



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2024
TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

declares itself to be Open and Affirming (ONA); 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.

Welcome to Worship!

We welcome you this day and are glad you are here! May worship be a blessing to you.

First Church Welcomes *You.*

With Worship. A casual tone, stirring music, moving prayers, & a faith-invoking message. **Prayer Book requests** (in Narthex) are uplifted during the Prayers of the People.

With Inclusion. Open & Affirming (ONA). We make a point of meeting all and name tags worn.

With Communion. The first Sunday of each month, all ages share in the sacred meal together. We use juice & gluten-free bread!

With Care. We pass the Peace of Christ to one another. We are a mask-friendly, come-as-you-are, leave-as-a-friend community.



First Church Welcomes *Children.*

The PrayGround. In the Chapel space, guiding kids in worship.

Cherub Choir, Celebration Singers, & Genesis Choir. Children of all ages are welcome to offer music in worship!

Children's Message. A moment for kids & the child in each of us.

Church School. Faith learnings for the day continue in the Undercroft classrooms after the Children's Message.

Children's Take Home Library. Located by the PrayGround. Check out what interests you & bring it back next week!



First Church Welcomes *All.*

Sensory Sanctuary & Rocking Chairs. Focusing resources located in the back of the Meetinghouse.

Visual Worship Aids & Live captioning. Found on the monitors.

Audio Hearing Aids. To use, ask Greeters or Ushers.

Spaces in Meetinghouse for Wheelchair Users

Exterior Ramp. In the back of the Meetinghouse, driveway side.

Liftavators. Located inside, from Narthex to Auditorium Level & Outside in the Memory Garden.



Enjoy a cup of coffee, food, & fellowship at

Community Hour

after the service!

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

O Master Let Me Walk With Thee
Here O My Lord I See Thee Face To Face
Arr. James Kimball

The Silverthorn Handchime Choir, Dr. Craig Scott Symons, director

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 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.

MOMENT FOR ANNUAL GIVING

Matt & Meaghan Gruppo

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We have come to worship God, the living God,

All: Who calls prophets and teachers to bear witness.

One: We have come to praise God, the almighty God,

All: Who answers the forces of hatred and hurt with the power of grace.

One: We have come to worship God, all-gracious God,

All: Who chooses even you and me, to receive and carry the Word of life and hope.

All glory to God!

†CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

The Mighty God With Power Speaks
13 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

O Holy God, like Isaiah the prophet, we stand in awe of your glory, feeling tremendously small and out of alignment with you, and feeling the misalignment of society with your ways of love and justice. Even so, you touch us with your burning presence, and we are made anew, invited into your work where you assure us, we belong.

O God, our Creator, continue to build this household of faith into what you want us to be.

O Christ, our Savior, lead us to do as you will.

O Spirit, our Power, strengthen us for the work of the Kin-dom, as your humble servants.

Fill this place and these people with your presence, for a worship and a service that is ours today and tomorrow. 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: 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) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
F B \flat F B \flat F Gm F

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

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

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

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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

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.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 29
New International Version
Carol Woodman

Ascribe to the Lord, you heavenly beings,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
worship the Lord in the splendor of God's holiness.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the Lord thunders over the mighty waters.
The voice of the Lord is powerful;
the voice of the Lord is majestic.
The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;
the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.
He makes Lebanon leap like a calf,
Sirion like a young wild ox.
The voice of the Lord strikes
with flashes of lightning.
The voice of the Lord shakes the desert;
the Lord shakes the Desert of Kadesh.
The voice of the Lord twists the oaks
and strips the forests bare.
And in his temple all cry, "Glory!"

The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;
the Lord is enthroned as King forever.
The Lord gives strength to his people;
the Lord blesses his people with peace.

ANTHEM

In The Year King Uzziah Died
David McK. Williams (1887-1978)
The Chancel Choir

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 6:1-8
Common English Bible

In the year of King Uzziah's death, I saw the Lord sitting on a high and exalted throne, the edges of his robe filling the temple. Winged creatures were stationed around him. Each had six wings: with two they veiled their faces, with two their feet, and with two they flew about. They shouted to each other, saying:

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of heavenly forces!
All the earth is filled with God's glory!"

