

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023  
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
WORLD COMMUNION 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.

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## 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

*Praeludium*

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Steven Russell, guest organist/director

### 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: We gather from the west to the east,

**All: from the south to the north,**

One: to celebrate the God of peace

**All: who accompanies us in our acts of peace.**

One: This God of peace accompanies us in each and every circumstance around us.

**All: We praise God's name! Amen!**

*Rev. Gloria Ulloa* Presbyterian Church of Colombia

### †HYMN

*Enter, Rejoice, And Come In*

73 New Century Hymnal

### OPENING PRAYER

Our God who is our Creator God,

Bless us with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships. Bless us with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people. Bless us with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war. Bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this world. In the name of the Creator, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Rev. Lydia Neshangwe*, Zimbabwe

Shona and English, adaptation of *A Non-Traditional Blessing* by Sister Ruth Fox

### ANTHEM

*Siyahamba*

The Cherub Choir

Carol Woodman, director

Lynn Hawxhurst, ukulele

† Please rise in body or in spirit



## PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

Gracious Lord, creator of this universe, in your generosity you have given us a world of abundance and diversity, yet we live guided by greed and selfishness.

In Christ, you made us brothers and sisters and intended for us to be united, and yet we have built walls to separate us from those who are different from us. You gave us wisdom and creativity and laws to order our lives and we have abused them to take revenge and punish our enemies. We love war rather than strive for peace. We ignore the poor and the weak and honored the rich and powerful. In all this we have not lived according to your will.

Forgive us, Lord, for daring to boast in our human achievements and for failing to recognize that you alone are worthy of praise.

In your mercy we pray. Amen.

Arabic, Jameel Maher Khadir,

Near East School of Theology student, Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Holy Land

*\*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)

*Come Into God's Presence*



1 Come in - to God's pres-ence sing - ing "Al - le - lu - ia,  
2 Come in - to God's pres-ence sing - ing "Je - sus is Lord,  
3 Praise the Lord to - geth - er sing - ing "Wor - thy the Lamb,  
4 Praise the Lord to - geth - er sing - ing "Glo - ry to God,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia."  
Je - sus is Lord, Je - sus is Lord."  
wor - thy the Lamb, wor - thy the Lamb."  
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God."

† Please rise in body or in spirit

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 14: 13-26  
Common English Bible  
Lynn Hawxhurst

He sent two of his disciples and said to them, “Go into the city. A man carrying a water jar will meet you. Follow him. Wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, ‘The teacher asks, “Where is my guest room where I can eat the Passover meal with my disciples?”’ He will show you a large room upstairs already furnished. Prepare for us there.” The disciples left, came into the city, found everything just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

That evening, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. During the meal, Jesus said, “I assure you that one of you will betray me—someone eating with me.”

Deeply saddened, they asked him, one by one, “It’s not me, is it?”

Jesus answered, “It’s one of the Twelve, one who is dipping bread with me into this bowl. The Human One goes to his death just as it is written about him. But how terrible it is for that person who betrays the Human One! It would have been better for him if he had never been born.”

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is my body.” He took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. I assure you that I won’t drink wine again until that day when I drink it in a new way in God’s kingdom.” After singing songs of praise, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Reverend Patrick Collins  
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

## †HYMN

*As We Gather At Your Table*  
332 New Century Hymnal

## 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

*How Shall I Sing That Majesty?*

J. R. Daniels

The Chancel Choir

*How shall I sing that majesty which angels do admire? Let dust in dust and silence lie; sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.  
Thousands of thousands stand around thy throne, O God most high; ten thousand times ten thousand sound thy praise; but who am I?*

*Thy brightness unto them appears, whilst I thy footsteps trace; a sound of God comes to my ears, but they behold thy face.  
They sing, because thou art their Sun; Lord, send a beam on me; for where heaven is but once begun there alleluias be.*

*Enlighten with faith's light my heart, inflame it with love's fire; then shall I sing and bear a part with that celestial choir.  
I shall, I fear, be dark and cold, with all my fire and light; yet when thou dost accept their gold, Lord, treasure up my mite.*

