

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Sunday, November 20, 2022

HARVEST 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.



FAITH FIRST. LOVE ALWAYS.

A special note of thanks to Pam & Peter Grunow for decorating the Harvest Table.

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.*

ANTHEM

I'm Gonna Sing When The Spirit Says Sing!

The Cherub Choir

Carol Woodman, director

Andrea Woodman, ukulele

CALL TO ANNUAL GIVING

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Kate Collins

PRELUDE

Morning Has Broken

Michael Bedford (b.1949)

The Palmer Handbell Choir

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, director

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In deep gratitude we come to worship God.

All: **We recognize God as the source of all goodness.**

One: All good gifts come from the Spirit of God:

All: **love, peace, joy, patience, kindness and gentleness are all of God.**

One: We come with grateful hearts, not for things, but for who God is.

All: **We gather to show our gratitude in song and prayer.**

†HYMN

461 (Pilgrim Hymnal)

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Tune: St. George's Windsor

† Please rise in body or in spirit

PRAYER

Gift-giver, it is the time of year to gather in the produce of the earth. And so we give thanks for the gifts of food. It is the time of year when we admire the bright colors of the season. And so we pause to give thanks for the beauty of the earth. In our time of worship this morning, move within and among us, awakening us to your presence, moving our hearts to respond to your grace. Amen.

ANTHEM

Tell Us, Little Shepherd

Arr. Sonja Poorman

The Genesis Choir

Daniel Young, director

Dianne Ellis, piano

FIRST LESSON

Matthew 5: 13-14

New Revised Standard Version

Lynn Hawxhurst

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

ANTHEM

The Gift Of Home

Ruth Elaine Schram (b. 1956)

The Celebration Singers

Vance Briceland, piano

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 2:1-5

New Revised Standard Version

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.”

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more.
O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

MESSAGE

Learn To Give
Reverend Patrick Collins

ANTHEM

Praise, O, Praise Our God and King
S. Drummond Wolff (1916-2004)
The Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

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

HYMNS

21 (Pilgrim Hymnal)
We Gather Together
Tune: Kremser

410 (Pilgrim Hymnal)
O Beautiful, For Spacious Skies
Tune: Materna

419 (New Century Hymnal)
Now Thank We All Our God
Tune: Nun danket alle Gott

591 (New Century Hymnal)
This Is My Song
Tune: Finlandia

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Joyful Peal
Michael Bedford
The Palmer Handbell Choir

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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, hosted by the Stewardship Committee, where you can greet our new members and have a cup of coffee with some light snacks.

COMMUNITY HOUR

ANNUAL GIVING UPDATE



We are at 102 pledges to date - 32% of our target and \$312,000 in pledged amounts - 43% of our goal.

If you haven't made your pledge, please consider supporting the wonderful programs at First Church and go to www.iamfirstchurch.com



H.O.M.E. CRAFT FAIR FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Handmade quilts, Christmas decorations and gifts, pottery, wooden toys, weavings, homemade jams, maple syrup, and many more crafts from Maine will be for sale in the Auditorium. All proceeds will benefit the H.O.M.E. community in Orland, Maine.

OUTREACH GIVING AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

HARVEST SUNDAY IS TODAY!

Bring your food donations for Neighbor to Neighbor and H.O.M.E. to the Meetinghouse at 10 a.m. or to the drive-by drop-off. Bring your **Giving Tree** gifts to the auditorium before the 10 a.m. service or to the drive-by. The drive-by drop off will be from 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the parking lot.

All shelf stable food is welcome. Also diapers and wipes.



ANOTHER WAY TO CELEBRATE HARVEST SUNDAY –



Donate Fresh Food for Neighbor to Neighbor

We have an online option so you can shop for **fresh food** donations from the comfort of your home. The fresh selections will be delivered for free to Neighbor to Neighbor.

Scan the code below to shop at GiveHealthy.org for fresh food donations requested by Neighbor to Neighbor, or follow the links in the Friday email, This Week at First Church, or at fccog.org.

56th Annual Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale Volunteers Sign Ups Now Open



**The 2022 Christmas Tree
and Wreath Sale begins on
Saturday, November 26th and
runs through Sunday, December 4**

Volunteers are the **KEY** to the success of the sale, which raised over \$30,000 for local charities last year. It is also a wonderful introduction of First Church to new residents in the community. There are jobs for **ALL** volunteers.

