



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2024
TWENTY-FIRST 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 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 front 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!



ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE

Leid

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

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 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: Our God is strong, like a rock.

All: We come to worship the God of justice and joy.

One: Our God cares for the ones the world forgets.

All: We come to worship the God of justice and joy.

One: Our God is the one who gives life, and who guards the future.

All: We come to worship the God of justice and joy.

One: Come, let us worship God.

CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

For The Fruit Of All Creation

36 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

God of potential and promise, you gave Hannah the one thing she desired, and the one thing she needed to be fulfilled in you. We trust that you know what we desire and what we need, and that you generously provide what we need to make your promises reality in this kin-dom. Give us faith when life hasn't gone our way, courage to pray in the midst of despair, and assurance that your love is for everyone, forever. May our hearts sing thanksgiving for what you make possible. With gratitude and awe, we lift our prayer to you, in the name of the one who is himself the fulfillment of all desire, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Moment of silence for personal reflection **

†ASSURANCE OF GRACE

† Please rise in body or in spirit

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

God makes peace within us. Let us claim it. God makes peace between us. Let us share it.

Each Sunday through Oct 27th, share your answer to the below questions (one per week) with everyone to whom you pass the peace of Christ. Hear their chosen answer, and let the Spirit move between you.

What do you cherish about the past? → Say, “I cherish _____ from my past.”

What brings you peace in the present? → Say, “I have peace when _____.”

What excites you about the future? → Say, “_____ excites me about the future.”

One: May the peace of Christ be with all of you.

All: And also with you.

†RESPONSE (remain standing)

Glory To God

Capo 3: (G) B^{flat} (D) (G) (D) F B^{flat} F (G) B^{flat} (D) F (Em) (D) Gm F

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, ' with - out end. A - men.

(D) F (G) B^{flat} (C) E^{flat} (G) B^{flat} (Em7) Gm7 (A7) C7

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, ' with - out end. A - men.

(A7) C7 (D) F (F#) (Bm) A Dm

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, ' with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) Dm7 (D) F (Bdim7) Ddim7 (Em7) Gm7 (Dm) (A7) (D) Fm C7 F

As it was in the be - gin-ning, is now and ev-er shall be. A - men.

ANTHEM

There Is Much In The World
Carson Cooman (b. 1982)

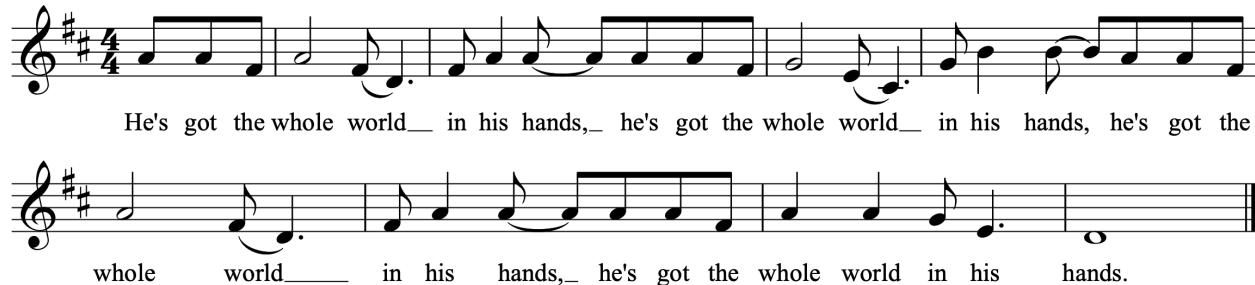
The Celebration Singers
Vance Briceland, piano

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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

RESPONSE

He's Got The Whole World



He's got the whole world in his hands, he's got the whole world in his hands, he's got the whole world in his hands, he's got the whole world in his hands.

FIRST LESSON

1 Samuel 1:1-20

Common English Bible

Bill DeHaven

Now there was a certain man from Ramathaim, a Zuphite from the highlands of Ephraim, whose name was Elkanah. Elkanah had two wives, one named Hannah and the other named Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah didn't.

Every year this man would leave his town to worship and sacrifice to the Lord of heavenly forces in Shiloh, where Eli's two sons Hophni and Phinehas were the Lord's priests. Whenever he sacrificed, Elkanah would give parts of the sacrifice to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters. But he would give only one part of it to Hannah, though he loved her, because the Lord had kept her from conceiving. And because the Lord had kept Hannah from conceiving, her rival would make fun of her mercilessly, just to bother her. So that is what took place year after year. Whenever Hannah went to the Lord's house, Peninnah would make fun of her. Then she would cry and wouldn't eat anything.