The doorframe shook at the sound of their shouting, and the house was filled with smoke.

I said, "Mourn for me; I'm ruined! I'm a man with unclean lips, and I live among a people with unclean lips. Yet I've seen the king, the Lord of heavenly forces!"

Then one of the winged creatures flew to me, holding a glowing coal that he had taken from the altar with tongs. He touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips. Your guilt has departed, and your sin is removed."

Then I heard the Lord's voice saying, "Whom should I send, and who will go for us?"

I said, "Here am I; send me."

MESSAGE

Burning
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

†HYMN

Let's Sing Unto The Lord
669 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

Steve Weigner

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.

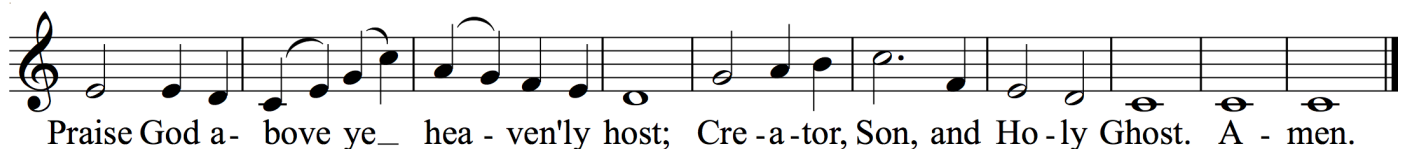


OFFERTORY ANTHEM

I Want Jesus To Walk With Me
Anna Laura Page (b. 1943)
The Silverthorn Handchime Choir

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow



†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

† Please rise in body or in spirit

†HYMN

All With Joyful Exultation
798 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL RESPONSE

†POSTLUDE

Psalm 18
Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

† Please rise in body or in spirit

All music used with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726454. All rights reserved.

COMMUNITY HOUR

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

CHURCH SCHOOL

Nov 24 – Harvest Sunday – All Ages Worship

Dec 1 – All Ages Worship



THE 2025 ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

As of Nov. 13, we have received 41 pledges for over \$222,711 and are at 34% of our goal of \$650,000 for 2025. Click on the QR code on the right for instructions on how to pledge online.



DID YOU KNOW?

If you wish to schedule your giving for 2025 in weekly, monthly, or other ways, First Church has the capability of auto-payments from your bank account or credit card! Please use the QR code on the right to access the church's ACS system and enter the necessary information. If you have any questions, please contact Greg Giralamo at the church office or Philip Wentworth at 203-992-9500.



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.

TODAY – FINAL SOOTHING 2ND HOUR
GUIDED MEDITATION WITH
DEREK KOLLEENY IN THE AUDITORIUM @ 11:15

Derek began the practice and study of Buddhism in 1976 and soon became a student of Chögyam Trungpa Rinpoche, who was a Tibetan meditation master, scholar, and teacher who interpreted Buddhism for Western lifestyles and minds, attending his first of many Naropa Institute summer sessions in 1977. Derek earned a B.A. from Harvard College in the Comparative Study of World Religions, focused on Buddhism, including study of Sanskrit and Tibetan languages. In 1987 he moved to NYC and earned an MBA from Columbia Business School in 1989. Since then, he has served as CFO for various companies and not-for-profit organizations for almost 25 years.



As a teacher at the Westchester Meditation Society, Derek emphasizes the qualities of experiential Buddhism, which develops as meditation practice deepens and filters into one's daily life. No religious prescription to Buddhism is necessary to practice mindfulness and meditation.

Guided meditation as a practice can help reduce psychological stress. It also helps with improved sleep, anxiety control, increased patience, improved physical health and memory, and increased happiness.

MEDICARE PART D PRESCRIPTION DRUG INSURANCE

Open enrollment for Medicare Part D prescription drug insurance ends December 7. The plan you have now may not be the most cost-effective plan next year. It is wise to review your options annually. Help deciphering the choices is available from your Parish Nurse here at First Church or through the Town of Greenwich. Personal counseling sessions include Internet navigation and comparison of plans. For an appointment with your parish nurse, call Sue Asselin at church extension 821 or email susana@fccog.org.



