

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2023
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING



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

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

Noël Nouvelet
Anthony St. Pierre
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, piano

PRAYER (in unison)

Holy God, In this New Year, we seek you as we have always sought you.

We need you as we have always needed you. We hunger for your presence, your peace, your justice and your love.

Open our hearts afresh and anew. Open our minds that we may know you. Open our hands that we may care for you. Open our ears and eyes that we may hear and see you in our neighbor, in the foreigner, in the refugee, even in our enemy, and, perhaps especially, in ourselves. That we may know in the deepest part of ourselves that you call us, and that we are capable of seeing and naming, doing and being your love, your peace, your hope and your justice in this world. Amen.

†CAROL

129 New Century Hymnal
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

† **Please rise in body or in spirit**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke
(During the response, the children will return to their seats.)

RESPONSE

Away In A Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care, and take us to heaven to live with you there.

LESSON

First Coming
Madeleine L'Engle
Pat Larrabee

He did not wait till the world was ready,
till men and nations were at peace
He came when the Heavens were unsteady
and prisoners cried out for release.

He did not wait for the perfect time.
He came when the need was deep and great.
He dined with sinners in all their grime,
turned water into wine. He did not wait

till hearts were pure. In joy he came
to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.
To a world like ours, of anguished shame
He came, and his Light would not go out.

He came to a world which did not mesh,
to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.
In the mystery of the Word made Flesh
the Maker of the stars was born.

We cannot wait till the world is sane
to raise our songs with joyful voice,
for to share our grief, to touch our pain,
He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!

CAROL

146 Pilgrim Hymnal
While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night (verses 1-4)

LESSON

Christmas Carol
Paul Laurence Dunbar

Ring out, ye bells!
All Nature swells
With gladness at the wondrous story,~
The world was lorn,
But Christ is born
To change our sadness into glory.

Sing, earthlings, sing!
To-night a King
Hath come from heaven's high throne to bless us.
The outstretched hand
O'er all the land
Is raised in pity to caress us.

Come at His call;
Be joyful all;
Away with mourning and with sadness!
The heavenly choir
With holy fire
Their voices raise in songs of gladness.

The darkness breaks
And Dawn awakes,
Her cheeks suffused with youthful blushes.
The rocks and stones
In holy tones
Are singing sweeter than the thrushes.

Then why should we
In silence be,
When Nature lends her voice to praises;
When heaven and earth
Proclaim the truth
Of Him for whom that lone star blazes?

No, be not still,
But with a will
Strike all your harps and set them ringing;
On hill and heath
Let every breath
Throw all its power into singing!

ANTHEM

New Year Carol
Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)
The Chancel Choir

*Here we bring new water from the well so clear
For to worship God with, this happy New Year*

*Sing levy dew, sing levy dew, the water and the wine;
The seven bright gold wires and the bugles that do shine.*

*Sing reign of Fair Maid, with gold upon her toe,
Open you the West Door, and turn the Old Year go.
Sing levy dew, sing levy dew...*

*Sing reign of Fair Maid, with gold upon her chin,
Open you the East Door, and let the New Year in.
Sing levy dew, sing levy dew...*

LESSON

Matthew 1:1-16
Music by Andrew Peterson

This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham:

Abraham was the father of Isaac,

Isaac the father of Jacob,

Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,

Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar,

Perez the father of Hezron,

Hezron the father of Ram,

Ram the father of Amminadab,

Amminadab the father of Nahshon,

Nahshon the father of Salmon,

Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab,

Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth,

Obed the father of Jesse,

and Jesse the father of King David.

David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife,

Solomon the father of Rehoboam,

Rehoboam the father of Abijah,

Abijah the father of Asa,

Asa the father of Jehoshaphat,

Jehoshaphat the father of Jehoram,

Jehoram the father of Uzziah,

Uzziah the father of Jotham,
Jotham the father of Ahaz,
Ahaz the father of Hezekiah,
Hezekiah the father of Manasseh,
Manasseh the father of Amon,
Amon the father of Josiah,
and Josiah the father of Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the exile to Babylon.
After the exile to Babylon:
Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel,
Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,
Zerubbabel the father of Abihud,
Abihud the father of Eliakim,
Eliakim the father of Azor,
Azor the father of Zadok,
Zadok the father of Akim,
Akim the father of Elihud,
Elihud the father of Eleazar,
Eleazar the father of Matthan,
Matthan the father of Jacob,
and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah.

