

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2023
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
ALL SAINTS' 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.

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.

First Church is a mask-friendly community of faith. Anyone who prefers to wear a mask at church should feel comfortable doing so.

Faith First-Love Always

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Andante Maestoso
Louis Vierne (1870-1937)
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

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.

GIVING TREE OPPORTUNITY

Mariann Ekernas

MOMENT FOR ANNUAL GIVING

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Our God, indeed, is God alone!

All: **Our God, indeed, is God alone!**

One: Let us put nothing before our God.

All: **We will worship only God.**

CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

For All The Saints
326 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

God, we confess that we do not always understand your ways. We are easily discouraged when life takes unexpected turns and our carefully laid plans and dreams come to nothing. We confess that we are quick to give up when things get difficult, and quick to question your presence and your power.

Forgive us. Grant us patience to wait for your good timing. Open our eyes to recognize your leading in our lives—to listen for your gentle whisper when we least expect it. And then give us courage to step out in faith and obedience, trusting in your leading even when we cannot yet see the outcome.

We praise you for your faithful love, and pray that you would make us worthy to bear your name. Amen.

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
413 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)



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."

ANTHEM

I Got Shoes

The Cherub Choir

Carol Woodman, director - Lynn Hawxhurst, ukulele - Carolyn Paulus, piano

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

DEDICATION OF GLORY TO GOD HYMNALS

LITANY:

One: O sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things.

All: Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it.

One: Let the fields be jubilant, let the rivers clap their hands, let the forests and the mountains sing for joy.

All: Make music to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing.

With trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn, shout for joy before the Lord who reigns.

O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

PRAYER (in unison)

Eternal God, we thank you for the lives of Mary Jane and Bill Penwell, dedicated members of this congregation who have entered the Church Triumphant. We acknowledge the gifts of music and song through which creation has offered you praise and thanksgiving, confession and lament, prayers, and petitions. May this new hymnal inspire our own songs in times of joy and sorrow. Enable us to sing in one voice as your gathered people, and to join in harmony with all who worship you.

By your grace, may the words and melodies shape our faith for years to come, and in ways that forever give glory to you, the Triune God. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 18: 17-28
Common English Bible
Joe McBride

When Ahab saw Elijah, Ahab said to him, “Is that you, the one who troubles Israel?”

Elijah answered, “I haven’t troubled Israel; you and your father’s house have! You did as much when you deserted the Lord’s commands and followed the Baals. Now send a message and gather all Israel to me at Mount Carmel. Gather the four hundred fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah who eat at Jezebel’s table.”

Ahab sent the message to all the Israelites. He gathered the prophets at Mount Carmel. Elijah approached all the people and said, “How long will you hobble back and forth between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow God. If Baal is God, follow Baal.” The people gave no answer.

Elijah said to the people, “I am the last of the Lord’s prophets, but Baal’s prophets number four hundred fifty. Give us two bulls. Let Baal’s prophets choose one. Let them cut it apart and set it on the wood, but don’t add fire. I’ll prepare the other bull, put it on the wood, but won’t add fire. Then all of you will call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord. The god who answers with fire—that’s the real God!”

All the people answered, “That’s an excellent idea.”

So Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, “Choose one of these bulls. Prepare it first since there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god, but don’t add fire.”

So they took one of the bulls that had been brought to them. They prepared it and called on Baal’s name from morning to midday. They said, “Great Baal, answer us!” But there was no sound or answer. They performed a hopping dance around the altar that had been set up.

Around noon, Elijah started making fun of them: “Shout louder! Certainly he’s a god! Perhaps he is lost in thought or wandering or traveling somewhere. Or maybe he is asleep and must wake up!”

So the prophets of Baal cried with a louder voice and cut themselves with swords and knives as was their custom. Their blood flowed all over them. As noon passed they went crazy with their ritual until it was time for the evening offering. Still there was no sound or answer, no response whatsoever.

