

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6, 2023
TENTH 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

Cornet Voluntary
Starling Goodwin (1711-1774)
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

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: To those who are hungry, Jesus says:

All: “Come and eat! There’s more than enough for all!”

One: To those who are thirsty, he says:

All: “Come and drink! It’s free for the taking!”

One: Stop wasting your money on food that doesn’t satisfy.

All: Come to Me, and you will find everything you need!”

CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

How Firm A Foundation
407 New Century Hymnal

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison – remain standing)

We come believing in our emptiness, believing that we will never have enough, believing that what we have is unworthy. We come fearful of sharing, fearful of losing our tenuous grip on security, fearful of touching and knowing the pain of others. We come overwhelmed by the hunger, overwhelmed by the suffering of children near and far, overwhelmed by the endless tales of senseless violence, greed, and death. We come aching from the weight of the responsibility, aching from the chilling challenge of knowing our abundance, aching from the gnawing awareness that we have much to share.
bless them, and us.
break them, and us.
share them, and us.

**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

Isaiah 55: 1-5
New Revised Standard Version
Carol Woodman

Hear, everyone who thirsts;
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread
and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
Now you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

ANTHEM

Lord Of The Worlds Above
Eric Thiman (1900-1075)
The Summer Choir

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 14: 13-21
New Revised Standard Version

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

MESSAGE

More Than Enough
Reverend Patrick Collins

HYMN

I Love To Tell The Story
522 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

Mary Fike

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

What A Fellowship
Gilbert Martin (b. 1941)
The Summer Choir

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow



PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†HYMN

Great Is Your Faithfulness
423 New Century Hymnal

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

God Of Grace
Paul Manz (1919-2009)

† Please rise in body or in spirit

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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 August are members of the Church Council.



THE RUMMAGE ROOM

The Rummage Room
is closed until September 5
for cleaning and restocking.

BEACH SERVICES

Our 8 a.m. beach services continue 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.

Remaining dates for summer are: August 13 and 20.





The Sue H. Baker Pavilion at the old barn. Photo: Leslie Yager

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP SUMMER SOCIALS

This year's final Women's Fellowship Summer Social is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 15 from 5:30 pm** on at the Sue Baker Pavilion at Greenwich Point. Join us for a relaxed, social evening at the beach. We bring our own food/drinks and meet for an informal gathering.

If you don't have a current Greenwich beach pass, we can arrange a ride from the church parking lot if

you let Car Westbrook know. In case of rain, the event for this month is cancelled. Questions? Contact Car Westbrook at carwestbrook@optimum.net.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Our Preschool is in need of NEW or GENTLY USED books appropriate for ages 2 to 5.

All donations can be dropped to the Church Office in person or left in the gray box next to the mailbox outside the Church Office front door. Thank you!



**FIRST CHURCH
PRESCHOOL**

"Learning Through Caring ~ For Ourselves, Each Other & Our Earth"

Preschool of First Congregational Church of Greenwich, CT

SECURITY CAMERAS AT FIRST CHURCH

You may have noticed one of these signs on the doors into the church. We actually have had security cameras around the church since 2018. They have not been functioning because of a needed software update. They are now active. We have cameras in the office foyer, the hall way outside the lounge, the preschool hall and entry, and several on the lamp posts around the parking lot.



There are no cameras in the meetinghouse, auditorium, or individual meeting rooms or offices. These are strictly for security, especially to monitor the preschool, where we emphasize safety. They also help us view the building at night, especially during storms. The cameras are set to monitor video only, no audio recording. Only a few select staff or council members have access to view them. Some people may find them intrusive, but in today's world, it is a responsible way to insure our church home is safe and secure.

Tom White
Buildings & Grounds Chair



THE FIRST EVER **FRIENDS & FAMILY FESTIVAL**

FREE ENTRY AND OPEN TO ALL

SAVE THE DATE!

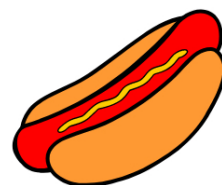
**Saturday,
September 9**

**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**

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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

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

Kayla Vozzella

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



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OF CHRIST
a just world for all