

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2023
FIFTH 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 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

My God Is So Big
The Cherub Choir
Carol Woodman, director
Andrea Woodman, ukulele
Lynn Hawxhurst, assistant

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: If we knock, God will open the door.

All: **If we seek, we will find.**

One: If we ask, God will give it to us.

All: **We give thanks for God's wisdom and generosity.**

CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

Ask Me What Great Thing I Know
49 New Century Hymnal

† Please rise in body or in spirit

PRAYER (in unison)

Righteous God, judgment belongs to you alone. Make us aware of our own limitations that we may act with compassion toward those who differ from us. We ask this in Jesus' name, who taught us to pray, saying....

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.

ANTHEM

Sing Out, Earth And Skies
Marty Haugen (b. 1950)
Celebration Singers
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, director
Vance Briceland, piano

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

(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 37: 1-9
New International Version
Car Westbrook

Do not fret because of those who are evil
or be envious of those who do wrong;
for like the grass they will soon wither,
like green plants they will soon die away.

Trust in the Lord and do good;
dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.
Take delight in the Lord,

and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the Lord;
trust in him and he will do this:
He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn,
your vindication like the noonday sun.

Be still before the Lord
and wait patiently for him;
do not fret when people succeed in their ways,
when they carry out their wicked schemes.

Refrain from anger and turn from wrath;
do not fret—it leads only to evil.
For those who are evil will be destroyed,
but those who hope in the Lord will inherit the land.

ANTHEM

If Ye Love Me
Philip Wilby (b. 1949)
The Chancel Choir
Carolyn Paulus, soprano

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 7: 1-14
New International Version

“Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

“Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.

“Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

“Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

MESSAGE

Pearls And Pigs
Reverend Patrick Collins

†HYMN

My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less
403 New Century Hymnal

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. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

Tom White

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Love Divine, All Love's Excelling
David Willcocks (1919-2015)

†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

How Firm A Foundation
407 New Century Hymnal

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Alla Marcia
John Ireland (1879-1962)

† 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



Thank you to all who made Valentine's cards for Edgehill last Sunday

TODAY All Ages in Church - Communion
Sunday, February 12 - Regular Church School
Sunday, February 19 - One Room Schoolhouse
Sunday, February 26 - Regular Church School

ANNUAL GIVING UPDATE

We are currently at \$575,000 of our \$724,000 goal. This puts us at 79% of our financial goal. Even better, we are now just under \$150,000. With 195 pledges, are at 63% of our pledger goal, with the average pledge being \$2,900. If you've made your pledge, we are grateful for your support. Now that the holidays are past, maybe some have put it off until the new year. Please continue to support the ministries of First Church with your annual pledge.



CHERUB, CELEBRATION SINGERS, & 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

On January 23rd, we added 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:

- 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 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. 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

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:

Children's clothing and shoes

Men's shoes



We have 50 percent off everything this week and next week – PLUS Wednesday February 8th and Thursday February 9th are our famous BAG SALES DAYS!



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.

KidStuff

By Clergy Stuff

Narrative Lectionary Kid's Bulletin

February 5, 2023

Matthew 7:1-14,

24-29

The Golden Rule

Jesus said, "It's easy to see what's wrong with other people. It's harder to notice what's wrong with us."

Peter nodded. "It's true. I feel better about myself when I think other people are worse than me."

"I understand," Jesus said kindly. "But God wants you to love others no matter what."

"That sounds hard," said Mary.

Jesus said, "There's a simple way to do it."

"What's that?" asked James.

"Do you want people to treat you with love, kindness, and respect?" Jesus asked. His friends all nodded. "So any time you are with someone, treat them in the same way you want to be treated."

"That is simple!" Joanna said.



REMEMBER THIS

THE GOLDEN RULE

Treat others the way you want them to treat you.

FIND-A-WORD

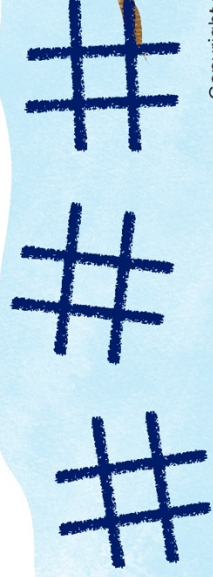
Find the words from today's story about the golden rule.

I L R E S P E C T O W E C T O H E A Y
 E T R E A T E U G F P I V E A
 N A T U S J E N R U L Q E W
 S U L D E S S I H E H
 T G O L S U S I E M P L E
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WORD LIST
 JESUS
 TAUGHT
 HIS
 FRIENDS
 THIS
 GOLDEN RULE
 TREAT
 PEOPLE
 THE WAY
 YOU WANT
 TO BE
 TREATED
 WITH
 LOVE
 KINDNESS
 AND
 RESPECT

Did You Know?

The idea of "treat others how you want to be treated" goes way, way back—like, even 2,000 years before Jesus. God definitely wants people to live by this one! Jesus reminded everyone just how important it is.



TRY IT AT HOME!

Make a list of the ways you want to be treated. Put it on your wall so you can be reminded every day of how to treat others.

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

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Ministers - All Members Of The First Congregational Church Of Greenwich

Senior Pastor
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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
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OF CHRIST
a just world for all