

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2023  
FIFTH 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 Patrick Collins

*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.*

### KETTLE QUILTERS ANNOUNCEMENT

Pat Geismar

### PRELUDE

*Break Now The Bread Of Life*  
Marilyn Biery (b. 1959)  
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

### †CALL TO WORSHIP

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

One: We gather in the name of Jesus,

**All: And encourage one another in our faith.**

One: We acknowledge our need for community,

**All: And thank God for this church family.**

One: With the gospel as our source and strength,

**All: Let us worship our God together.**

### CHORAL INTROIT

1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness  
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who  
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the  
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,  
 van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,  
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,  
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;  
 brought here to you in the light of this day.  
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.  
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.  
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.  
 Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the  
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the  
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and  
 blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;  
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;  
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion  
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,  
 we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.  
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.  
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.  
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

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

God of all, you have made your salvation known to us in Jesus Christ, yet we often act as though we don't know what that means. We long for the world to be different, but struggle to change our own ways that don't bring about peace and healing. Help us to do as Jesus did, living in service and love for others. Remind us that you have already redeemed us all through the gift of your son, therefore not we nor anyone needs to earn grace. Forgive us when we forget that. And give us the courage to proclaim your saving love in our words and actions, encouraging and loving one another in this faith above all else.

*\*Moment of silence for personal reflection\**

## †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 (remain standing)



## 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

John 6: 5-13  
Common English Bible  
Joe McBride

Jesus looked up and saw the large crowd coming toward him. He asked Philip, "Where will we buy food to feed these people?" Jesus said this to test him, for he already knew what he was going to do.

Philip replied, "More than a half year's salary worth of food wouldn't be enough for each person to have even a little bit."

One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, "A youth here has five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that for a crowd like this?"

Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass there. They sat down, about five thousand of them. Then Jesus took the bread. When he had given thanks, he distributed it to those who were sitting there. He did the same with the fish, each getting as much as they wanted. When they had plenty to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather up the leftover pieces, so that nothing will be wasted." So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves that had been left over by those who had eaten.

## ANTHEM

*His Voice As The Sound*  
Alice Parker (b. 1925)  
The Chancel Choir

*His voice as the sound of the dulcimer sweet, is heard through the shadows of death;  
The cedars of Lebanon bow at His feet, the air is perfumed with His breath.  
His lips as a fountain of righteousness flow, that waters the garden of grace,  
From which their salvation the Gentiles shall know, and bask in the smile of His face.*

*Love sits in His eyelids and scatters delight through all the bright regions on high,  
their faces the Cherubim veil in His sight, and tremble with fullness of joy.  
He looks, and ten thousands of angels rejoice, and myriads wait for His word,  
he speaks, and eternity filled with His voice, re-echoes the praise of her Lord.*

Robert Shaw/Alice Parker

## SECOND LESSON

Romans 1: 8-17  
New International Version

First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. God, whom I serve in my spirit in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you in my prayers at all times; and I pray that now at last by God's will the way may be opened for me to come to you.

I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong— that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that I planned many times to come to you (but have been prevented from doing so until now) in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles.

I am obligated both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish. That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are in Rome.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”

## MESSAGE

Communally Fed  
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

## †HYMN

*As We Gather At Your Table*  
332 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.*

## 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

Mario Lotufo

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Toccata Of Praise*  
Joseph Martin (b. 1959)  
The Chancel Choir

## †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

*Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation*  
400 New Century Hymnal

## BENEDICTION

## CHORAL RESPONSE

## POSTLUDE

*Psalm 76*  
Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)

† Please rise in body or in spirit

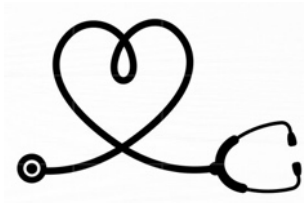
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*Directly following the service, one of our pastors will remain in the Chapel to be available to anyone who has a pastoral care concern.*

Join us for Community Hour in the Auditorium following worship this morning where you can greet one another, have a cup of coffee, and some light snacks. Our hosts for the month of May are members of the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

**COMMUNITY**  
  
**HOUR**





## BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING TODAY

Did you know that maintaining a healthy blood pressure is one key to preventing a stroke? Others include a healthy diet, regular exercise, and refraining from smoking. Learn more at [heart.org](http://heart.org) or [stroke.org](http://stroke.org).

Your 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.

## 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!

## CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

**May 7**

- All ages in Church (Communion)
- Communion Class (after worship) for 2nd Graders (and any 3rd graders who didn't do it last year)

**May 14** - Regular Church School - Special Mother's Day Craft

**May 21** - All ages in Church - Music Sunday

**May 28** - One Room Schoolhouse - Lounge (Memorial Day)



## NEW MEMBER CLASS

Are you interested in becoming a member of First Church? Would you like more information about what it means to become a member? Please plan on joining us in the lounge following worship on **Sunday, May 21st at 11:00 am.** Any questions, please contact Pastor Patrick.

Thank you so much for a wonderful meal packing event last Sunday! We had a fabulous mix of generations, members, friends and visitors as we celebrated worship in a joyful, hands on way!



We successfully packed 20,238 meals that will soon be heading off to one of the 38 countries where Rise Against Hunger partners with local agencies. The meals will:

- Provide short term food security after disasters
- Help to improve school attendance
- Aid communities as they develop plans for long term food security

Thank you to all those who participated, managed publicity, unloaded supplies, set up, cleaned up and welcomed everyone! It certainly could not have been done without you!

First Church has underwritten the cost of the 20,238 meals. If you would still like to contribute, [you may donate here.](#) (Select Rise Against Hunger as the donation category), or scan the QR code.



## 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

## 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:

- Barbie dolls
- Men's Ties
- Jewelry
- Ladies Summer Scarves





## 50TH ANNIVERSARY WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP QUILT RAFFLE

The Kettle Quilters have two Community Hours to give you a chance to join the quilt raffle. Tickets are \$5 each and can be cash or check (made out to Women's Fellowship). Tickets are also on sale at the Rummage Room during regular hours (M - Th 11 - 3 p.m.). The quilt is draped near the front window. All proceeds go to local and national charities that benefit women, children and families.

The queen-size quilt is based on a peachy batik fabric and is complemented with shades of peach and gray. We call it 'pinwheels' to reflect a historical reference to colonial times. Several ladies assisted with pattern and fabric selection, cutting fabric and piecing the quilt together as well as stitching, and with anything handmade, back-tracking and stitching again.

The winning ticket will be chosen at the Women's Fellowship Annual Meeting at 1 pm. May 17 in the Auditorium. Winner need not be present.



## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

Only two weeks left to make your reservation for the Women's Fellowship Annual Meeting Luncheon on **Wednesday, May 17 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Auditorium.** (Note - All women of First Church are automatically members of the Women's Fellowship.) We will give an overview of our year, elect officers for the

coming year, and vote on allocations to charities for 2023.

The \$20 ticket includes a catered lunch and speakers from two of the agencies that will receive grants from us this year. Advance registration and payment are **REQUIRED**. Car Westbrook will be at Community Hour each of the next three Sundays to accept checks and registrations. Checks should be made out to: Women's Fellowship FCCOG. The deadline for registration and payment is Sunday, May 14th. Questions? Email [carwestbrook@optimum.net](mailto:carwestbrook@optimum.net)

# 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

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Parish Nurse  
Church Office Coordinator  
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Administrative and Communications Colleague  
Livestream Director  
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