ANTHEM

Every Time I Feel The Spirit
Arr. Rosephanye Powell (b. 1962)
The Chancel Choir

SECOND LESSON

1 Kings 18: 29-39
Common English Bible

Then Elijah said to all the people, “Come here!” All the people closed in, and he repaired the Lord’s altar that had been damaged. Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob—to whom the Lord’s word came: “Your name will be Israel.” He built the stones into an altar in the Lord’s name, and he dug a trench around the altar big enough to hold two seahs of dry grain. He put the wood in order, butchered the bull, and placed the bull on the wood. “Fill four jars with water and pour it on the sacrifice and on the wood,” he commanded. “Do it a second time!” he said. So they did it a second time. “Do it a third time!” And so they did it a third time. The water flowed around the altar, and even the trench filled with water. At the time of the evening offering, the prophet Elijah drew near and prayed: “Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant. I have done all these things at your instructions. Answer me, Lord! Answer me so that this people will know that you, Lord, are the real God and that you can change their hearts.” Then the Lord’s fire fell; it consumed the sacrifice, the wood, the stones, and the dust. It even licked up the water in the trench!

All the people saw this and fell on their faces. “The Lord is the real God! The Lord is the real God!” they exclaimed.

MESSAGE

Prophets And Saints
Reverend Patrick Collins

ALL SAINTS’ PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HONORING THE SAINTS

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

Lynn Robertson

OFFERTORY SOLO

Pie Jesu (from Requiem)
Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)
Hanna Golodinskii, soprano

†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

†HYMN

When Peace Like A River
840 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Con Moto

Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901)

† Please rise in body or in spirit

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We remember those who have passed from this life since November 1, 2022.

Joan Hughes Hutchinson
Leigh "Rusty" Hannon
Glen A. Chidsey
Margaret (Marge) York
Mary Ann Chidsey
Robert S. (Bob) Phelps
Douglas Campbell, Jr.
Nancy Ferris Wescott Palamarciuk
Shân Louise Brock
Rev Dr. Thomas Lowell (Tom) Stiers
Arthur (Art) Robinson
Mi Heh Kim
Joan Schladermundt Osgood
Ferne Mitchell McGinnis
Lois Garland Hitchings
Joanne Mildred Dwyer Crowle
John W. Roberts
Phyllis Galt

Wendy Reynolds
Nan R. Burleson
Conio Francis Stolfi Jr.
James W. Donley
Gunnar Elias Klintberg
Mary Jane Penwell
John McCue
Janet (Carol) Hermance
Lea Menegon
Joan Johansen
Elizabeth "Betsy" (Comfort) Palmer
Olga Rolan
Renate Setten
Mary Ruth Allen
Jerry Eugene White
Barbara Elaine Smith
Beverly (Bev) Hamilton Mumford



Join us for Community Hour in the Auditorium following worship this morning where you can greet one another, have a cup of coffee, and a light snack.

Hosts for the month of November are members of the Diaconate (Deacons).

CHURCH SCHOOL IS BACK IN ACTION!

Nov. 5: All Ages Worship

Nov 12: Church School in classrooms

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)



CHOIR REHEARSALS TODAY

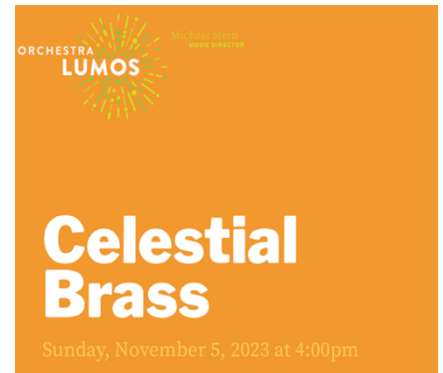
Cherub Choir
Celebration Singers
Genesis Choir



FIRST MUSIC & ARTS CONCERT TODAY at 4 P.M.

Nothing compares to a brass quintet and a mighty organ. Brass players from Orchestra Lumos (formerly Stamford Symphony) join our own Craig Scott Symons presenting truly transcendent music for the soul in a stunning church acoustic.

Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door.
They are available through the Orchestra Lumos website
(www.orchestralumos.org)



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.

