



SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2023  
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER  
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.

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## 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

*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*  
Anthony Giamanco (b. 1958)  
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

### †CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God calls us to the mountain,  
All: **Though some of us still doubt.**  
One: God sends us into the world.  
All: **We will shore up our faith.**  
One: God calls us to share the good news.  
All: **We will proclaim God's love to the world.**

### †HYMN

*Now The Green Blade Rises*  
238 New Century Hymnal

### †PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison – remain standing)

God of resurrection, we confess our reluctance to receive our calling as God's people, made by God and chosen as witnesses to God's dream of justice and joy. Remind me, God, that you have made me for your service and recharge me with your word. Renew us, God. Grant us courage to live out your way of peace and grace. We ask it in Jesus' name, Amen.

### †ASSURANCE OF GRACE

† Please rise in body or in spirit

## †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



## 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.”

## FIRST LESSON

2 Corinthians 13: 5-13  
New Revised Standard Version  
Barbara Norrgard

Examine yourselves to see whether you are living in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not realize that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless, indeed, you fail to meet the test! I hope you will find out that we have not failed. But we pray to God that you may not do anything wrong—not that we may appear to have met the test but that you may do what is right, though we may seem to have failed. For we cannot do anything against the truth but only for the truth. For we rejoice when we are weak but you are strong. This is what we pray for, that you may be restored. So I write these things while I am away from you, so that when I come I may not have to be severe in using the authority that the Lord has given me for building up and not for tearing down.



Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Be restored; listen to my appeal; agree with one another; live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

## ANTHEM

*Rain Down*

Jaime Cortez

The Chancel Choir & Congregation

*The Choir will sing a verse between each refrain*

The musical score is written in 3/4 time and consists of three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The lyrics 'Rain down; rain down; rain down your' are written below the notes. Above the staff, the chords F, A7, Dm, F7, and Bb are indicated. Below the staff, the chords (D/F#), (Em7), (A7), (D), (F#7), and (Bm) are indicated. The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics 'love on your peo - ple. Rain down; rain'. Above the staff, the chords F/A, Gm7, C7, F, A7, and Dm are indicated. Below the staff, the chords (D7), (G), (Em), (A7), (G), and (D) are indicated. The third staff concludes the piece with the lyrics 'down; rain down your love, God of life.' Above the staff, the chords F7, Bb, Gm, C7, Bb, and F are indicated. Below the staff, the chords (D7), (G), (Em), (A7), (G), and (D) are indicated.

## SECOND LESSON

*Matthew 28: 16-20*

New Revised Standard Version

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

## MESSAGE

*The Great Commission*  
Reverend Patrick Collins

1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.  
 2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - ery place.  
 3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;  
 4 Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,

Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,  
 Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.  
 the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.  
 for I am with you till the age shall end,

bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.  
 Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.  
 As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.  
 when all the hosts of glo - ry cry "A - men!"

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## 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 Hawxhurst

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*With A Voice Of Singing*  
Martin Shaw (1934 - 1992)  
The Chancel Choir

*With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia!*  
*Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered His people, Alleluia!*  
*O be joyful in God, all ye lands. O sing praises to the honor of His name, make His praise to be glorious.*  
*With a voice of singing, declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia!*

## †DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below: Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## †HYMN

*The Day Of Resurrection!*  
192 Pilgrim Hymnal

## BENEDICTION

## CHORAL RESPONSE

## POSTLUDE

*Christ Lay In The Bonds Of Death*  
J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

† 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**  
  
**HOUR**

Join us for Community Hour in the Auditorium following  
worship this morning where you can greet one another,  
have a cup of coffee, and some light snacks.

## CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

**April 16** - One Room Schoolhouse - Lounge (Public School Spring break)

**April 23** - Regular Church School

**April 29** - Planting at Pilgrim Towers - all ages welcome

**May 7th** - Bible Trivia Breakfast and Communion Class (after worship)  
for 2nd Graders (and any 3rd graders who didn't do it last year)



## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Annual planting of herbs, vegetables, & flowers at Pilgrim Towers

Saturday, April 29th - drop in 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

All ages welcome! Lite lunch served; bring your own gloves and hand tools!

## CHERUB & 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



## THE KETTLE QUILTERS 50TH!

Here's a first look at pinwheels queen-size handmade quilt in peachy batiks and shades of gray.

Raffle tickets will be on sale after church during community hour this Sunday. Tickets are \$5.00 each – the winning ticket will be drawn at the Women's Fellowship Annual Meeting May 17.

Not at church this week? Tickets are also on sale at Rummage Room. Proceeds from the sale go to charities which support women, families, and children - locally, nationally, and internationally.



## 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:

- Sewing machines
- Spring shoes
- Cook books



## 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

### Packathon!

## Come and Join Us!

**Sunday April 30 at 10am**

**No need to register -  
families are welcome at**

**First Congregational  
Church of Greenwich, 108**

**Sound Beach Ave, Old  
Greenwich**

**Questions? Call 203 637 1791**

### WE NEED HELP WITH

- Packing 20,000 meals for children and families in need
- Fun, energetic, music filled morning
- Come for an hour, or stay for two

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- What stirs within you when you hear these words from Jesus that we often call The Great Commission? Do you feel excitement? Dread? Guilt? Possibilities? Explain.
- How does this passage clarify what God wants to do in AND through my life? In other words, "What kind of me is God calling me to be?"
- What comes to your mind when you imagine a group of Jesus' followers embodying the Great Commission in their neighborhoods and workplaces and spheres of influence in our town?
- How does this text help us understand the kind of church Jesus wants and commissions First Church to be? What does this mean for us as live out our faith in Greenwich?

# THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

108 Sound Beach Avenue Old Greenwich CT 06870

203-637-1791 • [www.fccog.org](http://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



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OF CHRIST  
a just world for all