



SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2023
PALM 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

*The calla lilies in the Meetinghouse are given in loving memory of our parents,
Margaret and Carleton Gisborne by Claire Henry and Ruth Reed and our families.*

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.*

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Paul Ghaffari

PRELUDE

*Be Still, My Soul
I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord
Arr. James Kimball
The Silverthorn Handchime Ensemble
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, director*

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!
All: **God's steadfast love endures forever!**
One: Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
All: **Hosanna in the highest heaven!**
One: The Lord is our God and has given us light;
All: **Great is our God, and we give thanks to the Lord.**
One: Hosanna to the Son of David!
All: **Hosanna! Save us, O God. Hosanna! God's steadfast love endures forever.**

†HYMN

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna
213 New Century Hymnal*

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison – remain standing)

With eager hearts and open hands, Holy One, we welcome Jesus, until he refuses the power we offer him, choosing to become our servant. We pick up the faith we had laid on the ground before him, and put it back on the shelf where it belongs. Our pride keeps us from being able to follow him all the way to Calvary. Hosanna, Steadfast God, save us! Help us to let our fears, our doubts, our faithlessness slip from our lives to fall at your feet, so we may stand with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who comes in your name, in your glory, in your grace to save us.

†ASSURANCE OF GRACE

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

God makes peace within us. Let us claim it. God makes peace between us. Let us share it.

One: God has received us, pardoned us, and loved us; let us forgive each other in love and share the peace of Christ with a hand to hand, eye to eye, and heart to heart greeting.

May the peace of Christ be with all of you.

All: And also with you.

†RESPONSE

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river in my soul.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(During the response, the children will return to their seats.)

RESPONSE

Go, My Children

“Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”

† Please rise in body or in spirit

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 118: 1-9, 21-29
New Revised Standard Version
Joe McBride

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say,

“His steadfast love endures forever.”

Let the house of Aaron say,

“His steadfast love endures forever.”

Let those who fear the LORD say,

“His steadfast love endures forever.”

Out of my distress I called on the LORD;
the LORD answered me and set me in a broad place.

With the LORD on my side I do not fear.

What can mortals do to me?

The LORD is on my side to help me;

I shall look in triumph on those who hate me.

It is better to take refuge in the LORD
than to put confidence in mortals.

It is better to take refuge in the LORD
than to put confidence in princes.

I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!

O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.

We bless you from the house of the LORD.

The LORD is God,

and he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

ANTHEM

Wave Your Branches
Thomas Pavlechko
The Celebration Singers
Vance Briceland, piano

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 21: 1-17
New Revised Standard Version

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

“Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, “It is written,

‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’
but you are making it a den of robbers.”

The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did and heard the children crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they became angry and said to him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read, 'Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise for yourself?'"

He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

MESSAGE

Shout Hosanna
Reverend Patrick Collins

SOLO

Sunday, Bloody Sunday
U2 /Bono
Danny Young, tenor - Alan Johnson, drums

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

Andrea Woodman

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates
William Mathias (1934 - 1992)
The Chancel Choir

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory. Psalm 24:7-10

†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



O'er all the way green palms and blos - soms gay
His word goes forth, and peo - ple by its might
Sing and re - joice, O blest Je - ru - sa - lem. —



Are strewn this day in fes ³ - tal prep - a - ra - tion.
Once more re - gain free - dom from de - gra - da - tion.
Of all thy sons sing the e - man - ci - pa - tion.



Where Je - sus comes to wipe our tears a - way —
Hu - man - i - ty doth give to each his right —
Through bound - less love the Christ of Beth - le - hem —



E'en now the throng to welcome him pre - pare, Join all and sing, His
While those in dark - ness are restored to light.
Brings faith and hope to thee for - ev - er - more.



name de - clare, Let ev'-ry voice re - sound with ac - cla - ma - tion, Ho



san - na! Praise to the Lord! Bless him who com - eth to bring us sal -



va - - - tion!

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Postlude

Alan Ridout (1934-1996)

† 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.

COMMUNITY HOURL

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.

Hot Cross Buns are provided by Cobs Bread in Riverside, opposite St. Catherine Church. We are grateful for their generosity!

PEACE POLE DEDICATION IN COLUMBARIUM AT 11



Immediately following worship today, we will be dedicating our new Peace Pole that was gifted to the church in honor of Rosemary Lamie's many years of service to First Church and its children.

The monument of peace contains the words "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in 8 languages, and will serve the church and community for many years to come. Please join for this brief prayer service of word and music!

PARISH NURSE

Sue Asselin, RN, is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service, in her office to the right of the Auditorium stage. During the week, she is available by appointment by calling 203-637-1791 ext. 821.

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

4/2 **Palm Sunday** All Ages in Worship,
Peace Pole Dedication to Rosemary Lamie right after the service.
4/8 **Easter Saturday**- Egg dying and Egg Hunt
4/9 **Easter Services** - All ages in worship
4/16 One Room Schoolhouse - Lounge (Public School Spring break)



NEW CROSSWALK LIGHTING

The town of Greenwich has installed new crosswalk lights in front of the church, going into Binney Park. Numerous accidents have happened at the crosswalk in the past, so please use this light system to cross Sound Beach Avenue safely.

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





**BRING YOUR OWN HARD
BOILED EGGS AND
BASKET. WE WILL
PROVIDE EVERYTHING
ELSE!**

EASTER EGG HUNT

**10AM EGG DYING
10.30AM 1ST EASTER EGG
HUNT
11.30AM 2ND EASTER EGG
HUNT**

SATURDAY, APRIL 8TH

RAIN OR SHINE!

