



SUNDAY, JULY 2, 2023
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
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

PRELUDE

Prelude On “His Truth Is Marching On”
Raymond Haan (b. 1938)
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

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.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Jesus said that whoever welcomes one of his followers, welcomes Jesus himself.

All: *(Turn to the person beside you and say “Welcome to worship.”)*

One: Whoever welcomes Jesus, also welcomes God.

All: *(Turn to someone else and welcome them)*

One: Whoever offers even a cup of cold water to one of God’s children will be blessed by God.

All: All are welcome here! Let us worship God.

†HYMN

God Of Our Fathers, Whose Almighty Hand
433 Pilgrim Hymnal

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison – remain standing)

We confess to You, O Holy One, that our ways are not Your ways. You came to us as vulnerable as any of us, but we have ignored You in neglecting the vulnerable among us.

Forgive us and call us into accountability. Call us back to the work you have given us to do, to welcome one another, practice kindness and compassion, and to do justice by caring for those who are considered the least among us. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, and we hope to participate in it, but we know we cannot if we ignore you in this world, among your children in need. In Your name we pray. 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)



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(During the singing of the response, 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

Jeremiah 28:5-9

New Revised Standard Version
Marilyn Derr

Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord, and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord and all the exiles. But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet."

SOLO

O For A Heart To Praise My God
Edwin T. Childs (b. 1945)
Matt Carey, baritone

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 10: 24-39
New Revised Standard Version

“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

MESSAGE

Radical Welcome
Reverend Patrick Collins

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

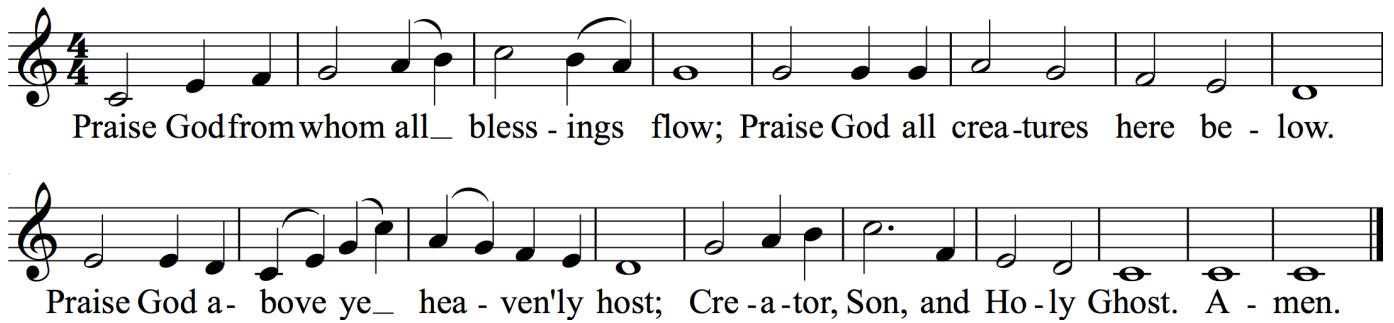
Mario Lotufo

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Blessed Is The Nation
Allen Orton Gibbs (1910 - 1996)
The Summer Choir

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow



PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†HYMN

My Country, 'Tis Of Thee
437 Pilgrim Hymnal

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Postlude In G Major
Gustav Merkel (1827-1885)

† Please rise in body or in spirit

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COMMUNITY HOURL

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 July are members of the Women's Fellowship.



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:
Ladies handbags
Anything Barbie
Children's toys

THANKS FROM “MOTHERS FOR OTHERS”



Dear members of First Congregational Church of Greenwich,
and families of the Preschool,

Thank you for the amazing diaper drive you ran to benefit Mothers for Others. We are grateful you chose to support our organization. In your drive, you collected a total of 2,981 diapers and pull-ups, and 18 packages of wipes. This will support the diaper needs of one of our Greenwich-based partners for the month. Diaper need is a real challenge faced by so many families - the latest research shows that 1 in 2 families in the United States are experiencing it. Without an adequate supply of diapers, babies and toddlers are at risk for health issues, and are unable to attend daycare or preschool, making it a challenge for parents to go to work or school. This is why it is so important for organizations like MFO to be able

to do its work. MFO is grateful for the ongoing, generous relationship with First Congregational Church. As a church community, you offer a significant amount of support to us which helps us achieve our mission, and we are deeply appreciative.

You can stay up to date on our progress by following us on Instagram, liking us on Facebook, and subscribing to our newsletter.

Thank you for helping us to ensure that every child in our community is clean, dry and healthy. We could not do this work without friends like you, and your support is deeply appreciated.

With gratitude,
Elizabeth Peyton - Executive Director, Mothers for Others

THANKS FROM “UNDIES PROJECT”

We are so blessed to have the ongoing support of the First Congregational Church of Old Greenwich. We can't thank you and the congregation enough. You are all truly making the lives of those struggling with clothing insecurity better.

All the best,
Lucy & Laura - The Undies Project Inc.

COMING UP THIS SUMMER

BEACH SERVICES

Our 8 a.m. beach services have resumed at Greenwich Point. All are welcome to attend these worship experiences by the waters of Long Island Sound. No park pass is required – simply state that you're here for the First Church service and the gate attendant will let you in. Bring your beach chair or blanket for seating.

The remaining dates for the summer are:
July 9, 16, 23, 30 - August 6, 13, 20



BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY

Why not make some extra “you” time and join a study class? 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. BYO lunch optional.