"Hannah, why are you crying?" her husband Elkanah would say to her. "Why won't you eat? Why are you so sad? Aren't I worth more to you than ten sons?"

One time, after eating and drinking in Shiloh, Hannah got up and presented herself before the Lord. (Now Eli the priest was sitting in the chair by the doorpost of the Lord's temple.) Hannah was very upset and couldn't stop crying as she prayed to the Lord. Then she made this promise: "Lord of heavenly forces, just look at your servant's pain and remember me! Don't forget your servant! Give her a boy! Then I'll give him to the Lord for his entire life. No razor will ever touch his head."

As she kept praying before the Lord, Eli watched her mouth. Now Hannah was praying in her heart; her lips were moving, but her voice was silent, so Eli thought she was drunk. "How long will you act like a drunk? Sober up!" Eli told her.

"No sir!" Hannah replied. "I'm just a very sad woman. I haven't had any wine or beer but have been pouring out my heart to the Lord. Don't think your servant is some good-for-nothing woman. This whole time I've been praying out of my great worry and trouble!"

Eli responded, "Then go in peace. And may the God of Israel give you what you've asked from him."

"Please think well of me, your servant," Hannah said. Then the woman went on her way, ate some food, and wasn't sad any longer.

ANTHEM

Unsearchable Riches
Craig Phillips (b. 1961)
The Chancel Choir

SECOND LESSON

1 Samuel 2:1-10
The Message

Hannah prayed:

I'm bursting with God-news!

I'm walking on air.

I'm laughing at my rivals.

I'm dancing my salvation.

Nothing and no one is holy like God,
no rock mountain like our God.

Don't dare talk pretentiously—

not a word of boasting, ever!

For God knows what's going on.

He takes the measure of everything that happens.

The weapons of the strong are smashed to pieces,
while the weak are infused with fresh strength.

The well-fed are out begging in the streets for crusts,
while the hungry are getting second helpings.

The barren woman has a houseful of children,
while the mother of many is bereft.

God brings death and God brings life,
brings down to the grave and raises up.

God brings poverty and God brings wealth;
he lowers, he also lifts up.

He puts poor people on their feet again;
he rekindles burned-out lives with fresh hope,

Restoring dignity and respect to their lives—
a place in the sun!

For the very structures of earth are God's;
he has laid out his operations on a firm foundation.

He protectively cares for his faithful friends, step by step,
but leaves the wicked to stumble in the dark.

No one makes it in this life by sheer muscle!

God's enemies will be blasted out of the sky, crashed in a heap and burned.

God will set things right all over the earth,
he'll give strength to his king,
he'll set his anointed on top of the world!

MESSAGE

Reversed
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

†HYMN

The Church of Christ in Every Age
320 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

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.

Mary Fike



SOLO

O Rest In The Lord
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
Linnea Conley, mezzo soprano

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God from whom all_ bles - ings flow; Praise God all crea-tures here be - low.



Praise God a- bove ye_ hea - ven'ly host; Cre - a - tor, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†HYMN

Lord, Speak To Me That I May Speak
722 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL RESPONSE

†POSTLUDE

Postlude In G
Gustav Merkel (1827-1885)

† Please rise in body or in spirit

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COMMUNITY HOUR

Join us for Community Hour in the Auditorium where you can greet one another, have a cup of coffee, and a light snack. Hosts for October are members of the Annual Giving Committee.

CHURCH SCHOOL

- Oct 13 - Regular Church School
- Oct 20 - Regular Church School
- Oct 27 - All Ages Worship
- Nov 3 - All Ages Worship



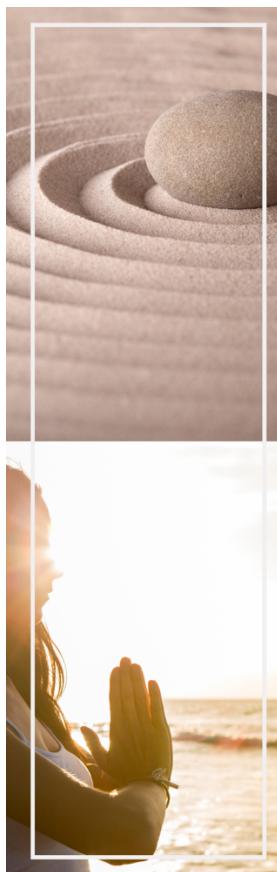
BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS



Sue Asselin, Parish Nurse is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service. She will be in her office, just to the right of the Auditorium stage. During the week she is available by appointment by calling 203-637-1791 ext. 821.