10AM TO 12PM

EGG DYING IN THE DANIELS CENTER

EGG HUNTS ON FRONT LAWN AND

NATURE'S CLASSROOM

AT FIRST CHURCH

108 SOUND BEACH AVENUE

OLD GREENWICH



PRAYER BOOK HOW-TO

Prayer is one of the strongest binders of community. Prayers written in the Prayer Book in the Narthex (back of the church) will be lifted during the worship service.

WHO: Yourself, Others (with their permission), Situations/People/Places

- 1) Use first names only. Or pseudonyms like “Mr./Mrs. M.” or simply “for a friend...”
(Don’t worry, God knows who the prayer is about).
- 2) If praying for others, please only use their name if they have given you permission to do so.

WHAT: Joys, Concerns, Thanksgivings, Hopes, anything!

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:

- Lady’s handbags
- Table linens
- Scarves



FINAL FIRST MUSIC & ARTS CONCERT OF THE SEASON

Windward Blow! Orchestra Lumos Chamber Winds
(formerly Stamford Symphony)

Sunday, April 23, 2023 – 3 p.m. tickets \$35

Groove along to this rhythmic and spirited program that explores how the Orchestra’s wind players pay homage to theatre, jazz, and living in the South. For more information and purchase tickets, visit <https://orchestralumos.org/windward-blow/>

Music by Ibert, Coleman, Hindemith, Ravel, and D’Rivera.

Elizabeth Mann, flute
Melanie Feld, oboe
Pavel Vinnitsky, clarinet
Cynde Iverson, bassoon
Lawrence DiBello, horn



RISE AGAINST HUNGER - SUNDAY, APRIL 30

Back by popular demand, the meal-packing event for Rise Against Hunger will be held on **Sunday, April 30 at 10 a.m. in the Meetinghouse!**

We will pack around 20,000 meals to go to school feeding programs and disaster relief efforts around the world.

Since 2005, Rise Against Hunger has delivered 540,000,000 meals in 78 countries. The meals provide nutrition in a crisis, encourage school attendance, and help put these children and families on a path out of poverty.

FIRST CHURCH PRESCHOOL PHOTOSHOOT FUNDRAISER



First Church Preschool is hosting a Family Photoshoot Fundraiser with local Greenwich mom, [Photography by Inga](#). There are several timeslots still available on Saturday May 6th (with the potential to open up more on Sunday, May 7 if May 6 fills up).

Photo sessions will be at Binney Park and cost \$300, with a portion of sales going to the FCP Parent Committee. Each family will have a 20-minute time slot and will receive 5 high resolution files with the option to purchase the rest. Photoshop retouching will be available on requested photos. [Register here](#). Questions? Please email Genevieve Jarvis at ginnik11@gmail.com. Thank you!

EASTER FLOWERS AND BRASS

The Deacons invite contributions for flowers & brass in the Meetinghouse this Easter.
You may give to either one or both. Any amount is welcome.

Please deliver this completed form with your check to the Church Office
(payable to *The First Congregational Church of Greenwich*)
on or before **Wednesday, April 5 at 12 noon in order to be included in the bulletin listing.**

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Please accept my contribution to the (check one or both):

_____ Easter Flower Fund _____ Easter Brass

In MEMORY of:

In HONOR of:

By:

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$_____

(Please print names legibly to minimize spelling errors.)

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 6, Maundy Thursday

6 p.m. Dinner/Communion in Auditorium

Soup, Mac and Cheese and Bread provided. Attendees to bring a side.

7 p.m. Service of Tenebrae with Washing of the Feet in Meetinghouse

Friday, April 7, Good Friday

Good Friday Vacation Bible School 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Greenwich YMCA
in conjunction with Second Congregational including feet-washing & swim at the
YMCA pool with gym inflatables & a pancake lunch!

K-Grade 5: \$20 Children under 5: must be accompanied by a guardian.

Grades 6-12: welcome to attend as CITs and for High School service hours.

RSVP by April 5 to Jenny@2cc.org

Annual Community Cross Walk 12 p.m.

First Church & Second Church members & friends gather to carry a large wooden cross to the beach. With each step of our journey, we recall the passion of Jesus. The cross we carry to the beach is the same one we use for our annual Sunrise worship service at the beach.

Good Friday Service at Second Congregational Church 7 p.m.

The clergy and musicians at the First and Second Congregational churches are joining together to offer a meditative and thought-provoking service of word and reflection on this most somber of evenings.

Saturday, April 8 - Easter Egg Dying and Egg Hunt

10 a.m. Egg Dying – Daniels Center

Two Easter Egg Hunts on the church property:

10:30 a.m. 1st Egg Hunt

11:30 a.m. 2nd Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 9, Easter Sunday

6:15 a.m. Sunrise Service - Greenwich Point

9 a.m. & 11 a.m. Festival Easter Services - Meetinghouse

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
Administrative and Communications Colleague
Livestream Director
Audio Technician
Database Administrative Assistant
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
Carolyn Samuel
Daniel Lepoutre
Bob Small
Sue Wilder
Julio Yika
Curtis Gay, Qasim Hussaini
Jennifer DiCarlo
Kayla Vozzella
Reverend Dr. Thomas L. Stiers - Reverend Sally Colegrove



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all