WIRED WORD BIBLE STUDY IS BACK!

Using the Wired Word's curriculum, each week we'll discuss a topic or headline from the week's news and ask ourselves how our faith applies through guided questions and discussion. Learn more at thewiredword.com
Join Pastor Patrick for lunch on Thursdays at noon in the lounge. BYO lunch optional.



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:

- Christmas ornaments
- Kids clothes – all ages
- Jewelry

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING TODAY

Your Parish Nurse, Sue Asselin, will be available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service, during community hour (outdoors weather permitting - otherwise indoors in her office just to the right of the auditorium stage). During the week, Sue is available by appointment by calling 203-637-1791 ext. 821.



CPR CERTIFICATION CLASS

Saturday, November 11 in First Church Lounge

Two options: 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

A certified instructor will teach American Heart Association CPR including the use of a defibrillator on children and adults. Participants ages 12 and up are allowed. The cost of the class is covered for a limited number of people who regularly attend First Church. Those teaching youngsters are especially encouraged to attend. Classes are appropriate for new and seasoned CPR students. Contact Sue Asselin, Parish Nurse at susana@fccog.org or 203-637-1791 x 821 with any questions and to register for class.

HELP SERVE LUNCH

The New Covenant Center Cafe in Stamford is open for sit-down hot meals, and the popular opportunity of serving lunch to Cafe visitors is open for sign-ups! All the luncheon food will be delivered from ShopRite. The volunteers will slice bread, arrange desserts, and serve the hot meal. The time commitment is 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the first Monday of the month. Masks are required. Scan the code to sign up for your spot.



FIRE PIT & S'MORES!

Come as you are, stay as long as you like, bring a flashlight and a friend! 6th -12th graders - we will meet at the Labyrinth behind the Mead House of 2nd Congregational Church (2CC) - 48 Maple Ave. Cozy drinks will be served and smores will be had!

THE GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree for H.O.M.E. and Pilgrim Towers is underway!

The trees will be displayed with gift tags on Sunday, November 5th and 12th.

You may also make your selections online by scanning the QR code.

All gifts should be returned to the stage in the auditorium before the 10am

service on Sunday, November 12th or 19th, or to the Harvest Sunday drive-by drop on Sunday, November 19th from 11:30am - 1:30pm. Thank you in advance for making a holiday wish come true for a client of H.O.M.E. or a resident of Pilgrim Towers.





GIVING IN FAITH TOGETHER

G.I.F.T.
2024

ANNUAL GIVING

VISIT
[HTTP://WWW.IAMFIRST
CHURCH.COM/](http://www.iamfirstchurch.com/)



ANNUAL GIVING UPDATES

The Annual Giving campaign is up and running. Thanks to the wonderful messages the past two Sundays from Paul Ghaffari and Carolyn Paulus, who explained why we give, the gifts the church provides to so many, our membership and friends are already stepping up with their pledges to First Church to support next year's activities.

This past year we've served food to the homeless, raised money for local charities, held events and festivals to benefit members and our community as just a few examples. Your Annual Pledge will really make a difference. Here are some ways it will be used:

- **Community Outreach:** Your donation will support our ongoing efforts to serve and uplift those in need within our local community.
- **Spiritual Growth Programs:** Your support will help us expand and enhance the programs that nurture the spiritual growth and well-being of our congregation members.
- **Facility Improvements:** Your contribution can assist in maintaining and improving our church facilities, ensuring a welcoming and safe space for all.

Thank you in advance to everyone who joins in our **Annual Giving Campaign 2024**. We are targeting Harvest Sunday as our official **Annual Giving Day, Sunday November 19**, when members are encouraged to bring their pledges to 10 a.m. worship.



H.O.M.E. CRAFT FAIR NOVEMBER 18 & 19

Handmade quilts, Christmas decorations and gifts, pottery, wooden toys, weavings, homemade jams, maple syrup, and many more crafts from Maine will be for sale in the Auditorium. All proceeds will benefit the H.O.M.E. community in Orland, Maine.

Dates/Times are:

Saturday, November 18 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 19 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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

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