



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2024
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
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 the way we welcome children in worship directly affects the way they respond to God, to the church, and to one another.

To welcome children as they are in worship, we have our **PrayGround**, located in the Chapel (right side of the Meetinghouse), where children and

others of all ages can engage in worship through movement, sensory materials, and prayerful play. The presence of all God's children is a gift to the church, which offers hope for all.

Scan the QR code for FAQ and tips about our PrayGround.



GET THE FAMILY MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

Using your smartphone camera, scan the QR code here to sign up for our weekly Family Ministry newsletter. You can read about Church School, Regional Youth Ministry, and more!

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

Give Me Jesus

Marques L. A. Garrett (b. 1984)

Steven Russell, guest director/organist

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.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: To the fisherman Jesus said:

All: *“Follow me and I will make you fish for people.*

One: To the tax collector Jesus said:

All: *“Follow me.”*

One: To the rich man Jesus said:

All: *“Go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.”*

One: At the last supper Jesus said:

All: *“Follow me.”*

One: To you and to me and to all of us Jesus says:

All: Follow me!

CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

Take My Life And Let It Be

697 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

Lord, we look for you in the wrong places. We put our trust in material things. We worry about things we cannot change. We wonder if you are even there at all. For all the times we have doubted you, Lord, forgive us. For all the ways we have neglected your word and ignored your people, forgive us. Do not be far from us, Lord. There is no one else we can turn to for help. Renew our fickle hearts and help us put our trust in you. Amen.

Moment of silence for personal reflection

† Please rise in body or in spirit

†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)

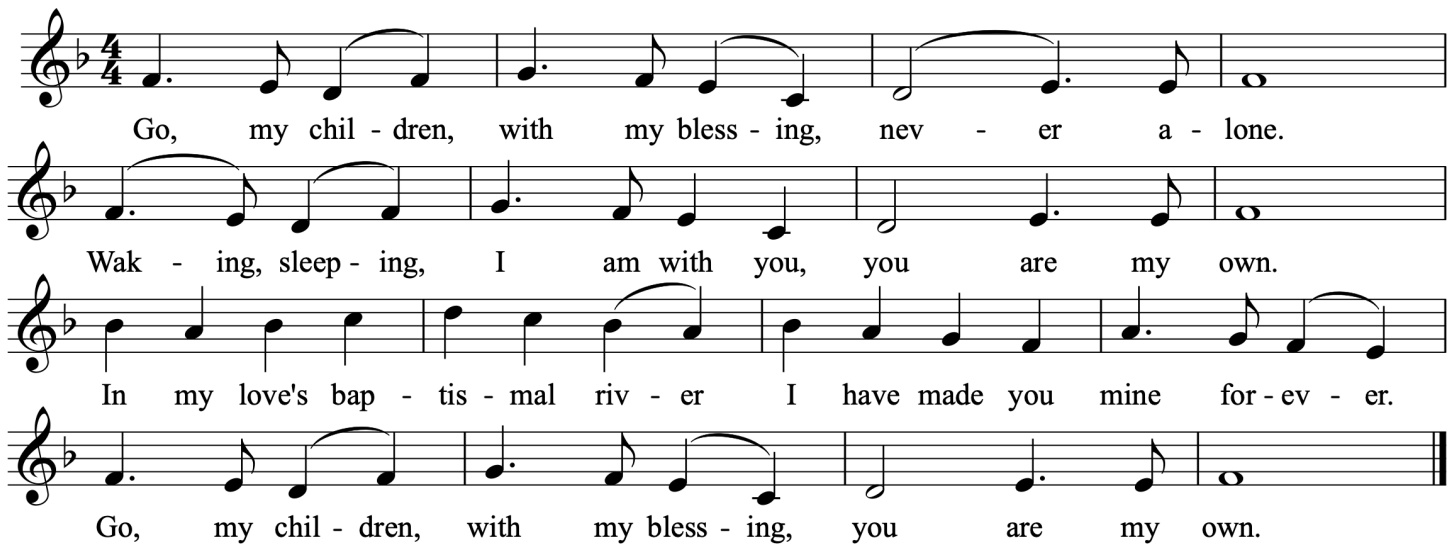
I've Got Peace Like A River (1st verse only)
623 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

During the singing of the response, children will depart for Church School or return to their seats.

RESPONSE

Go, My Children



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own.

