



Faith First-Love Always

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2023
TWELFTH 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

Andante Religioso

Theodore Dubois (1837-1924)

Paul Ghaffari, violin

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

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

(based on Psalm 133)

One: We have gathered from our different places to worship here and now

All: **How good it is to worship together in unity!**

One: We come from our different occupations, our diverse activities.

All: **How good it is to worship together in unity!**

One: We come as unique individuals, bound together in the love of Christ.

All: **How good it is to worship together in unity!**

CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

The Church Of Christ, In Every Age

306 New Century Hymnal

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison – remain standing)

Merciful God, we boldly pray to you, confident that you will not reject us. In spite of our human failings, your love continues to draw us together. Have mercy on us. We call out to you for ourselves, our community, and our world that has so much suffering. At times we are discouraged to name what we need. So often we were simply never taught how to hold this part of us with tenderness and care. But your Word invites us in, to name what tears at us and to receive your love and acceptance. Grant us your grace to take in the power of your belonging. Open our hearts to your love, and show us the way of reconciliation. Teach us to see each brother and sister with your eyes. Help us claim our heritage as your own children, and live together in unity.

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

Psalm 133

New International Version

Barbara Norrgard

How good and pleasant it is
when God's people live together in unity!

It is like precious oil poured on the head,
running down on the beard,
running down on Aaron's beard,
down on the collar of his robe.

It is as if the dew of Hermon
were falling on Mount Zion.

For there the Lord bestows his blessing,
even life forevermore.

ANTHEM

Jubilate
Michael Bedford (b. 1949)
The Summer Choir

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 15: 21-28
Common English Bible

From there, Jesus went to the regions of Tyre and Sidon. A Canaanite woman from those territories came out and shouted, "Show me mercy, Son of David. My daughter is suffering terribly from demon possession." But he didn't respond to her at all.

His disciples came and urged him, "Send her away; she keeps shouting out after us."

Jesus replied, "I've been sent only to the lost sheep, the people of Israel."

But she knelt before him and said, "Lord, help me."

He replied, "It is not good to take the children's bread and toss it to dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord. But even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall off their masters' table."

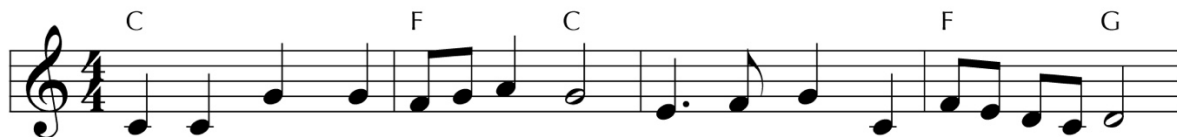
Jesus answered, "Woman, you have great faith. It will be just as you wish." And right then her daughter was healed.

MESSAGE

The Crumbs Of Transformation
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

HYMN

God Of Great And God Of Small



1 God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,
2 God of land and sky and sea, God of life and des - ti - ny,
3 God of si - lence, God of sound, God by whom the lost are found,
4 God of heaven and God of earth, God of death and God of birth,



God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things be - long,
God of nev - er - end - ing power, yet be - side me ev - ery hour,
God of day and dark - est night, God whose love turns wrong to right,
God of now and days be - fore, God who reigns for - ev - er - more,

Refrain



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, praise be to your name.

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

Clem Lepoutre

OFFERTORY SOLO

Cantilena

Gottfried Matthison-Hansen (1832-1090)

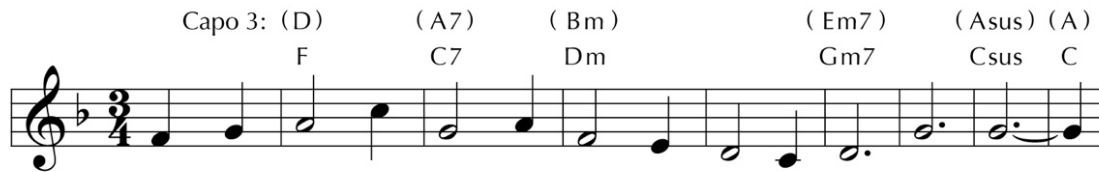
Paul Ghaffari, violin

†DOXOLOGY

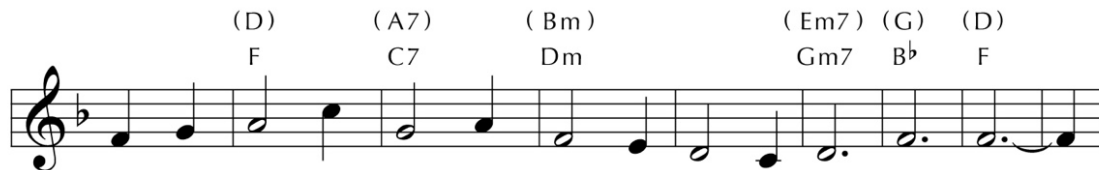
Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow



