

GREENWICH POINT BEACH SERVICE

Sunday, August 13, 2023

8:00 a.m.



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.



Faith First. Love Always.

GREETING AND GATHERING PRAYER

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

CALL TO WORSHIP

(based on Psalm 105)

One: O give thanks to the Lord, call on God's name,

All: Make known God's deeds among the peoples!

One: Sing to God, sing praises to our God,

All: Tell of all God's wonderful works!

One: Glory in God's holy name;

All: Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

One: Seek the Lord and the Lord's strength,

All: Seek God's presence continually!

One: Remember the wonderful works that God has done,

All: God's miracles, and the justice God has declared,

One: To the end that we should keep God's statutes, and observe God's instructions.

All: Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!

HYMN

I Have Decided To Follow Jesus

The musical score is written for a piano accompaniment in 4/4 time, with a tempo marking of quarter note = 80. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score is divided into two systems. The first system contains the first two lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the last two lines. The lyrics are written below the piano part. The chords are indicated above the staff: C, F, C, Dm7, F, D°, F in the first system, and F, C, F, C, F, C, G7, C in the second system. The lyrics are: 1. I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus; I have de - cid - ed to fol - low 2. The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me; The world be - hind me, the cross be - 3. Though none go with me, I still will fol - low; Though none go with me, I still will 4. Will you de - cide now to fol - low Je - sus? Will you de - cide now to fol - low Je - sus; I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus; No turn - ing back, no turn - ing back. fore me; The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me; No turn - ing back, no turn - ing back. fol - low; Though none go with me, I still will fol - low; No turn - ing back, no turn - ing back. Je - sus? Will you de - cide now to fol - low Je - sus; No turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.

FIRST LESSON

Romans 10:5-15

Common English Bible

Moses writes about the righteousness that comes from the Law: *The person who does these things will live by them.* But the righteousness that comes from faith talks like this: *Don't say in your heart, "Who will go up into heaven?"* (that is, to bring Christ down) or *"Who will go down into the region below?"* (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? *The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart* (that is, the message of faith that we preach). Because if you confess with your mouth "Jesus is Lord" and in your heart you have faith that God raised him from the

dead, you will be saved. Trusting with the heart leads to righteousness, and confessing with the mouth leads to salvation. The scripture says, *All who have faith in him won't be put to shame*. There is no distinction between Jew and Greek, because the same Lord is Lord of all, who gives richly to all who call on him. *All who call on the Lord's name will be saved*.

So how can they call on someone they don't have faith in? And how can they have faith in someone they haven't heard of? And how can they hear without a preacher? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, *How beautiful are the feet of those who announce the good news*.

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 14:22-33

The Message

As soon as the meal was finished, he insisted that the disciples get in the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he dismissed the people. With the crowd dispersed, he climbed the mountain so he could be by himself and pray. He stayed there alone, late into the night.

Meanwhile, the boat was far out to sea when the wind came up against them and they were battered by the waves. At about four o'clock in the morning, Jesus came toward them walking on the water. They were scared to death. "A ghost!" they said, crying out in terror.

But Jesus was quick to comfort them. "Courage, it's me. Don't be afraid."

Peter, suddenly bold, said, "Master, if it's really you, call me to come to you on the water."

He said, "Come ahead."

Jumping out of the boat, Peter walked on the water to Jesus. But when he looked down at the waves churning beneath his feet, he lost his nerve and started to sink. He cried, "Master, save me!"

Jesus didn't hesitate. He reached down and grabbed his hand. Then he said, "Faint-heart, what got into you?"

The two of them climbed into the boat, and the wind died down. The disciples in the boat, having watched the whole thing, worshiped Jesus, saying, "This is it! You are God's Son for sure!"

MESSAGE

Believe To Be And Live

COMMUNION

We practice open Communion – all who wish to know the presence of Christ and to participate in the community of God's people are welcome to receive Communion, including children of all ages, and regardless of church membership or denominational affiliation. All are welcome to the table of God.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

HYMN


We Are One In The Spirit

Capo 1: (Em) Fm (Bm) Cm (Em) Fm



1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;
2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand;
3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;
4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,

(Am) Bbm (Em) Fm



we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,
we will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand,
we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,
and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,

(Am) Bbm (Em) Fm



and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride:
and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:

Refrain (C) Dbm (Em) Fm



And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our

(Am) Bbm (Em) Fm (Am) Bbm (Bm) Cm (Em) Fm (Am/E) Bbm/F (Em) Fm



love; yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.

BENEDICTION