



SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2023
CONFIRMATION 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

*Today's flowers are in memory of Rick Woodman and his dedication to teaching confirmation and serving as an advisor for our Senior Pilgrim Fellowship for over thirty years.
Given by Carolyn Paulus and their daughters, Stephanie Woodman and Gillian Woodman.*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Verset
Leon Boëllmann (1862-1897)
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

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 TO WORSHIP

One: Through every age and in every place, the Christ in whose name we gather, calls disciples with a simple invitation, words of challenge: "Come follow me."

All: And where is it that we go with Christ?

One: Christ leads us among enemies and strangers, causing us to regard all persons as potential friends.

All: Christ leads us into uncharted places of spiritual wilderness where the Word and Will of God are the only reliable guides.

One: Christ leads us to love ourselves just so we might be found, just so grace might become real.

All: And Christ leads us to the apparent dead-end of a cross to reveal a highway to new life. We gather to worship the Christ who leads. May we gain the wisdom and courage to follow.

CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

God Is Here! As We Your People Meet
70 New Century Hymnal

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison – remain standing)

Before God and God's people, I confess that I have been reluctant to speak out clearly, naming the injustice I see and declaring God's vision. Before God and one another, 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.

Moment of silence for personal reflection

†ASSURANCE OF GRACE

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

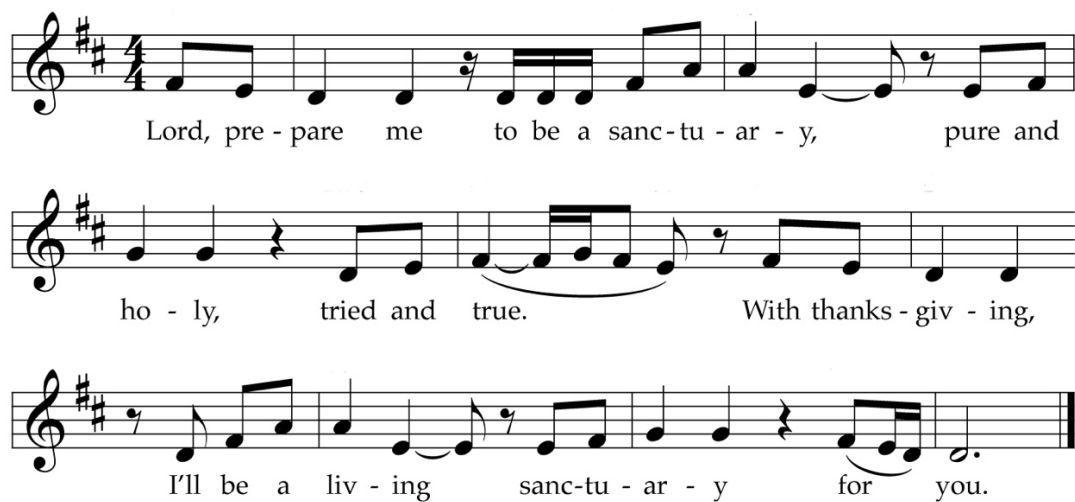
God makes peace within us. Let us claim it. God makes peace between us. Let us share it.

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)



Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc-tu - ar - y, pure and
ho - ly, tried and true. With thanks - giv - ing,
I'll be a liv - ing sanc-tu - ar - y for you.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Nina Margot Aronson & Dean Logan Aronson
Parents: Emily Aronson Weinstein & Jason Daniel Aronson

BAPTISMAL PRAYER (in unison)

Gracious God, giver of life, you have called us by name, and pledge to each of us your faithful love. We pray today for your blessing on Nina and Dean that you will watch over them and guide them as they grow in faith. Remind us of the promises of our own baptism and renew our trust in you. Make us strong to obey your will and to serve you with joy, through the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

BAPTISMAL RESPONSE

Baptized In Water



Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the

Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our King; heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing the

sign of Christ our King; born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.

chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 8
New Revised Standard Version
Carol Woodman

O Lord, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.
Out of the mouths of babes and infants
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,
to silence the enemy and the avenger.
When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;
what are humans that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than God
and crowned them with glory and honor.
You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet,
all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.
O Lord, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

ANTHEM

Grow In Grace
Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)
The Summer Choir

*Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that you shall grow thereby.
Grow in peace and may the blessing of the Lord be upon you,
The Lord shall with his holy oil anoint you, and you shall know his grace.
I will sprinkle clean water upon you, I will give you a new heart,
I will put my spirit within you and you shall live by my statutes.
Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that you shall grow thereby. Amen.*

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

Confirmation Sunday
Reverend Patrick Collins
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

†HYMN

O God In Whom All Life Begins
401 New Century Hymnal

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2023

Izzy Nedder
Ellen Romano
Charlie Stuckey

PRAYER

QUESTIONS OF CONFIRMANDS

QUESTION OF THE CONGREGATION

One: Do you, this congregation, renew the promises made at baptism, to support these young people in their continued journey of faith? Do you promise to grow with them, to serve beside them, to pray with them, and nurture God's gifts within them? If so, please say We Do.

