

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2023
TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY
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.

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

PRELUDE

Prelude In C Major
Johann Ludwig Krebs (1713-1780)
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Let us go to the mountain

All: **We will see Jesus transformed.**

One: It is good to be here,

All: **In the presence of our God.**

One: We are fed by God's holy word,

All: **And we, too, are transformed. Let us worship our God together.**

CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

When Morning Gilds The Skies
86 New Century Hymnal

† Please rise in body or in spirit

PRAYER (in unison)

Almighty God, You call us to listen to your Son, and follow him in all things. Transform our hearts with your love, that we might continue his ministry of healing and reconciliation in the world. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(During the response, the children will 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 41: 7-10
New International Version
Pat Mendelsohn

All my enemies whisper together against me;
they imagine the worst for me, saying,
“A vile disease has afflicted him;
he will never get up from the place where he lies.”
Even my close friend,
someone I trusted,
one who shared my bread,
has turned against me.
But may you have mercy on me, Lord;
raise me up, that I may repay them.

ANTHEM

Dextera Domini
César Franck (1822-1890)
Hanna Golodinskii, soprano
Daniel Young, tenor
Thomas Woodman, bass

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 16: 24- 17: 8
Common English Bible

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “All who want to come after me must say no to themselves, take up their cross, and follow me. All who want to save their lives will lose them. But all who lose their lives because of me will find them. Why would people gain the whole world but lose their lives? What will people give in exchange for their lives? For the Human One is about to come with the majesty of his Father with his angels. And then he will repay each one for what that

person has done. I assure you that some standing here won't die before they see the Human One coming in his kingdom."

Six days later Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and brought them to the top of a very high mountain. He was transformed in front of them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as light.

Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Jesus. Peter reacted to all of this by saying to Jesus, "Lord, it's good that we're here. If you want, I'll make three shrines: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

While he was still speaking, look, a bright cloud overshadowed them. A voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son whom I dearly love. I am very pleased with him. Listen to him!" Hearing this, the disciples fell on their faces, filled with awe.

But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

MESSAGE

Transfigured
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

†HYMN

Christian, Rise And Act Your Creed
537 New Century Hymnal

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

Betsy Kreuter

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

I Shall Wear A Crown
Arr. Brandon Waddles (b. 1988)
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.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†HYMN

Great Is Your Faithfulness
423 New Century Hymnal

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

O Thou Of God The Father
J. S. Bach

† 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



TODAY - February 19 - One Room Schoolhouse
February 26 - Regular Church School
March 5 - All-Ages Worship

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES



ASH WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 22

From 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., we hold **Ashes to Go**, where our pastors bless you and place ashes on your forehead in the parking lot while you remain in your car.

2023 LENTEN ORGAN RECITALS WEDNESDAYS AT 12:15 P.M.

March 1 – Craig Scott Symons

First Congregational Church of Greenwich

March 8 – Liya Petrides

St. Catherine Church, Riverside

March 15 – David Johnson

St. Paul's Episcopal, Riverside

March 22 – Leslie Smith

Round Hill Community Church, Greenwich

March 29 – Craig Scott Symons

First Congregational Church of Greenwich



WORSHIP SERIES & STUDY SESSIONS

Every Sunday during the season of Lent we will put the music of U2 in conversation with the Bible as we do the inner work and relationship building needed to create a faithful community.

Love U2 and want to go deeper? Starting Wednesday, March 1, join us each Wednesday in March at 6:00 pm in the lounge for a faithful conversation about the weekly music selection.



GENESIS CHOIR REHEARSAL

Genesis Choir (gr 7-12 and early college ages)
Choir Room (3rd floor)
11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Danny Young, director

LAST CHANCE TO GRAB SOME SOUP!

If you weren't here last Sunday, there are a few containers of soup left at \$10, available in the auditorium during Community Hour this morning. All proceeds benefit First Church's Women's Fellowship which supports Local agencies. Cash or checks please!



BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY

We now have a 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:

- 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=R2d5ZmcwV1hYMkxDQWU2WWYwaEZlZz09>

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 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:

Anything Spring related!



Draw & Color

Draw a picture of yourself climbing a mountain with Jesus, Peter, James, and John.