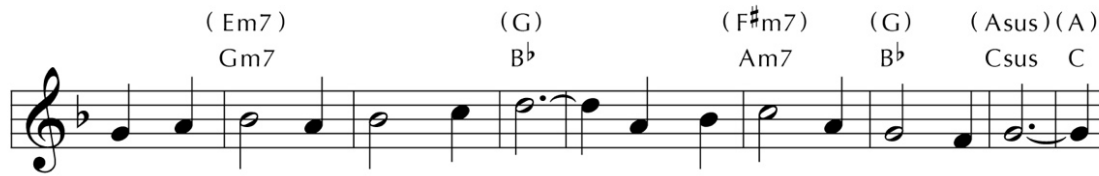
PRAYER OF DEDICATION



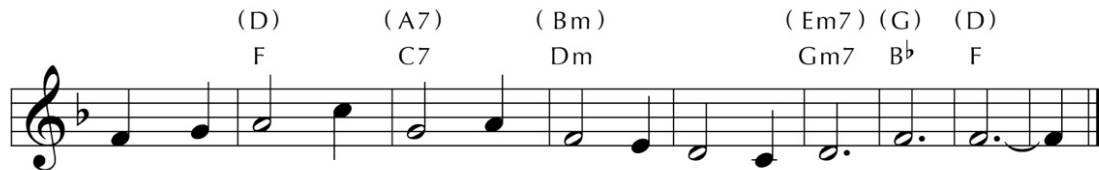
1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
Will you set the pris-oners free and nev - er be the same?
Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at-tract or scare?
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.



will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Chorale Prelude on "Ein Feste Burg" (A Mighty Fortress)

Max Reger (1873-1916)

† Please rise in body or in spirit

COMMUNITY 000000 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 August are members of the Church Council.

DISASTER RELIEF EFFORTS AT FIRST CHURCH - 2 WAYS TO GIVE

1) To give online: We've set up two (2) new categories for online giving through My First Church:

VT Flooding and Maui Strong. Scan this QR code and select either option from the drop-down menu.



- Funds raised for Vermont Flooding will be handled through the VT Conference of the UCC and will especially help UCC churches and communities located in Montpelier and Barre, which both suffered severe damages. More info can be found here: <http://vtucc.org/disaster/>

- Funds raised for Maui will be sent through the UCC's Disaster Ministries national appeal for the wildfires in Hawaii and will especially help UCC churches and communities located in Lahaina, including the historic Waiola Church that was destroyed. More info can be found here: <https://www.ucc.org/amid-wildfires-devastation-ucc-makes-appeal-for-hawaii/>

2) To give cash/check: place cash or check in the designated offering plate in the Narthex of the Meetinghouse with a provided envelope labeled either for VT or Maui, OR by sending a check to the Church Office with "Vermont flooding" or "Maui wildfires" in the memo line.

100% of monies donated through the UCC for disaster ministries goes directly to the relief efforts and the impacted communities, a great way to have our giving make the biggest contribution possible.



THE FIRST EVER **FRIENDS & FAMILY FESTIVAL**

FREE ENTRY AND OPEN TO ALL

SAVE THE DATE!

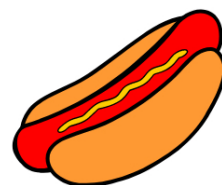
**Saturday,
September 9**

**4.30pm to
7.30pm**

**Front Lawn
of
First Church**



**Food Trucks, Face Painting,
Bouncy Castle, and the star
attraction Dunk the Pastor**



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH
108 SOUND BEACH AVE, OLD GREENWICH, CT**

FCCOG.ORG

203 637 1791



SEPTEMBER SOCIAL

Please join us for the start of a new church year.
All are welcome to join us after Sunday Worship
for a joyous brunch that we will provide. We look
forward to seeing all of our wonderful
congregation.

Date: Sunday, September 10, 2023

Time: 11am - 1pm

**Location: First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Rain or Shine!**



www.fccog.org



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

Interim 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

Kayla Vozzella

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



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all