

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
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 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.

If you are the person on the center aisle, please remove the completed sheet and place it in the plate during the offering.

PRELUDE

Arietta

Samuel Taylor-Coleridge (1875-1912)

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

One: Christ came into the world and became fully human.

All: **He ate, slept, and wept. He laughed and got angry. He felt pain and endured temptation.**

One: Christ came into the world and showed us how to live,

All: **He knew that we do not eat by bread alone, but are fed by the word of God.**

One: No matter what you are going through,

All: **Jesus knows and understands.**

One: No matter what you long to have in this life,

All: **God's word and ways sustain like no other.**

One: Let us listen for God in even the most challenging parts of our lives,

All: **For God is always with us. Let us worship God together.**

CHORAL INTROIT



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
 2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
 3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
 bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
 lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



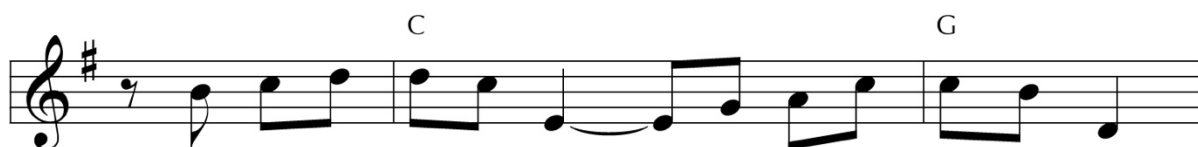
wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
 wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
 wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.



The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

PRAYER (in unison)

Sustaining God, with the words of your holy scriptures and the love of your ways, Jesus resisted all the temptations of this world. Write your word on our hearts that we might also turn away from earthly ways of power and possession, and focus on our desire for your truths to reign in our lives. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(During the response, the children will depart for Church School, or return to their seats.)

RESPONSE

Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 91: 9-12
New International Version
Mariann Ekernas

If you say, "The Lord is my refuge,"
and you make the Most High your dwelling,
no harm will overtake you,
no disaster will come near your tent.
For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways;
they will lift you up in their hands,
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

SECOND LESSON

Excerpt from "I Have a Dream" speech, 1963
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"But there is something that I must say to my people who stand on the warm threshold which leads into the palace of justice. In the process of gaining our rightful place, we must not be guilty of wrongful deeds. Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred. We must forever conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline. We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence. Again and again, we must rise to the majestic heights of meeting physical force with soul force."

ANTHEM

I Dream A World
Andre Thomas (b. 1952)
The Chancel Choir

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 4:1-17
Common English Bible

Then the Spirit led Jesus up into the wilderness so that the devil might tempt him. After Jesus had fasted for forty days and forty nights, he was starving. The tempter came to him and said, "Since you are God's Son, command these stones to become bread." Jesus replied, "It's written, 'People won't live only by bread, but by every word spoken by God.'"

After that the devil brought him into the holy city and stood him at the highest point of the temple. He said to him, "Since you are God's Son, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'I will command my angels concerning you, and they will take you up in their hands so that you won't hit your foot on a stone.'"

Jesus replied, "Again it's written, 'Don't test the Lord your God.'"

Then the devil brought him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. He said, "I'll give you all these if you bow down and worship me."

Jesus responded, "Go away, Satan, because it's written, 'You will worship the Lord your God and serve only him.'" The devil left him, and angels came and took care of him.

Now when Jesus heard that John was arrested, he went to Galilee. He left Nazareth and settled in Capernaum, which lies alongside the sea in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali. This fulfilled what Isaiah the prophet said:

Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,
 alongside the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles,
the people who lived in the dark have seen a great light,
 and a light has come upon those who lived in the region and in shadow of death.

From that time Jesus began to announce, "Change your hearts and lives! Here comes the kingdom of heaven!"

MESSAGE

Running On Empty
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

†HYMN

Jesus Calls Us, O'er The Tumult
172 New Century Hymnal

† Please rise in body or in spirit

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Henry Hull

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Hymn To Freedom
Oscar Peterson (1925-2007)
arr. Kirby Shaw
The Chancel Choir
Thomas Woodman, bass
Linnea Conley, mezzo soprano

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†HYMN

Lift Every Voice And Sing
593 New Century Hymnal

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

I've Got Peace Like A River
Arr. Marvin Gaspard

† 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
oooooooo
HOUR



This Sunday Church School will hold a one room schoolhouse in the Lounge to discuss and celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr and his impact on us all.

