



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024
SECOND 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 **FCCCOG 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

Forty Days And Forty Nights
Willem Mudde (1909-1984)
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 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: Come, and praise God! In the company of the God's people, let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: Great are the works of God, full of glory and majesty.
One: Our God is gracious and compassionate.
All: Our God is merciful and forgiving.
One: Our God is faithful and trustworthy.
All: Our God is just and good.
One: So come, let's worship God together.
All: God's praise will last forever!

CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

Great Is Thy Faithfulness
39 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

We pray for forgiveness this day. For choosing power over service, forgive us. For seeking glory rather than humility, forgive us. For pushing ourselves to the front, when our presence is needed on the sidelines, forgive us. Help us know where we are needed and how best to serve you and your people. Guide us to your side, that we might be your hands of healing and compassion for a world in need. In Christ's name, we pray. 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)

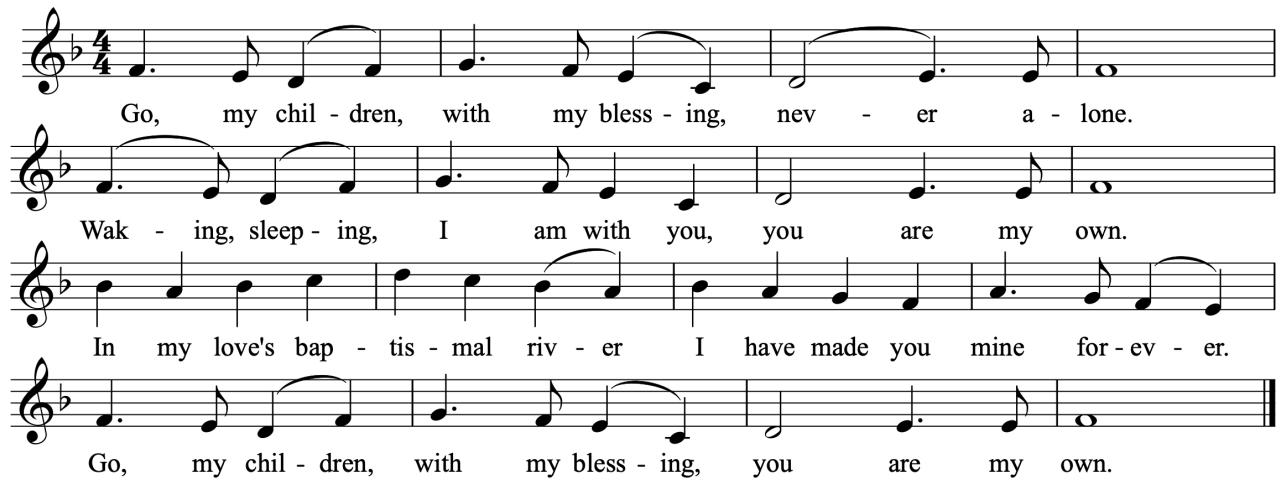
I've Got Peace Like A River (1st verse only)
623 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

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 children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine for ever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

FIRST LESSON

Mark 10: 32-45
Common English Bible
Peggy Whitlock

Jesus and his disciples were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, with Jesus in the lead. The disciples were amazed while the others following behind were afraid. Taking the Twelve aside again, he told them what was about to happen to him. "Look!" he said. "We're going up to Jerusalem. The Human One will be handed over to the chief priests and the legal experts. They will condemn him to death and hand him over to the Gentiles. They will ridicule him, spit on him, torture him, and kill him. After three days, he will rise up.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

James and John, Zebedee's sons, came to Jesus and said, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask."

"What do you want me to do for you?" he asked.

They said, "Allow one of us to sit on your right and the other on your left when you enter your glory."

Jesus replied, "You don't know what you're asking! Can you drink the cup I drink or receive the baptism I receive?"

"We can," they answered.

Jesus said, "You will drink the cup I drink and receive the baptism I receive, but to sit at my right or left hand isn't mine to give. It belongs to those for whom it has been prepared."

Now when the other ten disciples heard about this, they became angry with James and John. Jesus called them over and said, "You know that the ones who are considered the rulers by the Gentiles show off their authority over them and their high-ranking officials order them around. But that's not the way it will be with you. Whoever wants to be great among you will be your servant. Whoever wants to be first among you will be the slave of all, for the Human One didn't come to be served but rather to serve and to give his life to liberate many people."

