

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2023
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING



blessed

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.

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

PRELUDE

What A Friend We Have In Jesus

Arr. Robert M. Thompson (b.1940)

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Reverend Patrick Collins

One: Wonderful is the God of Christ, who gathers the poor of the earth.

All: **Glorious is our God, who wipes away the tears of sorrow.**

One: Wonderful is the God of Christ, who gives inheritance to the meek.

All: **Glorious is our God, who satisfies the hunger of the just.**

One: Wonderful is the God of Christ, who gives mercy to the merciful.

All: **Glorious is our God, who gives vision to the pure in heart.**

One: Wonderful is the God of Christ, who adopts the peacemakers.

All: **Glorious is our God, who lifts high the persecuted.**

One: Wonderful is the God of Christ, who finds the lost.

All: **Glorious is our God, who awakens the dead.**

CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

Rejoice, Ye Pure In Heart

345 Pilgrim Hymnal

† Please rise in body or in spirit

PRAYER (in unison)

Loving God, in Jesus you proclaim a blessing for those in deprivation, a promise of your transforming love. Make us instruments of your justice, that all might have life abundantly. 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 1:1-6
New International Version
Carol Woodman

Blessed is the one
who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
or sit in the company of mockers,
but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,
and who meditates on his law day and night.
That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—
whatever they do prospers.

Not so the wicked!
They are like chaff
that the wind blows away.
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

ANTHEM

The Beatitudes (Greek Chant)
The Chancel Choir

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 5: 1-16
New International Version

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them.

He said:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

“You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

MESSAGE

Blessing Comes First
Reverend Patrick Collins

†HYMN

You Are Salt For The Earth, O People
181 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

Lynn Robertson

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Go Forth Into The World
Robert Powell (b.1932)
The Chancel Choir

†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

What A Friend We Have In Jesus
506 New Century Hymnal

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Flourish
Gordon Young (1919-1998)

† 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



January 22 & January 29 Regular Church School

February 5 – All-Ages Worship with Communion

QUARTERLY MEETING TODAY!

I invite you to our next Quarterly Meeting TODAY 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
- Questions & Answers

Clem Lepoutre, Chair
Church Council

CHERUB, CELEBRATION SINGERS, & GENESIS CHOIR 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 and early college ages)

Choir Room (3rd floor)

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

EXCITING MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITY

"After my experience, I immediately wanted to return because I felt like the experience was deeply personal and yet far bigger than myself, my youth group, and my community as a whole. Sign up for SLAM Trips today!"

~ Quinn Leach, Student at First Covenant Church, Seattle, WA.

First Church is headed to the Yakima Reservation April 10-16 for a weeklong cultural immersion trip run by a group of local indigenous people. This intergenerational trip is open to all members of First Church. The cost is \$1000 per

person and covers all expenses. Deadline to register is Friday, January 27th.

Please Click [HERE](#) to register. Please contact the church office with any questions.

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.

ZOOM Link for Thursday session only:

Topic: Wired Word Bible Study

Time: Jan 26, 2023 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88200872002?pwd=R2d5ZmcwV1hYMkxDQWU2WWYwaEZXZz09>

Meeting ID: 882 0087 2002

Passcode: FCCOG

One tap mobile

+13092053325,,88200872002# US

+13126266799,,88200872002# US (Chicago)

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

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 swilder102@gmail.com

SOUP MAKING FOR THE ANNUAL SOUP & CHILI SALE

Members of the Women's Fellowship will be gathering at the home of Ginny Breismeister on Monday, January 30 at 6:00 p.m. We will be making soup for the Women's Fellowship fundraiser "Souper Bowl Soup & Chili Sale". All the ingredients for the soup will be provided. Please bring your beverage of choice and perhaps an appetizer to share. All are welcome! Come for a fun evening of cooking, talking, and laughter. RSVP's appreciated to Sue Wilder swilder102@gmail.com

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 and Women's Spring Coats
Valentine's items
Ladies handbags





CALL-A-RIDE GREENWICH FREE TRANSPORTATION FOR SENIORS AND MORE

At **CALL-A-RIDE**, we provide free transportation weekdays for seniors age 60 or over within the Town of Greenwich. Our volunteer drivers also serve to create an atmosphere of understanding and camaraderie aiding seniors toward a full enjoyment of life.

We currently have a roster of some 58 volunteer drivers who cover 24 shifts Monday through Friday each week. Morning shifts run from 8:30 AM-12:15 PM and afternoon shifts run from 12:15 PM to 4:00 PM. Some drivers have regularly committed weekly shifts and others are available on a substitute basis. Drivers must be 25 years of age or older, possess a valid driver's license and be approved by C-A-R's automobile insurer. Many current drivers have volunteered with C-A-R for many years and derive a high degree of satisfaction from their service to others through C-A-R.

We are always looking for volunteer drivers – hopefully you will be so inclined, and in that event, kindly make initial contact with our office.

CALL-A-RIDE OF GREENWICH, INC.

37 Lafayette Place Greenwich, CT 06830 Phone: (203) 661-6633

Dispatchers: Ron March, Hilary Gunn

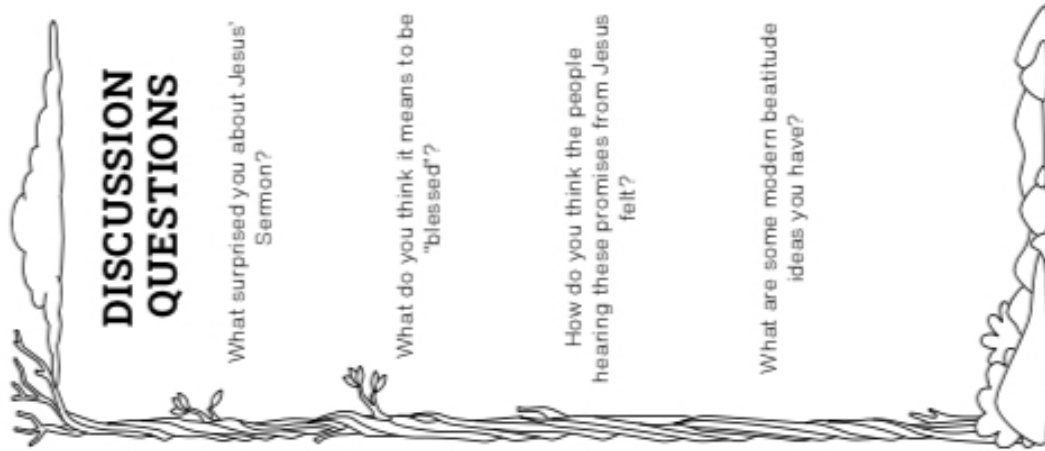
E-mail: call-a-ride@optimum.net <https://callaridegreenwich.org>

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.





DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What surprised you about Jesus' Sermon?

What do you think it means to be "blessed"?

How do you think the people hearing these promises from Jesus felt?

What are some modern beatitude ideas you have?

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
Kayla Vozzella
Reverend Dr. Thomas L. Stiers - Reverend Sally Colegrove



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OF CHRIST
a just world for all