KidStuff

By Clergy Stuff

Narrative Lectionary Kid's Bulletin

February 19, 2023
Matthew
16:24--17:8

Transfiguration

Jesus took his friends Peter, James, and John up a big mountain to pray. Suddenly, something strange happened.

"Jesus' face is shining like the sun!" shouted James.

"His clothes are dazzling!" yelled John.

"What's going on?" cried Peter.

Then two men appeared by Jesus' side. John's eyes got huge. "It's Moses and Elijah, the most important prophets who ever lived," he whispered.

Peter, James, and John blinked hard. When they looked again, Jesus was normal and the other men were gone. Then they heard God's big, booming voice. "This is my son. Listen to him!"

"Wow! That was amazing!" said Peter. "Jesus, we should stay here forever."

Jesus shook his head. "No, Peter. I still have work to do to show the people God loves them. And so do you."



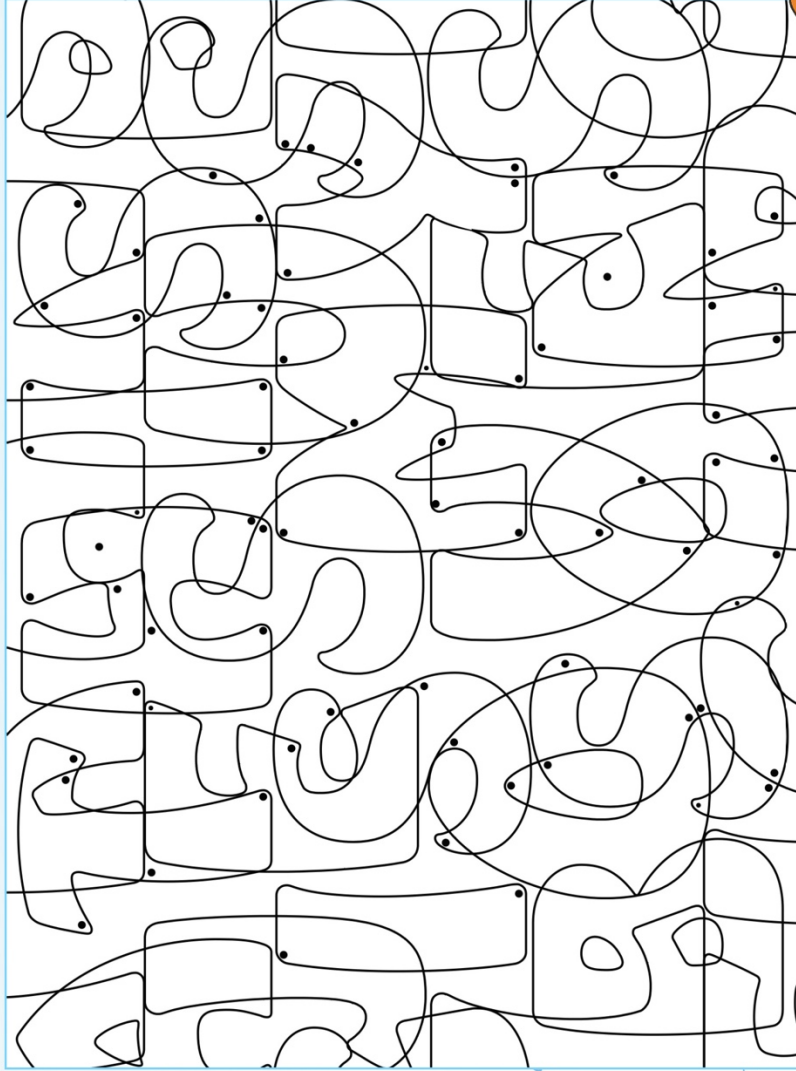
REMEMBER THIS

TRANSFIGURATION

A change in the way someone or something looks.

GOD'S PROCLAMATION

Color the shapes with dots to see what God said when Jesus was transfigured on the mountain. Note: Some spaces (and dots) are teeny tiny!



TRY IT AT HOME!

With permission from a grown-up, build some blanket tents for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah. Imagine you are on the mountain with Jesus.

Did You Know?

Peter wanted to build dwellings or booths for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah. Making a dwelling was a way to honor a person or an event. And this was quite an event!



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

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Dr. Craig Scott Symons
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