We need welcoming greeters, cashiers, and salespeople. Please scan the code below to sign up. Please help us help those in need and make First Church shine!



FIRST CHURCH ADVENT CRAFT FAIR

Sunday, December 4, 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Daniels Center

~ A Light Lunch Will Be Served At 11:30 ~

All ages welcome - bring a friend
Please sign up [HERE](#) so we know
how many crafts and food to prepare.



WHAT IS ADVENT? LIKE, REALLY?

Advent Faith Formation Series

Wednesday, November 30

Tuesday, December 6

Wednesday, December 14

Wednesday, December 21

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. First Church Lounge

Each week we will watch a brief video on advent featuring some of the preeminent voices in progressive Christianity like Father Richard Rohr, Nadia Bolz-Weber, Brene Brown, and Parker Palmer. Come as you are and join us as we discuss what advent really means for our lives today.



THE RUMMAGE ROOM

Needs for this week are -

- Christmas Decorations
- Men's Suits
- Men's Winter Jackets

Shopping hours are Monday through Thursday
from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.,
with the same hours for donation drop off.



56TH ANNUAL MESSIAH

We're just about a month away from
our Messiah performance on
Saturday, December 10 at 4 p.m.
It's not too early to start thinking about joining
the chorus to sing this holiday favorite. Full
details available on our website!

UPCOMING EVENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF FIRST CHURCH

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

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

- **10 a.m. Children's Service** especially designed for younger children and their families, with a live nativity pageant and music by The Cherub Choir.
- **3 p.m. Family Service** with "Once in Royal David's City" pageant and music by The Celebration Singers.
- **5 p.m. Community Candlelight Carol Sing** on the front lawn of the church.
- **6 p.m. Festival Carol Service** with candlelight and music by a brass quintet and The Chancel Choir.
- **9 p.m. Candlelight Service with Communion** and music by The Genesis/Alumni Choir and harp.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 10 A.M.

Breakfast Church in the Auditorium

CHILDREN'S PAGES

KidStuff
By Clergy Stuff

Narrative Lectionary Kid's Bulletin

November 20, 2022

Isaiah 36:1-3,
13-20; 37:1-7; then
2:1-4

Swords Into Plowshares

King Hezekiah was a good king. He loved and followed God.

One day a great army came to attack his people. They said, "Your God won't help you. You should just give up!"

Hezekiah got down on his knees and prayed for God's help. He also sent a messenger to God's prophet, Isaiah.

"Isaiah, help!" the messenger cried. "We are under attack!"

Isaiah patted him on the shoulder. "Do not be afraid. Tell King Hezekiah that God will make the army go away and leave you alone." The messenger and King Hezekiah were so relieved.

Isaiah also said, "One day everyone will praise God together. People will bring their weapons to God and turn them into tools for farming. There will be no more war."

What a beautiful thing to hope for!



REMEMBER THIS

PLOWSHARES

A plowshare is a piece of metal that helps farmers dig deep rows in the ground for seeds.

SWORD INTO PLOWS

Follow the instructions and literally turn a word that means a weapon into a word that is a tool for farming. Some letters are filled in for you. (Answers on back)

Start with a word that is the kind of weapon named in the title of the story.

___ W ___

Add an L and rearrange the letters to make a word that means planets.

___ L ___

Change the R to an E, and rearrange the letters to make a word that means "got less fast."

___ E ___

Change the D to an H and rearrange the letters to make a word that means the opposite of "parts."

___ O ___

Change the O to an A, drop the E, and rearrange the letters to make a word that means a kind of blanket scarf that you wear over your shoulders.

___ A ___

Change the A back to an O and rearrange to make a word that are the sounds that wolves make at the moon.

H ___

Change the H to a P and rearrange the letters to make a word that is a kind of farm equipment (plural).

___ W ___

Did You Know?

After World War II, many tanks and other vehicles of war were turned into bulldozers and other machines used for reconstruction or farming. Two of them are in a museum in Canada.

TRY IT AT HOME!

Make swords out of play dough and then turn them into shovels, hoes, and other farm equipment. Then use the play dough to make a beautiful garden.

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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

Livestream Director

Audio Technician

Database Administrative Assistant

Interim Facility Manager

Sextons

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

Daniel Lepoutre

Bob Small

Sue Wilder

Julio Yika

Curtis Gay, Qasim Hussaini

Jennifer DiCarlo

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Reverend Dr. Thomas L. Stiers - Reverend Sally Colegrove



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OF CHRIST
a just world for all