All: We Do!

PRAYER FOR CONFIRMATION

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.

ACT OF CONFIRMATION

PRESENTATION OF THE CROSSES

The Jerusalem Cross is bronze and often is worn around the neck.

It is one large cross in the center surrounded by four small crosses.

The symbolism is that Jesus Christ is Lord over the four corners of the earth.

Or that the story of Jesus Christ is told by Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

PRAYER AND DECLARATION

CALL TO OFFERING

Mariann Ekernas

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Praise His Holy Name
Keith Hampton (b. 1957)

Sing till the power of the Lord come down. Shout Hallelujah! Praise His Holy name!

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me;
I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind, but now I see.
Jesus, Jesus, how I love Thee! Shout Hallelujah! Praise his Holy name!*

*Must Jesus bear the cross alone and all the world go free?
No, there's a cross for ev'ryone and there's a cross for me.
Jesus, Jesus, how I love Thee! Shout Hallelujah! Praise His Holy Name!*

Hallelujah! Praise His Name! Let us Praise His Name, Hallelujah, Lord!

†DOXOLOGY

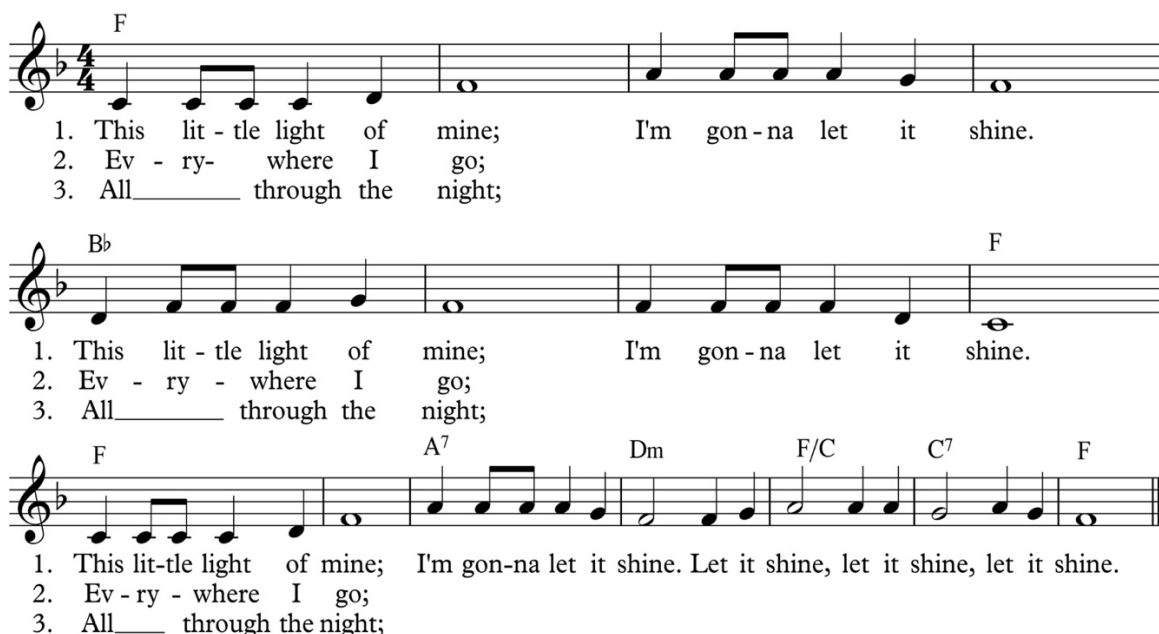
Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

**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

This Little Light Of Mine



1. This lit - tle light of mine; I'm gon - na let it shine.
2. Ev - ry - where I go;
3. All _____ through the night;

1. This lit - tle light of mine; I'm gon - na let it shine.
2. Ev - ry - where I go;
3. All _____ through the night;

1. This lit-tle light of mine; I'm gon-na let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
2. Ev - ry - where I go;
3. All _____ through the night;

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Rigaudon
André Campra (1660-1744)

† 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 Memory Garden following worship this morning where you can greet one another, have a cup of coffee, and a light snack. Hosts for the month of June are members of the Outreach Committee.

