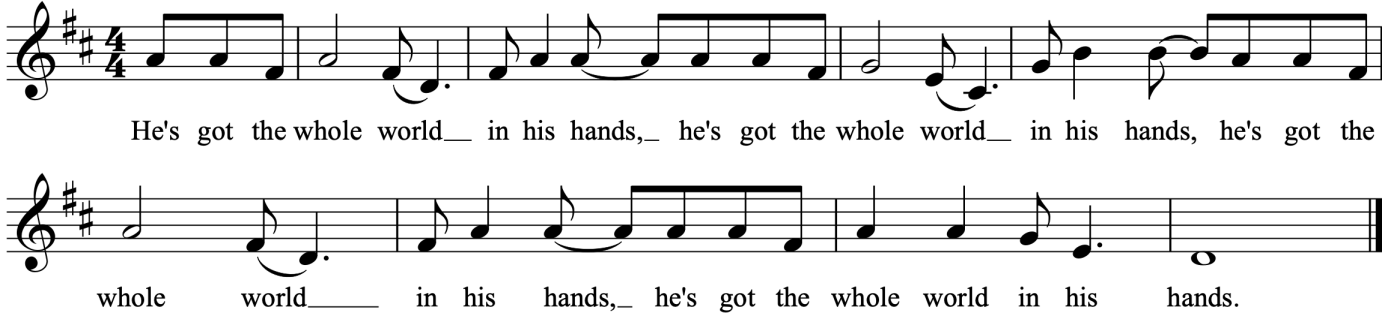
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Reverend Patrick Collins

(During the response, the children will depart for Church School)

RESPONSE

He's Got The Whole World In His Hands



FIRST LESSON

2 Samuel 11:1–15, 26–27

Common English Bible

Lynn Robertson

In the spring, when kings go off to war, David sent Joab, along with his servants and all the Israelites, and they destroyed the Ammonites, attacking the city of Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem.

One evening, David got up from his couch and was pacing back and forth on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. David sent someone and inquired about the woman. The report came back: “Isn’t this Eliam’s daughter Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?” So David sent messengers to take her. When she came to him, he had sex with her. (Now she had been purifying herself after her monthly period.) Then she returned home. The woman conceived and sent word to David.

“I’m pregnant,” she said.

Then David sent a message to Joab: “Send me Uriah the Hittite.” So Joab sent Uriah to David. When Uriah came to him, David asked about the welfare of Joab and the army and how the battle was going. Then David told Uriah, “Go down to your house and wash your feet.”

Uriah left the palace, and a gift from the king was sent after him. However, Uriah slept at the palace entrance with all his master’s servants. He didn’t go down to his own house. David was told, “Uriah didn’t go down to his own house,” so David asked Uriah, “Haven’t you just returned from a journey? Why didn’t you go home?”

“The ark and Israel and Judah are all living in tents,” Uriah told David. “And my master Joab and my master’s troops are camping in the open field. How could I go home and eat, drink, and have sex with my wife? I swear on your very life, I will not do that!”

Then David told Uriah, “Stay here one more day. Tomorrow I’ll send you back.” So Uriah stayed in Jerusalem that day. The next day David called for him, and he ate and drank, and David got him drunk. In the evening Uriah went out to sleep in the same place, alongside his master’s servants, but he did not go down to his own home.

The next morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. He wrote in the letter, “Place Uriah at the front of the fiercest battle, and then pull back from him so that he will be struck down and die.”

When Uriah’s wife heard that her husband Uriah was dead, she mourned for her husband. After the time of mourning was over, David sent for her and brought her back to his house. She became his wife and bore him a son.

But what David had done was evil in the Lord’s eyes.

ANTHEM

In Meeting We Are Blessed

Troy Robertson (b. 1978)

The Chancel Choir

Andrea Woodman, djembe

We are met together and in meeting we are blessed.
Peace in coming and in going, peace in labor and in rest.

R. Gatsnahos (after Donne)

SECOND LESSON

2 Samuel 12:1–9

Common English Bible

So the Lord sent Nathan to David. When Nathan arrived he said, “There were two men in the same city, one rich, one poor. The rich man had a lot of sheep and cattle, but the poor man had nothing—just one small ewe lamb that he had bought. He raised that lamb, and it grew up with him and his children. It would eat from his food and drink from his cup—even sleep in his arms! It was like a daughter to him.