*How great a being, Lord, is thine, which doth all beings keep! Thy knowledge is the only line to sound so vast a deep.  
Thou art a sea without a shore, a sun without a sphere; thy time is now and evermore, thy place is everywhere.*

John Mason 1646?-1694

## †DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures  
high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise  
God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it  
one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## †PRAYER OF DEDICATION

† Please rise in body or in spirit

## SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

Receiving the Bread and Cup

*Please visit all of the Communion tables around the Meetinghouse with breads from around the world.*

*Traditional bread and cup will be offered at the front Communion table.*

*Whenever you finish exploring the tables, please return to your seat.*

## UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, in gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the living bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. So God, may we live to your glory. Amen.

## †HYMN

*Siyahamba*

*(We Are Marching In The Light Of God)*

*526 New Century Hymnal*

- 1: We are marching in the light of God...
- 2: We are singing in the light of God...
- 3: We are praying in the light of God...
- 4: We are dancing in the light of God
- 5: Siyahamba kukha nyen kwen khos...

## †BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Fantasia In G Minor*

*Pachelbel*

† 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 October are members of the Annual Giving Committee.

## QUARTERLY MEETING TODAY OCTOBER 1

Following Worship today, we will meet for a brief time to hear an update from the Church Council.

Topics include:

- Budget update and end of year 2022-2023 Financials
- Visioning Task Force Update
- Upcoming events planned for October and early November



Please come and learn about everything that has been happening within the Council and around the First Church grounds.

## CHURCH SCHOOL'S BACK IN ACTION!

**Oct. 1** All Ages in church - World Communion Sunday

**Oct. 8** Church School begins in classrooms (continues through October.)

Pre-K & K: Blue Door

1 & 2: Purple Door

3 & 4: Silver Door

5 & 6: Rick's Room

(Subject to change depending on Teacher availability and attendance)



## WE'VE GOT THE KIDS, NOW WE NEED THE TEACHERS!

Church School needs both students and teachers! Teaching is as easy as helping out one Sunday a month. The curriculum and materials are supplied. No experience necessary!

Whether being a regular teacher, a "1-Sunday-a-month"-er, a substitute, or an occasional Helping Hand-if you want our children to know the love of God and the love of neighbor, you're the right person.

Prayerfully consider giving 45 minutes of your time on Sundays to our children whenever you can. Plus, you'll be amazed at how much you'll get out of it yourself!

## YOUTH EVENT TODAY!



1233 E. PUTNAM AVE

October 1st @ 4pm

Come as you are!

KHALEIGHL@FCCOG.ORG (203)637-1791 X824





## READING THE BIBLE THROUGH JEWISH EYES

Every Wednesday from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. through November 15

Join Pastors Patrick and Cydney as we put the stories from the Bible into their original context and read them from a Jewish perspective. This engaging study is sure to provide new insights on the ancient stories throughout the Bible.

## CHOIR REHEARSALS TODAY

**Cherub:** K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade

Carol Woodman, director

Silver Door (Preschool level) 11:15-11:45

**Celebration Singers:** 3-6<sup>th</sup> grade

Craig Symons, director

3<sup>rd</sup> floor Music Room 11:15-12:00

**Genesis Choir:** 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade

Danny Young, director

3<sup>rd</sup> floor Choir Room 11:15-12:15



## SCHEDULING MEETINGS WITH STAFF

As many people and places have returned to a somewhat normal lifestyle in a post-pandemic world, the way in which many organizations and businesses operate is different from 3+ years ago. First Church Preschool has taken a number of steps to secure the building and the safety of the children while in session. Except for entry/departure times for groups and committees on the church calendar, First Church continues to operate on the model that the building remains locked to ensure the safety of everyone.

Please contact a staff member to schedule an appointment if you need to meet with them in person. Sometimes staff members are working remotely, or out of the office for various tasks related to their duties, and dropping by the office without a scheduled appointment can result in missing a staff member because they may be out of the building.