WIRED WORD BIBLE STUDY IS BACK!

Join Pastor Patrick for lunch on Thursdays at noon in the lounge. Using the Wired Word 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. BYO lunch optional.



Soothing 2nd Hour Series

11AM, Oct 27- Nov 17, 2024

Experience soothing spiritual practices to de-stress from the busyness of life, the election season, and your troubles.

Four Sessions



Sound Bath Meditation: an immersive, sensory experience of vibrational energy (sound) that elicits relaxation, shifting the state of the nervous system. | Auditorium



Tai Chi: called "meditation in motion," gentle movement aimed to concentrate and balance the body's qi (vital energy), providing benefits to mental and physical health. | Auditorium



Guided Meditation: instructor's voice helps to focus on the present moment, producing stress relief, relaxation, improved focus and clarity, and enhanced emotional well-being. | Auditorium



Taizé Singing Prayer: short songs, repeated again and again, provide a meditative character aimed at praising God and drawing us deeper into relationship with the divine. | Meetinghouse

Other Opportunities

Sung Compline Service
Oct 27 & Nov 10, 5-5:30 PM
Christ Church, Tomes-Higgins House

Tai Chi Drop-In Class
Mondays, 9:30 AM
First Church Auditorium

Yoga Class
Wednesdays, 4 & 5:30 PM
First Church Daniel Center

A moment of inner peace awaits.

VISIONING OUR FUTURE CREATIVELY IN WORSHIP – OCTOBER 27th



Our Visioning Process requires imagination, communal participation, and deep faith. Get your creative juices flowing in worship on October 27th as we explore the “Past,” “Present,” and “Future” of First Church through an interactive, less-mess, and easy, all-ages art experience.

Between now and then, pray on the below questions, and imagine your answers visually represented. The final product will be a beautiful mix-media collage made by all of our hands. (Think overlapping photos, print media clippings, drawings, music, stamps, etc.)

Questions:

- What do you cherish about the past?*
- What brings you peace in the present?*
- What excites you about the future?*

We'll provide all supplies, but if you have old photos (related to First Church or otherwise) that you'd like to additionally donate to the cause, bring them with you to worship!

TODAY AT 4 P.M.!



**HISPANIC
HERITAGE MONTH**

HEART BENEFIT CONCERT SERIES



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13 – 4PM

First Congregational Church of Greenwich
108 Sound Beach Ave, Old Greenwich, CT



Presented by:



Suggested donation: \$10. Reserve your seat at www.intempo.org

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:

Children's clothing – 0-24 months

Thanksgiving items

Winter hats for all

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



Can you knit a basic stitch? If so, please consider knitting a prayer shawl for our ministry. It will bless you and the recipient. The few stolen moments of knitting a few rows while saying a prayer to the future recipient is peaceful and uplifting, I promise.

Join us in creating these prayer shawls, knitting into them our prayers, love and support. These shawls are then distributed to those experiencing a crisis or loss – and truly are beloved. No expertise needed as we use very forgiving yarn, larger needles and one basic stitch. We meet on the 4th Wednesday of every month

(October 23 this month) at 7pm in Rick's Room of First Church. We can supply the needles and yarn.

Contact Angela Stevens for more information. angelamessinastevens@gmail.com

Hope to see you soon!



Upcoming Dates 2024

Oct. 20, 11-12:30 pm	Visioning Webinar Two
Oct. 22, 7 - 8 pm	Visioning Web Two Repeat
Oct. 23, 9:30 am	Visioning Web Two Repeat
Oct. 26, 6-8 pm	Trunk or Treat
Oct. 27, 11-12 pm	Soothing Second Hour 1
Nov. 2, 5-7 pm	Landmark Hist Celebration
Nov. 3, 11-12 pm	Soothing Second Hour 2
Nov. 10, 11-12 pm	Soothing Second Hour 3
Nov. 16, 10 - 2 pm	Futures Lab
Nov. 17, 11-12 pm	Soothing Second Hour 4
Nov. 23, 9 am-4 pm	H.O.M.E Craft Fair
Nov. 24, 10 am	Harvest Sunday, H.O.M.E.
Nov 30-December 8	Christmas Tree & Wreath Sale
9am-4pm	
Dec. 1, 11-12 pm	Advent Craft Fair
Dec. 8, 5 -7:30 pm	Christmas Party
Dec. 14, 4 -5:30 pm	Messiah
Dec. 24, 10 am, 3 pm, 6 pm, 9 pm	Christmas Eve Worship