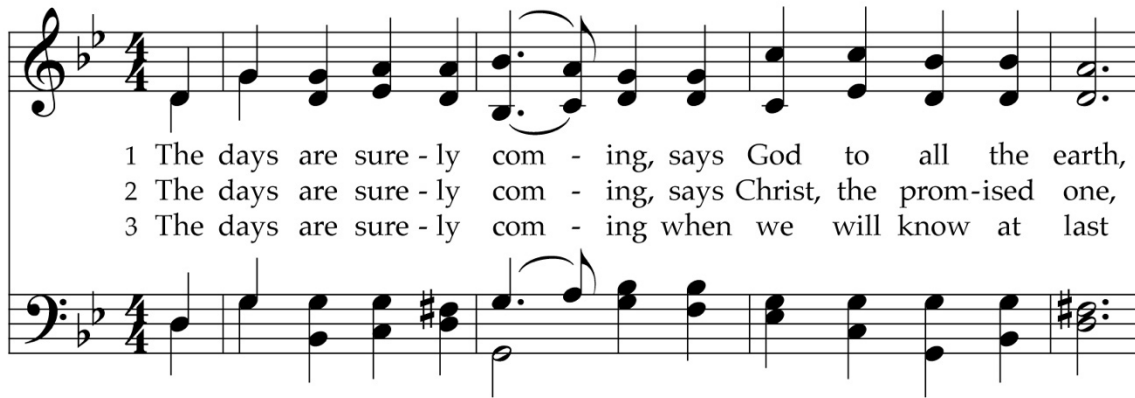
“Now a traveler came to visit the rich man, but he wasn’t willing to take anything from his own flock or herd to prepare for the guest who had arrived. Instead, he took the poor man’s ewe lamb and prepared it for the visitor.”

David got very angry at the man, and he said to Nathan, “As surely as the Lord lives, the one who did this is demonic! He must restore the ewe lamb seven times over because he did this and because he had no compassion.”

“You are that man!” Nathan told David. “This is what the Lord God of Israel says: I anointed you king over Israel and delivered you from Saul’s power. I gave your master’s house to you, and gave his wives into your embrace. I gave you the house of Israel and Judah. If that was too little, I would have given even more. Why have you despised the Lord’s word by doing what is evil in his eyes? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and taken his wife as your own. You used the Ammonites to kill him.”

MESSAGE

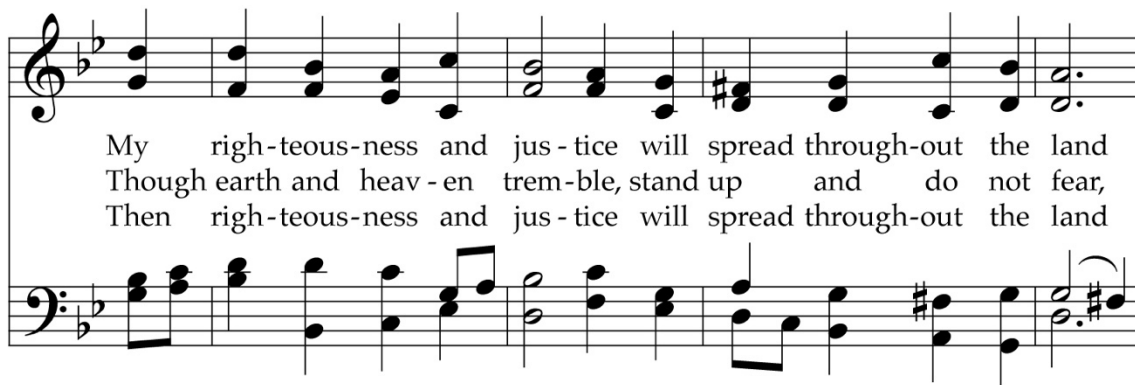
Just Stewardship
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke



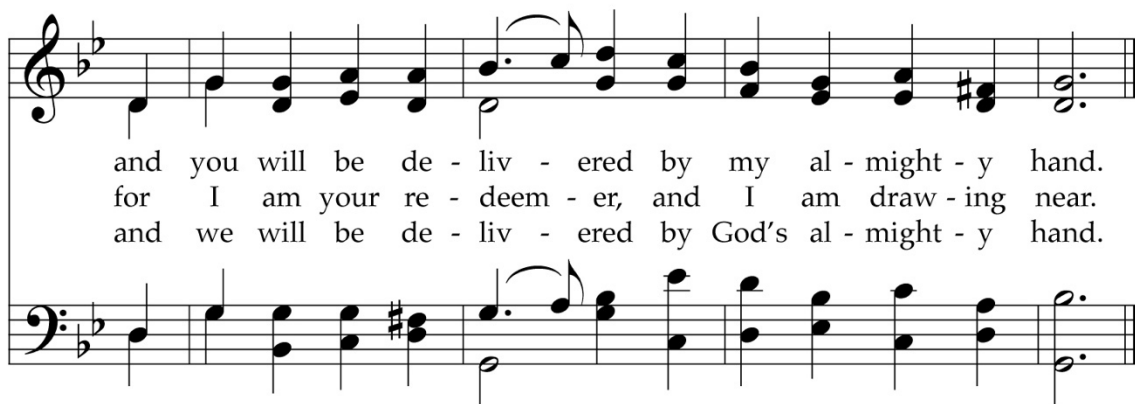
1 The days are sure - ly com - ing, says God to all the earth,
 2 The days are sure - ly com - ing, says Christ, the prom-ised one,
 3 The days are sure - ly com - ing when we will know at last



when you will see my prom - ise: sal - va - tion come to birth.
 when you will read my warn - ing in moon and stars and sun.
 the full - ness of God's pres - ence, God's prom-ise, come to pass.



My righ-teous-ness and jus-tice will spread through-out the land
 Though earth and heav-en trem-ble, stand up and do not fear,
 Then righ-teous-ness and jus-tice will spread through-out the land



and you will be de - liv - ered by my al - might - y hand.
 for I am your re - deem - er, and I am draw - ing near.
 and we will be de - liv - ered by God's al - might - y hand.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reverend Patrick Collins

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

Barbara Norrgard

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Cantate Domino
Giuseppe Ottavio Pitoni (1657-1743)
The Chancel Choir

Praise ye the Lord. Sing unto the Lord a new song, and his praise in the congregation of saints.
Let Israel rejoice in him that made him: let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

Psalm 149

†DOXOLOGY



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures

high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise

God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it

one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

† Please rise in body or in spirit

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -
 3 All a - pos - tles join the strain as your sa - cred
 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it:

bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim;
 bove are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
 name they hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
 three we name you, while in es - sence on - ly one;

all in heaven a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your
 in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heavens with
 and the bless - ed mar - tyrs fol - low, and from morn to
 un - di - vid - ed God we claim you, and a - dor - ing,

vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
 sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
 set of sun, through the church the song goes on.
 bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Postlude On "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"
Anthony Giamanco (b. 1958)

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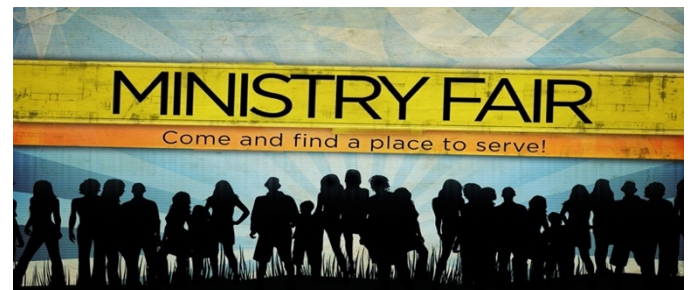
Directly following the service, one of our pastors will remain in the Chapel to be available to anyone who has a pastoral care concern.

Join us for Community Hour following worship this morning, where our hosts for the month of October are members of the Deacons and Stewardship Committees.

COMMUNITY
oooooooo
HOUR

MINISTRY FAIR TODAY! 11 A.M. – 1 P.M. IN THE AUDITORIUM

Can you name all the committees and groups who do various ministry work in our church? There are a lot! Come check out the Ministry Fair to see just how many there are, what they do, and who is behind them. You may even find something that feels like it was made just for you. (And if you don't, let's talk about creating that thing together.)



Each committee will have a table with displays and information for you to learn about the work they do and why. While you talk with friends and munch on Community Hour goodies, learn about our church's efforts with Outreach, Faith Formation, Buildings and Grounds, Caring Ministries, and much more.

The Preschool is also open for tours and chatting with our Director, Jennifer DiCarlo, during this time!