January 22 & January 29, 2023 Regular Church School

OPEN FOR LUNCH!

After almost two years of serving meals to go, the New Covenant Center Cafe in Stamford is finally open for sit-down hot meals! So, the popular opportunity of serving lunch to Cafe visitors is open for sign ups!

All the luncheon food will be delivered from ShopRite. The volunteers will slice bread, arrange desserts and serve the hot meal. The time commitment is 11:30am - 1pm on the first Monday of the month. Masks are required. Scan the code below to sign up for your spot for this spring.





CHERUB & GENESIS CHOIR REHEARSALS

Cherub Choir (gr K-2)

Silver Door (Lower Level)

11:15 - 11:45 a.m. Carol Woodman, director

Genesis Choir (gr 7-12 and early college ages)

Choir Room (3rd floor)

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Danny Young, director

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY

Beginning January 23rd, we're adding a new current events-based Bible Study opportunity! Using the Wired Word's curriculum, each week we'll discuss a topic or headline from the week's news and ask ourselves how our faith applies through guided questions and discussion. Learn more at thewiredword.com



There are two opportunities every week, starting January 23rd:

- Join Pastor Cydney for dinner on Mondays at 6:30pm at OG Social Club (48 Sound Beach Ave, Old Greenwich). Dinner optional.
- Join Pastor Patrick for lunch on Thursdays at Noon at FCCOG and on Zoom. BYO lunch optional.

Learn how the Bible is alive today and find hope no matter what's going on in the world.

QUARTERLY MEETING NEXT SUNDAY!

I invite you to our next Quarterly Meeting on January 22, 2023 where the Church Council has a few important updates to share with you. These include:

- An update on the Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale
- A status of our Annual Giving campaign
- A Staffing update including the concept of a Regional Youth Minister
- Available Self Guided Tours of FCCOG
- Q&A

Clem Lepoutre, Chair
Church Council

THE 2023 “SOUPER BOWL” SUNDAY SOUP & CHILI SALE

Calling all cooks! It's time to show-off your soup-making skills once again by volunteering to make and donate a quart (or quarts) of soup or chili to benefit the FCCOG Women's Fellowship!



The sale will take place in the auditorium on Sunday, February 12, 2023 from 11 am to 1 pm. Quarts of homemade soup and chili will be sold for \$10 each.

Please sign up to donate after church in the auditorium beginning Sunday, January 15th and continuing for the next several Sundays. Restaurant-style food containers will be available when you sign up. You may also sign up in the church office. This annual event has proven to be easy, inexpensive and popular for both those who love to cook and those who love to eat! This is the only Women's Fellowship fundraiser for the year. Please contact Sue Wilder for more information.



AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A SHORT-TERM, VERY FULFILLING EXPERIENCE

The Allocations Committee is looking for a few women who would like to join us in participating in the Grant Review Process for the 2022-2023 Cycle. The Committee distributes the proceeds from the Rummage Room to deserving local programs.

DETAILS

- The Committee begins meeting Monday, January 16th at 7 pm and meets every other Monday through the month of March (6 meetings total).
- Meetings will be via ZOOM

- Members review the grant applications (using easy to use tools) to make recommendations to the Committee
- The Chair presents the recommendations to the Women's Fellowship Board in April for promotion to the Women's Fellowship for a Vote in May.

BENEFITS

- A short-term commitment
- An opportunity to learn about the important work being done in our communities
- A sense of fulfillment, as the funds (>\$100,000) are granted to local organizations*

Please contact Sheila Bennett at sheilabennettms@gmail.com if you would like to participate.

***Last year we distributed \$142,145 to 41 organizations!**



THE RUMMAGE ROOM

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 coats and blazers
Spring sweaters

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 FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

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Ministers - All Members Of The First Congregational Church Of Greenwich

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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
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Daniel Lepoutre
Bob Small
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UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all