For an appointment with a Town of Greenwich counselor, call the Commission on Aging office at 203-862- 6707 or sign up on line at <https://www.greenwichct.gov/1785/Medicare-Insurance-Counseling>

PHOTOGRAPHERS NEEDED



Do you enjoy taking pictures? As we enter the holiday season, there are lots of opportunities to capture the events in the life of First Church for our publications/social media and historical archives. If you have a smartphone, that's all you need. The church has a regular camera to use if you prefer that. Let Craig Symons know if you're interested in helping out.



WIRED WORD BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES!

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.

THE GIVING TREE



The Giving Tree for H.O.M.E. and Pilgrim Towers is underway, and is displayed with any remaining Christmas gift tags today. You may also make your selections online via Sign Up Genius by scanning the QR code.

All gifts should be returned to the stage in the auditorium before or after the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, November 24, or to the Harvest Sunday drive-by drop off on Sunday November 24 between 11.15 a.m. – 12.15 p.m.

Thank you in advance for making a holiday wish come true for a client of H.O.M.E in Orland, ME or a resident of Pilgrim Towers in Stamford, CT.



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 again this **Wednesday November 20 at 7p.m. 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!

H.O.M.E. CRAFT FAIR

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 on **Saturday, November 23 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, November 24 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** All proceeds will benefit the H.O.M.E. community in Orland, Maine.

(Helpful hint – tear the last page off from this bulletin and hand it to friends and family. Encourage them to shop at the craft fair!)



PRE-SALE PARTY

All First Church Members are welcome to join us for a special pre-sale event on **Friday, November 22 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.** with light refreshments & nibbles. Come stock up on all of your favorite treats and crafts before the sale opens to the public and spend some time with our friends from H.O.M.E.

CELEBRATE HARVEST SUNDAY NOVEMBER 24

DONATE SHELF STABLE FOOD FOR NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR AND H.O.M.E.

We will also hold our traditional collection of shelf stable food during the 10 a.m. service on Harvest Sunday, November 24. Shopping bags will be available in the Meetinghouse today.

If you prefer, food may also be delivered to the drive-by drop off on Sunday, November 24 from 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. in the church parking lot.

Suggested food: Canned Meats, Peanut Butter and Jelly, Pasta and Sauce, Oatmeal, Rice, Beans, Canned Vegetables, Coffee, Tea

DONATE FRESH FOOD FOR NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR



Use the online option to shop for fresh food donations from the comfort of your home. The fresh selections will be delivered for free to Neighbor to Neighbor. Scan the QR code to shop at GiveHealthy.org for fresh food donations requested by Neighbor to Neighbor.

HARVEST SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS - SIGN UPS NOW OPEN



Sign up to help receive donations at the drive by drop off on Harvest Sunday, November 24. The one-hour shift is short but the benefit to N2N and H.O.M.E. is long lasting!

58TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE & WREATH SALE VOLUNTEER SIGN UPS NOW OPEN



The 2024 Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale begins on Saturday, November 30th and runs through Sunday, December 8. Volunteers are the KEY to the success of the sale, which raised over \$50,000 for local charities last year. It is also a wonderful introduction to First Church for new residents in the community.

There are jobs for ALL volunteers - welcoming greeters, cashiers, and salespeople. Please sign up.

Help us help those in need and make First Church shine!





First Church, Old Greenwich
106 Sound Beach Ave
Auditorium

H.O.M.E. CRAFT FAIR

Gifts, Toys,
Homewares,
Food
Preserves,
& more!

NOV 23rd: 9AM - 4PM

NOV 24th: 11AM - 1PM

Benefitting H.O.M.E.'s many
programs for housing, food,
clothing, hygiene, and more.

More Info:

First Church: 203-637-1791
www.homemmausa.org

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

Livestream Director

Audio Technician

Database Administrative Assistant

PrayGround Supervisor

Facility Manager

Senior Sexton

First Church Preschool Director

First Church 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

Daniel Lepoutre

Bob Small

Sue Wilder

Amalia Samuel

Julio Yika

Curtis Gay

Beth Genovese

Melanie Garnett

Reverend Sally Colegrove



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all