Let's celebrate the gifts we have and how we strive to use them in faith!

TEACHERS STILL NEEDED!



We are still 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.

Slight changes due to lack of teachers:

PURPLE DOOR: 3 & 4 year olds & PreK/Kindergarten

SILVER DOOR: 1st- 4th grades

CELEBRATION SINGERS, & GENESIS CHOIRS REHEARSALS



CHERUB CHOIR (GR K-2)

Silver Door (Lower Level), 11:15-11:45 a.m. -- Carol Woodman, director

CELEBRATION SINGERS

(gr 3-6): Music Room (3rd Floor) 11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. -- Craig Symons, director

GENESIS CHOIR

(gr 7-12 & early college ages): Choir Room, 11:15 a.m. -12:15 p.m. -- Danny Young, director

BELIEVE! FINDING FAITH IN TED LASSO



**Wednesday October 26,
November 2, 9, & 16
6:00 – 7:00 p.m. First Church Lounge**

Join us for this limited Faith Formation series as we explore the many ways Ted infuses faith into his life and work as a Premier League Football coach who has only coached American Football.

POSITIVE PARENTING FOR EVERYDAY CHALLENGES

**presented by Susan O'Brien, LCSW
Tuesday, October 25 at 7 p.m. - Daniels Center**



This program will help parents rethink parenting challenges and provide positive strategies to reduce stress at home. The program will also discuss how to establish family rules that will teach your children to listen and restore family harmony. Sponsored by First Church Preschool.

THE RUMMAGE ROOM

Needs for this week are -

- Girls clothing for all ages
- Packing/bubble wrap materials
- Winter coats (any gender/age)

We have a great selection of Halloween costumes for the whole family!

Shopping hours are Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.





TRUNK OR TREAT SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2022

5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Vehicle Set-up
6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Open to Community

It's time for the annual Trunk or Treat.
We need volunteers to decorate their vehicles and pass out candy. Click [here](#) for details and to sign-up.

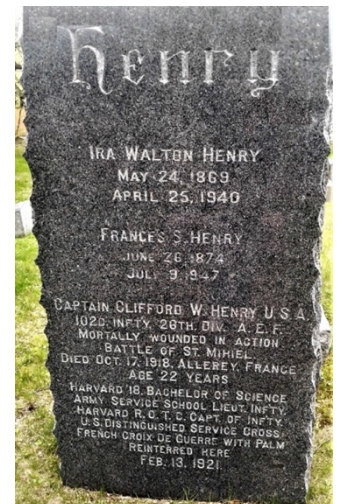
Help spread the word about this great community event by telling your neighbors and friends.

Admission is \$10 per family and there will be great food trucks on site for dining options

FIRST CHURCH CEMETERY TOUR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30 ~ 11:15 A.M.

In honor of All Hallows Day, after a short Community Hour, meet at the entrance to our cemetery for a guided tour of the people of note buried in our cemetery. You might learn surprising things about some very accomplished people who inspired others!

Your Tour Guide is Pat Larrabee, First Church's historian.



INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP AT FIRST CHURCH?

Join us for our next New Members Class Monday, November 7th at 7 p.m. in the Auditorium. For more details and information contact Rev. Patrick.



UPCOMING EVENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF FIRST CHURCH

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

Committee/Ministry Fair Following Worship In The Auditorium

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5 11 A.M. – 1 P.M.

HOMES FOR THE BRAVE

Drop-Off In Church Parking Lot.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18 - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

H.O.M.E. CRAFT FAIR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19 9 A.M. - 4 P.M.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20 following worship

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20 10 A.M. – 11 A.M.

Harvest Sunday & Giving Tree Gift Drop-Off

CHRISTMAS TREE & WREATH SALE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26 THRU SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

SATURDAYS 9 A.M. – 4 P.M. - SUNDAYS 11 A.M. - 4 P.M.

The Annual Christmas Tree & Wreath Sale - Front Lawn

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4 12 P.M. – 4 P.M.

ADVENT CRAFT FAIR - Craft Fair in Daniels Center

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10 4 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.

56th ANNUAL MESSIAH CONCERT

Free-Will Offering To Be Received. Suggested Donation: \$20 Per Person.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11 5 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

FIRST CHURCH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Celebrate the holidays with your First Church family!

Join us Join us for fun, generous hors d' oeuvres, and a full bar.

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