FIRST LESSON

Psalms 19:7-13
Common English Bible
Joe McBride

The Lord's Instruction is perfect,
reviving one's very being.
The Lord's laws are faithful,
making naive people wise.
The Lord's regulations are right,
gladdening the heart.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

The Lord's commands are pure,
giving light to the eyes.
Honoring the Lord is correct,
lasting forever.
The Lord's judgments are true.
All of these are righteous!
They are more desirable than gold—
than tons of pure gold!
They are sweeter than honey—
even dripping off the honeycomb!
No doubt about it:
your servant is enlightened by them;
there is great reward in keeping them.
But can anyone know
what they've accidentally done wrong?
Clear me of any unknown sin
and save your servant from willful sins.
Don't let them rule me.
Then I'll be completely blameless;
I'll be innocent of great wrongdoing.

ANTHEM

Stopping By Woods On A Snowy Evening
Vera Kistler
The Genesis Choir
Daniel Young, director
Matt Stolfi, piano

SECOND LESSON

Mark 9:1-13
Common English Bible

As Jesus continued down the road, a man ran up, knelt before him, and asked, “Good Teacher, what must I do to obtain eternal life?”

Jesus replied, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except the one God. You know the commandments: *Don't commit murder. Don't commit adultery. Don't steal. Don't give false testimony. Don't cheat. Honor your father and mother.*”

“Teacher,” he responded, “I've kept all of these things since I was a boy.”
Jesus looked at him carefully and loved him. He said, “You are lacking one thing. Go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor. Then you will have treasure in heaven. And come, follow me.” But the man was dismayed at this statement and went away saddened, because he had many possessions.

Looking around, Jesus said to his disciples, "It will be very hard for the wealthy to enter God's kingdom!" His words startled the disciples, so Jesus told them again, "Children, it's difficult to enter God's kingdom! It's easier for a camel to squeeze through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter God's kingdom."

They were shocked even more and said to each other, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them carefully and said, "It's impossible with human beings, but not with God. All things are possible for God."

Peter said to him, "Look, we've left everything and followed you."

Jesus said, "I assure you that anyone who has left house, brothers, sisters, mother, father, children, or farms because of me and because of the good news will receive one hundred times as much now in this life—houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and farms (with harassment)—and in the coming age, eternal life. But many who are first will be last. And many who are last will be first."

MESSAGE

First And Last
Reverend Patrick Collins

†HYMN

Will You Come And Follow Me?
726 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

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

Lilian Ruiz

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Jesus The Very Thought Of Thee
Arlen Clarke (b. 1954)
The Chancel Choir

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow
606 Glory to God Hymnal (purple)

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

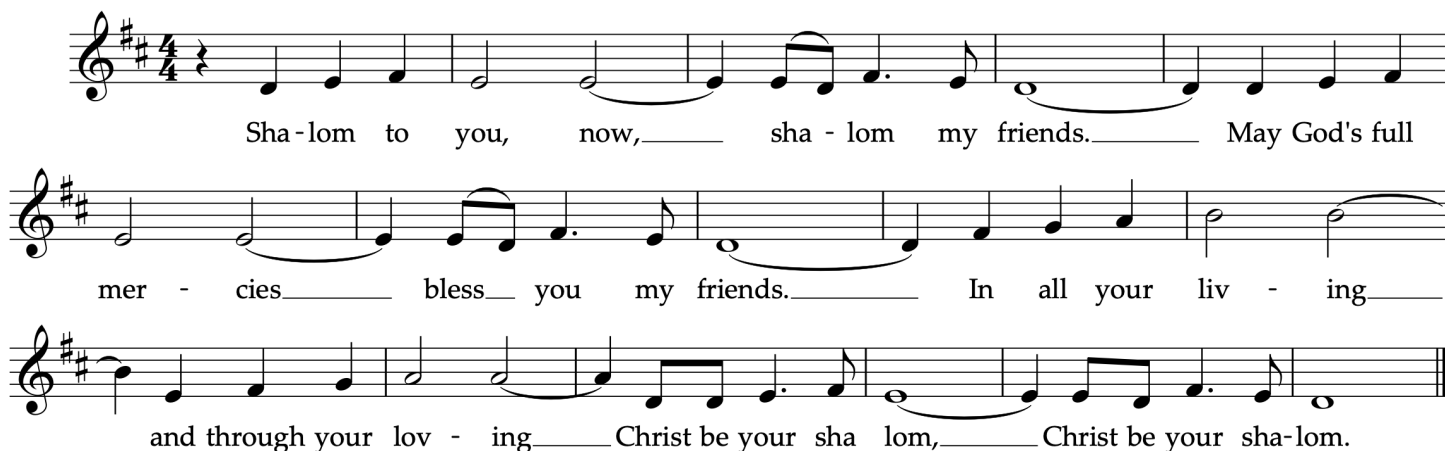
†HYMN

Jesus Calls Us
720 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†BENEDICTION

†CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Shalom To You



†POSTLUDE

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Thy Word
Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

†Please rise in body or in spirit

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COMMUNITY HOUR

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 February are members of the Budget committee.

CHURCH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Feb 18: One-Room Schoolhouse

Feb 25: Regular Church School

Mar 3: All-Ages Worship (w/communion)



CHOIR REHEARSALS TODAY



Cherub: K-2nd grade - Carol Woodman, director
Silver Door (Preschool level) 11:15-11:45

Genesis Choir: 7-12th grade - Danny Young, director
3rd floor Choir Room 11:15-12:15



Lenten Organ Recitals

February 21 – Marnus Lively-Greyling
St. Barnabas Episcopal, Greenwich

February 28 – Nathan Lively-Greyling
St. John's Lutheran, Stamford

March 6 – Victoria Shields
Christ and Holy Trinity Episcopal, Westport

March 13 – Terence Flanagan
First Presbyterian Church, New Canaan

March 20 – Jamie Hitel
Christ Church, Greenwich

Wednesdays 12:15 - 12:45 p.m.
Free admission

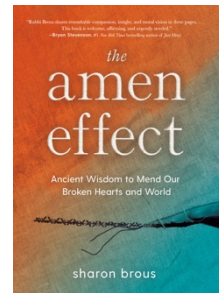
FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

THE AMEN EFFECT

DATE CHANGE: February, 21st to April 17th (no class March 27th)

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. First Church Lounge

Join us Wednesday evenings during the season of lent for an engaging discussion on an inspiring book about the power of community by one of our country's most prominent rabbis.



Sharon Brous, a leading American rabbi, makes the case that the spiritual work of our time, as instinctual as it is counter-cultural, is to find our way to one other in celebration, in sorrow, and in solidarity. To show up for each other in moments of joy and pain, vulnerability and possibility, to invest in relationships of shared purpose and build communities of care.

Books can be purchased through all major booksellers. If you'd like Pastor Patrick to order a copy, please let the office know.

Chapter one of *The Amen Effect* by Sharon Brous, which we will discuss in our study session this Wednesday, talks about the importance of showing up for one another during times of joy and struggle. Religious traditions and rituals, at their best, give us time and space to be our whole, true and vulnerable selves. Rabbi Brous speaks in this chapter how ancient rituals taught her the transformative nature of showing up when we want to retreat, of grieving and rejoicing together, and that even though we can't heal each other, we can and must see each other. I hope you can join us for our discussion on Wednesday.

WIRED WORD BIBLE STUDY

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:

