

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2023 NINETEENTH 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 <u>HERE</u> to access the online giving webpage, or scan this QR code to donate.



Faith First-Love Always ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

From Our Abundance We Give Amanda Udis-Kessler (b. 1965) Dr. Craig Scott Symons, piano

From our abundance we give, we who are blessed beyond measure, Grateful for all that we have, hearts overflowing with treasure, Humbled by joy every day that we live. From our abundance we give.

> From our abundance we share freely without hesitation, Showing our hope and our care, gently restoring creation, Acting in faith and rejecting despair. From our abundance we share.

From our abundance we build, offering up our compassion, Bringing our talents and skills, called into prayer and action, Helping assure that God's dream is fulfilled. From our abundance we build.

From our abundance we love, stewards of all we've been given. We who have more than enough, we have been claimed by this vision. As we go forward in wonder and trust, from our abundance we love.

From our abundance we love.

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 worshiping 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: All heaven and earth proclaim the majesty of God's creative power!

All: Praise God for the amazing and awesome beauty.

One: God has given to us codes by which to live together in harmony and peace.

All: In these commandments, God has summed up the ways we must respect one another.

One: Rejoice in the goodness of God.

All: Praise God for God's complete and steadfast love for us. Amen.

†CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

Christ, Whose Glory Fills The Skies 43 Pilgrim Hymnal

† Please rise in body or in spirit

PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

If we were to name all the gods we have before you, God, we would be here a very long time. We elevate politicians into saviors, though they are as broken as we are. We misuse your name so much during the day, we have trouble speaking to you in prayer at night. We are so busy, we do not notice how creation witnesses to your goodness and grace.

Forgive us, God our Hope. Help us to let go of what we value most, so we may open our emptiness, our hearts, our lives to the healing and loving presence of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

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.

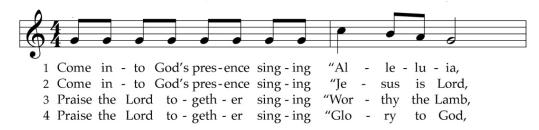
One: God has received us, pardoned us, and loved us; let us forgive each other in love and share the peace of Christ with a hand to hand, eye to eye, and heart to heart greeting.

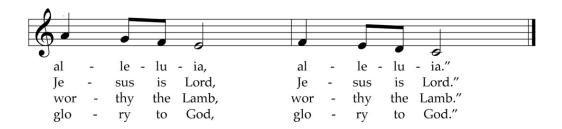
May the peace of Christ be with all of you.

All: And also with you.

†RESPONSE (remain standing)

Come Into God's Presence





CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(During the singing of the response, children will depart for Church School, or 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! The Bible tells me so.

FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 6: 4-9 Common English Bible Juliet Primo

Israel, listen! Our God is the Lord! Only the Lord!

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your being, and all your strength. These words that I am commanding you today must always be on your minds. Recite them to your children. Talk about them when you are sitting around your house and when you are out and about, when you are lying down and when you are getting up. Tie them on your hand as a sign. They should be on your forehead as a symbol. Write them on your house's doorframes and on your city's gates.

ANTHEM

If Ye Love Me Thomas Tallis (1505-1585) The Chancel Choir

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that he may bide with you forever, e'en the spirit of truth.

John 14: 15-17

SECOND LESSON

Deuteronomy 5: 1, 6-21 Common English Bible

Moses called out to all Israel, saying to them: "Israel! Listen to the regulations and the case laws that I'm recounting in your hearing right now. Learn them and carefully do them.

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You must have no other gods before me. Do not make an idol for yourself—no form whatsoever—of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters under the earth. Do not bow down to them or worship them because I, the Lord your God, am a passionate God. I punish children for their parents' sins—even to the third and fourth generations of those who hate me. But I am loyal and gracious to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Do not use the Lord your God's name as if it were of no significance; the Lord won't forgive anyone who uses his name that way.

Keep the Sabbath day and treat it as holy, exactly as the Lord your God commanded: Six days you may work and do all your tasks, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. Don't do any work on it—not you, your sons or daughters, your male or female servants, your oxen or donkeys or any of your animals, or the immigrant who is living among you—so that your male and female servants can rest just like you. Remember that you were a slave in Egypt, but the Lord your God brought you out of there with a strong hand and an outstretched arm. That's why the Lord your God commands you to keep the Sabbath day.

Honor your father and your mother, exactly as the Lord your God requires, so that your life will be long and so that things will go well for you on the fertile land that the Lord your God is giving you.

Do not kill.

Do not commit adultery.

Do not steal.

Do not testify falsely against your neighbor.

Do not desire and try to take your neighbor's wife.

Do not crave your neighbor's house, field, male or female servant, ox, donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor.

MESSAGE

Generation to Generation Reverend Patrick Collins

†HYMN

Jerusalem, My Happy Home 312 Pilgrim 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.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes Leo Sowerby (1895-1968) The Chancel Choir Linnea Conley, mezzo soprano

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills: from whence cometh my help.

My help cometh even from the Lord: who hath made heaven and earth.

He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.

Behold, he that keepeth Israel: shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord himself is thy keeper: the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand;

So that the sun shall not burn thee by day: neither the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.

The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in: from this time forth for evermore.

Psalm 121

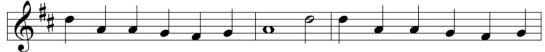
†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures





God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it





†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Postlude
Felix Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

† Please rise in body or in spirit

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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.

CHURCH SCHOOL'S BACK IN ACTION!

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

Pre-K & K: Blue Door 1 & 2: Purple Door 3 & 4: Silver Door

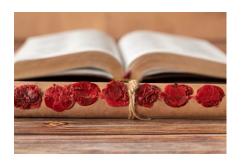
5 & 6: Rick's Room

(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!



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-2nd grade Carol Woodman, director

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

Celebration Singers: 3-6th grade Craig Symons, director

3rd floor Music Room 11:15-12:00

Genesis Choir: 7-12th grade Danny Young, director

3rd 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.

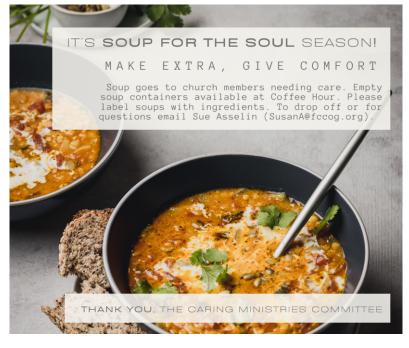
THE RUMMAGE ROOM

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 kitchen appliances
- Christmas ornaments





UPCOMING EVENTS



SOUNDS FROM LATINO AMERICA



GREENWICH CONCERT

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

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

Presented in Partnership with:



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



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.



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 Reverend Patrick Collins Associate Pastor Reverend Cydney Van Dyke Minister of Music Dr. Craig Scott Symons Director of FCCOG Church School/Regional Youth Ministry Khaleigh Laicher Parish Nurse Susan Asselin, RN Wendy Spezzano **Church Office Coordinator** Financial Administrator Greg Girolamo Administrative and Communications Colleague Carolyn Samuel Livestream Director Daniel Lepoutre **Bob Small** Audio Technician **Database Administrative Assistant** Sue Wilder **Facility Manager** Julio Yika Curtis Gay Sexton Assistant Director of Preschool Kayla Vozzella **Pastor Emeritus** Reverend Sally Colegrove