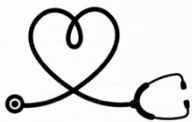
CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

June 4 – Communion class for 2nd graders (and those who missed in the past) following worship.

June 11 – Celebration Sunday – All ages in worship as we celebrate the end of Church School. 2nd graders receive their “First Communion” & 3rd graders receive their Bibles.



BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING TODAY



High blood pressure is one of the major risk factors of stroke, which can be a disabling event and affects nearly 800,000 people in the U.S. each year. Other common risk factors are smoking and uncontrolled diabetes.

Your Parish Nurse, Sue Asselin, will be available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service, during community hour (outdoors weather permitting - otherwise indoors in her office just to the right of the auditorium stage). During the week, Sue is available by appointment by calling 203-637-1791 ext. 821.

SUNDAYS IN THE NEXT MONTH

JUNE 11 CELEBRATION SUNDAY - where we celebrate the Church School ministry as they wrap up another church year.

JUNE 25 8 A.M. BEACH SERVICES BEGIN at Greenwich Point.
ANNUAL MEETING - following worship in the Meetinghouse.

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 Barbie
- Children's toys
- Spring shoes for men, women, and children



OPEN FOR LUNCH!

The very popular opportunity to serve lunch to New Covenant Center Cafe visitors is open for sign-ups! All the luncheon food will be delivered from ShopRite. Volunteers will slice bread, arrange desserts, and serve the hot meal. The time commitment is 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. on the first Monday of the month. Masks are required. Scan the code to sign up for your spot!



**FIRST CHURCH 2023
UNDIES SUNDAYS & DIAPER DRIVE
NOW THROUGH JUNE 18**



DID YOU KNOW?

- Underwear is the most under donated, yet most needed, item of clothing.
- The Undies Project supports 45 agencies that assist families and individuals in the community who are homeless, living in shelters or are low income.
- Mothers for Others serves 600 kids per month with local agencies.
- Most needed items are men's boxers and briefs, women's bras and panties, children's underwear. All items should be new.

Please drop off donations of undies, diapers (we can accept open packages of diapers) or wipes at the entrance to the meetinghouse on Sundays. If you prefer, join our virtual drive and make an online donation by scanning the QR code, or click here [MyFirstChurch](https://www.myfirstchurch.org) and select undies and diaper drive.



JOIN THE SUMMER CHOIR!

All are welcome to join the Summer Choir on Sunday mornings throughout the summer at 9:00 a.m. in the Meetinghouse for a warm-up and rehearsal of the music being sung that day. Head to the 3rd floor, outside the choir room, to pick up the anthem, bulletin, and a folder, then meet downstairs in the choir loft.



Come any Sunday that you are available to help lead the congregation in worship. It also gives you a chance to experience worship from the choir loft. Everyone is welcome – no robes will be worn! If you have any questions, please contact Craig Symons (ext. 822).

ARPEGGIO MUSIC FESTIVAL 2023

TICKETS \$20 available at the door.

TODAY Sunday June 4 at 7:00 - Auditorium

Richard Wagner “Unshielded” From the Wagner in Vermont Festival. A new, special, through-composed adaption of the music of Wotan and Brunhild (father and daughter) from Richard Wagner's Ring Cycle.

Performed by Hugh Keelan, piano; Jenna Rae, soprano; Charles Martin, Heldenbariton

WEEKEND TWO

Friday June 9 at 7:30 - Auditorium

Gustav Mahler: Symphony no.9

Arranged for Piano Four Hands. Jed Distler and Jerome Kuderna, pianists

Saturday June 10 at 7:30 - Auditorium

Jazz: Total Improv

*Bennie Wallace, tenor saxophone, and 2 other musicians
meet to perform with no rehearsal or pre-set program*

Sunday June 11 at 4:00 - Meetinghouse

Concert Band and Organ

Works originally written for orchestra and organ such as
Richard Strauss, Festival Prelude and Saint-Saens Symphony #3 (Organ)
Craig Scott Symons, organist, and the sixty-piece Connecticut Symphonic Winds
Charles de Paul, Conductor

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

Sexton

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

Jennifer DiCarlo

Kayla Vozzella

Reverend Dr. Thomas L. Stiers (deceased) - Reverend Sally Colegrove



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OF CHRIST
a just world for all