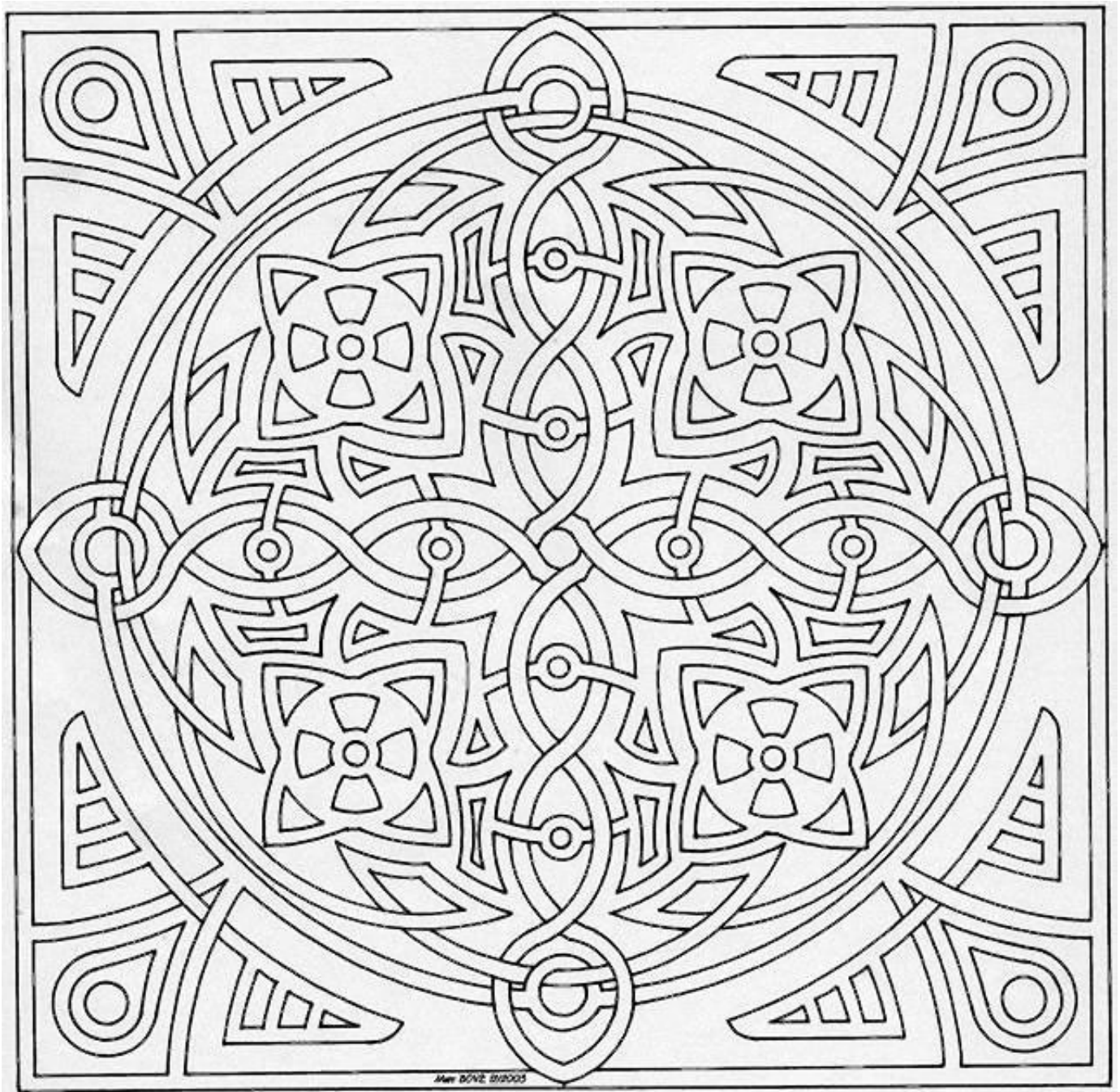
Men's business shirts - Spring handbags - Men's spring sweaters



SPIRITUAL PRACTICE: COLOR THE MANDALA

Coloring and mandalas are spiritual practices for relaxation, meditation, and centering in faith.

Use the mandala at home or during worship for listening and following God's voice this Lent.





First Congregational Church of Greenwich

FEBRUARY

FRIENDSGIVING

2024 Guest Sign Up

OPTIONS

Friday February 16 Dinner at the Ekernas

Thursday February 22 Coffee at Juliet Primo's

Friday February 23 Cocktails at the Meyers

Friday February 23 Dinner at Edgehill

Saturday February 24 Cocktails at Gigi & Tom's

Sunday February 25 Afternoon Tea at Carolyn Samuel's

Wednesday February 28 Brunch at Collette Rogers'

SIGN UP?

Please sign up by scanning the QR code.

Further specific details will be sent to guests by email prior to each event. You can also sign up at Community Hour on Sundays' or by calling Carolyn Samuel at the Church Office 203 637 1791 x850,



You're Invited!

? RYM: Ask Khaleigh

12pm, February 25th @ 2CC

Second Congregational Church
139 E Putnam Avenue
Greenwich, CT 06830

Regional Youth Ministry

for all 6th - 12th grade families

Q & A Session

- For parents and youth
- Casual come and go
- Refreshments available
- Ask Khaleigh questions about all things RYM!

WWW.FCCOG.ORG/REGIONAL-YOUTH-MINISTRY

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

Director of First Church Preschool

Assistant Director of First Church Preschool

Preschool Administrative Assistant

Pastor Emerita

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

Beth Genovese

Kayla Vozzella

Karina Germosen

Reverend Sally Colegrove



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all