## 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:

- Small electrical appliances
- Winter hats and scarves



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**INTEMPO**  
PRESENTS:  
**SOUNDS FROM  
LATINO AMERICA**



*Hispanic Heritage Month Concert Series*  
**GREENWICH CONCERT**

Join us for a unique, cultural and fun soundscape, as INTEMPO presents a variety of musical traditions from Latino America.

Presented in Partnership with:

First Congregational Church of Greenwich  
**Sunday, October 15 at 4PM**  
108 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich



Concerts are being provided **free of cost**.  
Donations are welcome and will be recognized as tax-deductible.

All are welcome; registration is encouraged.  
For more information contact [info@intempo.org](mailto:info@intempo.org)



INTEMPO is a Stamford, CT-based youth-development organization that provides high-quality classical and intercultural music education to children predominantly from immigrant backgrounds and from communities underrepresented in the arts. The concert will feature high level artistry, including INTEMPO professional musicians and our advanced students.

**TRUNK  
OR  
TREAT**



**AT FIRST CHURCH IN OLD GREENWICH**  
**BACK PARKING LOT, 108 SOUND BEACH AVE, OLD GREENWICH**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER** | **\$10 PER FAMILY**  
**28** | **(ALL PROCEEDS TO LOCAL CHARITIES)**  
**6:00 PM TO 8:00 PM**

 **CANDY, MUSIC, TREATS, FUN**

**MORE INFO**  
**[WWW.FCCOG.ORG](http://WWW.FCCOG.ORG)**



## CALL-A-RIDE GREENWICH FREE TRANSPORTATION FOR SENIORS AND MORE

At CALL-A-RIDE we provide free transportation weekdays for seniors age 60 or over within the Town of Greenwich. Our volunteer drivers also serve to create an atmosphere of understanding and camaraderie aiding seniors toward a full enjoyment of life.

We currently have a roster of some 58 volunteer drivers who cover 24 shifts Monday through Friday each week. Morning shifts run from 8:30 AM-12:15 PM and afternoon shifts run from 12:15 PM to 4:00 PM. Some drivers have regularly committed weekly shifts and others are available on a substitute basis. Drivers must be 25 years of age or older, possess a valid driver's license and be approved by C-A-R's automobile insurer. Many current drivers have volunteered with C-A-R for many years and derive a high degree of satisfaction from their service to others through C-A-R.

We are always looking for volunteer drivers – hopefully you will be so inclined and, in that event, kindly make initial contact with our office.

### Contact Us

**Call-A-Ride Of Greenwich, Inc.**

37 Lafayette Place Greenwich, CT 06830

Phone: (203) 661-6633

Dispatchers: Ron March, Hilary Gunn

E-mail: [call-a-ride@optimum.net](mailto:call-a-ride@optimum.net)

Web: <https://callaridegreenwich.org/our-service/>

## NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR FOOD COLLECTION

Did you know that there is a basket in the Meetinghouse entryway where you can drop off food for Neighbor to Neighbor?

Members of our Outreach Committee regularly take whatever is collected over to N2N to help those in need from the local area.

Tuna, chili, beans, canned fruit, rice, jelly, and other non-perishable items are needed to help stock their pantry.



# THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

108 Sound Beach Avenue Old Greenwich CT 06870  
203-637-1791 • [www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org)

## Ministers - All Members Of The First Congregational Church Of Greenwich

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Minister of Music

Director of FCCOG Church School/Regional Youth Ministry

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

Pastor Emeritus

Reverend Patrick Collins

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

Dr. Craig Scott Symons

Khaleigh Laicher

Susan Asselin, RN

Wendy Spezzano

Greg Girolamo

Carolyn Samuel

Daniel Lepoutre

Bob Small

Sue Wilder

Julio Yika

Curtis Gay

Kayla Vozzella

Reverend Sally Colegrove



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
a just world for all