VISIONING DATES

Creative Churches: A Virtual Tour with Convergence

Sunday, Oct 20, 11am to 12.30pm - Lounge or
Tuesday, Oct 22, 7-8pm - Lounge or
Wednesday, Oct 23, 9.30-11am - Lounge

Creative Vision Worship with Pastor Patrick

Sunday, Oct 27, 10-11am - Meetinghouse

Futures Lab with Convergence

Saturday, Nov 16, 10am to 2pm - Auditorium

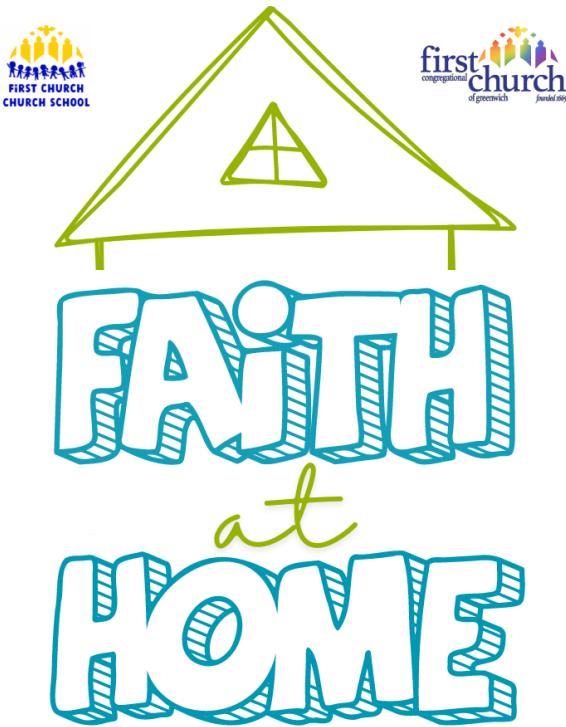
CHILDCARE AND REFRESHMENTS ARE OFFERED AT ALL SATURDAY AND SUNDAY EVENTS



Scan here to volunteer to decorate your vehicle.



Can't decorate your vehicle and want to help?

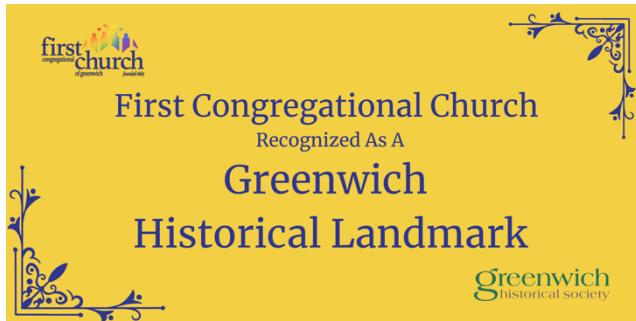


Musical Morning Routines

Come learn some of your favorite Church School songs and how to incorporate these songs into your families daily faith!

October 17th, 2024
5:00pm Dinner
5:30 - 6:30 Program
108 Sound Beach Ave

FCCOG GRANTED HISTORICAL LANDMARK STATUS



We are thrilled to announce that on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, the Greenwich Historical Society awarded FCCOG prestigious Historical Landmark Status and have presented us a plaque in commemoration of that recognition. Our official celebration will be on Saturday, November 2 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Meetinghouse and Memory Garden, with details to follow.

Congratulations to FCCOG for this important recognition, and to Debbie Silverthorn and Pat Larrabee for their 17 months of tireless work helping us to achieve this. Here is a QR code that links to the video created by the Greenwich Historical Society on the history of First Church.



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
Church Office Coordinator	Wendy Spezzano
Financial Administrator	Greg Girolamo
Administrative and Communications Colleague	Carolyn Samuel
Livestream Director	Daniel Lepoutre
Audio Technician	Bob Small
Database Administrative Assistant	Sue Wilder
PrayGround Supervisor	Amalia Samuel
Facility Manager	Julio Yika
Senior Sexton	Curtis Gay
Junior Sexton	Brandon Speight Gay
First Church Preschool Director	Beth Genovese
First Church Preschool Assistant Director	Kayla Vozzella
First Church Preschool Administrative Assistant	Melanie Garnett
Pastor Emerita	Reverend Sally Colegrove