MESSAGE

A New Year
Reverend Patrick Collins

†CAROL

129 Pilgrim Hymnal
It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

† **Please rise in body or in spirit**

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

Receiving the Bread and Cup

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 and eat the bread, proceed to and drink an individual cup, then return to their seats by the side aisle.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (in unison)

God of transformation, we offer you our gratitude, deep gratitude, for this moment, this meal, these people. We give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared this sacrament and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. For the baby whose birth we celebrate tonight, for peace to prevail on earth, and for your glory forever we give our thanks and praise. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

Mary Fike

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

In The Bleak Midwinter
Harold Darke (1888-1976)
The Chancel Choir

Hanna Golodinskii, soprano, Daniel Young, tenor

*In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone:
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.*

*Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.*

*Enough for him whom cherubim worship night and day, a breastful of milk and a mangerful of hay:
enough for him whom angels fall down before, the ox and ass and camel which adore.*

*Angels and archangels may have gathered there, cherubim and seraphim thronged the air,
but only his mother, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the Beloved with a kiss.*

*What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb,
if I were a wise man I would do my part, yet what I can I give him, give my heart.*

Christina Rossetti (1872)

†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.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†CAROL

140 Pilgrim Hymnal
What Child Is This?

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Noël
Felix Alexandre Guilmant
(1837-1911)

† Please rise in body or in spirit

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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 in the Auditorium following worship this morning where you can greet each other and have a cup of coffee and some light snacks.

COMMUNITY HOUR



TODAY - No Church School

January 8: Regular Church School Returns



**MAKE THAT LAST HOLIDAY TASK EASIER.....
SCHEDULE TREE RECYCLING PICK UP NOW!**

Scan the QR code and select your pickup date (January 7th/8th, 14th/15th)

Your tree will be collected from your driveway (no tinsel or wreaths please) and recycled at Greenwich Point. Donation amount is \$35.

All funds raised from recycling pick up will go to support the 2023 mission trip to the Yakima Reservation in Washington state. You may leave your donation with the tree, send a check to FCCOG ("recycling" in the memo line) or we can call you for a credit card number.



APRIL SERVICE-LEARNING TRIP

Everyone ages 12 and up is welcome to join us on a special cultural immersion trip to the Yakima Reservation in Washington state. We will spend a week working with S.L.A.M. Trips, which is a native run organization.

More information is available [here](#) on their website. [Click here](#) to sign up, or contact the church office to reserve a spot as space is limited. Cost, schedule, and details will be available soon.



THE RUMMAGE ROOM

The Rummage Room reopens Tuesday, January 3rd.

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

Needs this week are: Men's Business Shirts

Small electric appliances.....Toasters, Radios, Blenders etc

Jewelry



FIRST CHURCH STAINED GLASS WINDOWS ARE NOW IN A SELF-GUIDED AUDIO TOUR!

You can now read about or listen to an audio description of our Stained Glass Windows on your own time, either at home on your computer or on your cell phone in the Meetinghouse* looking at our wonderful windows in their full size and vibrant color. (*Not during a service, of course!)

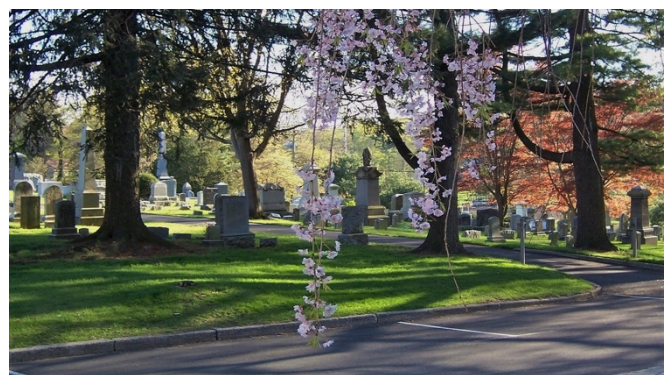
Our windows are quite unique in that they are filled with history. They show many influences of the Reformation, Missionary works, the Protestant church and the formation of the UCC. They also show some of the movers and shakers who influenced First Church in the Chapel windows. Our windows totally reflect Rev. Dr. Vincent Daniels' love of our church and passion for teaching history.

To take this tour or learn about just one window at a time, point your cell phone camera's QR code app at the webpage below, or click the [TOUR](https://fccog.org/first-church-self-guided-tours) link on <https://fccog.org/first-church-self-guided-tours>.

NEW! FIRST CHURCH CEMETERY ALSO A SELF-GUIDED AUDIO TOUR!

You can now read about or listen to an audio description of our cemetery on your own time, either at home on your computer or on your cell phone walking in the cemetery. You can even jump around on the interactive tour by clicking on any Point of Interest in the column on the left or by clicking on any circled number on the map.

As far as we know, this is the first self-guided audio cemetery tour in Greenwich. To hear the tour at the far end of the cemetery, please download the app to your cell phone so you won't need Wifi.



This tour points out the headstones of a variety of people our cemetery and includes photos of the headstones, the people, as well as short bios, if found. We have some very interesting and accomplished people buried here.

To take this tour, point your cell phone camera's QR code app at the webpage below, or click the cemetery TOUR link on <https://fccog.org/first-church-self-guided-tours>.



Tour Guide: Pat Larrabee, church historian, patlarrabee@hotmail.com.

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

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Ministers - All Members Of The First Congregational Church Of Greenwich

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Minister of Music
Parish Nurse
Church Office Coordinator
Financial Administrator
Livestream Director
Audio Technician
Database Administrative Assistant
Interim Facility Manager
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Pastors Emeriti

Reverend Patrick Collins
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OF CHRIST**
a just world for all