ANTHEM

O For A Closer Walk
Myles Foster (1851-1922)
The Chancel Choir
Carol Woodman, soprano

SECOND LESSON

Mark 10: 46-52
Common English Bible

Jesus and his followers came into Jericho. As Jesus was leaving Jericho, together with his disciples and a sizable crowd, a blind beggar named Bartimaeus, Timaeus' son, was sitting beside the road. When he heard that Jesus of Nazareth was there, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, show me mercy!" Many scolded him, telling him to be quiet, but he shouted even louder, "Son of David, show me mercy!"

Jesus stopped and said, "Call him forward."

They called the blind man, "Be encouraged! Get up! He's calling you."

Throwing his coat to the side, he jumped up and came to Jesus.

Jesus asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?”

The blind man said, “Teacher, I want to see.”

Jesus said, “Go, your faith has healed you.” At once he was able to see, and he began to follow Jesus on the way.

MESSAGE

What Do You Want?

Reverend Patrick Collins

†HYMN

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

166 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

Mariann Ekernas

OFFERTORY SOLO

The Lord Is My Light

Francis Allitsen (1848-1912)

Thomas Woodman, baritone

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

606 Glory to God Hymnal (purple)

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†HYMN

I Hear The Voice Of Jesus Say

182 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†BENEDICTION

†Please rise in body or in spirit

†CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Shalom To You



Sha-lom to you, now, sha-lom my friends. May God's full
mer-cies bless you my friends. In all your liv-ing
and through your lov-ing Christ be your sha-lom, Christ be your sha-lom.

†POSTLUDE

Voluntary

John Stanley (1712-1786)

†Please rise in body or in spirit

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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 25: Regular Church School
Mar 3: All-Ages Worship (w/communion)
Mar 10: Regular Church School



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



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

Free admission

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

FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

THE AMEN EFFECT

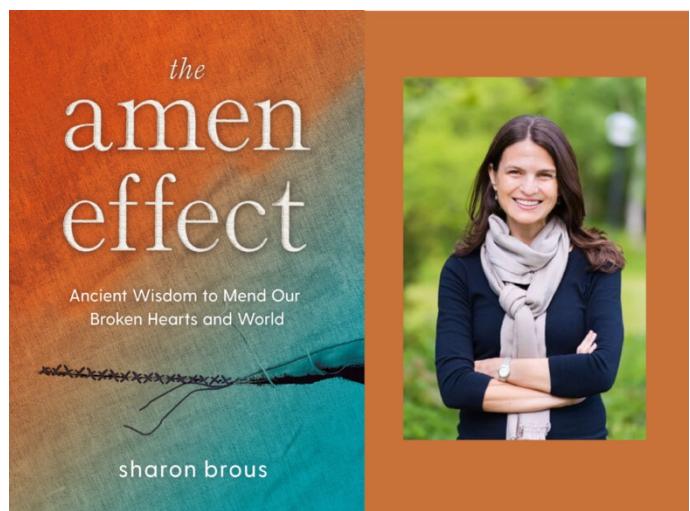
Wednesdays through March 20th

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 two of the Amen Effect reflects on how we as human beings are hardwired for connection. From a spiritual standpoint, we are meant to love dialogically. The gift that God gave humanity from the start was the gift of one another. We have a fundamental human need to be seen as we truly are, which makes social connection not a luxury, but a necessity. I hope you can join us next week as we explore chapter two.

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 **Wired** WORD

An Adult Curriculum

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



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 24, Palm Sunday,
10:00 a.m. Palm Procession and All - Ages Worship

Thursday, March 28, Maundy Thursday
6:00 p.m. Dinner/Communion in Auditorium
7:00 p.m. Service of Tenebrae with Foot Washing

Friday, March 29, Good Friday
Vacation Bible School 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Greenwich YMCA

Community Cross Walk
12:30 p.m.

Combined Good Friday Service
7:30 p.m. at First Congregational Church

Saturday, March 30
Egg Dyeing & Egg Hunt
10:00 a.m. Egg Dyeing
10:30 a.m. 1st Egg Hunt 11:30 a.m. 2nd Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday
Sunday, March 31
6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service - Greenwich Point
9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Festival Easter Services - Meetinghouse



2024 LENTEN OFFERING AND LENTEN PROJECT RISE AGAINST HUNGER MEAL PACKING EVENT SUNDAY APRIL 28 AT 10AM

Feed the hungry and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as the noon.

Isaiah 58:10

Our Lenten Offering this year will underwrite one of First Church's favorite events... the meal packing event for Rise Against Hunger!

We will pack 20,000 meals to support Rise Against Hunger's simple vision of a world without hunger. Rise Against Hunger distributes meals in 38 countries to schools, health clinics and communities hit by disaster. The meals help keep children in school and aid communities in the short term as they develop long term food security.

Please join us for a fun, energized, music filled morning when we will experience the joy of working together to help the least among us!



No need to register.

Families are welcome.

Bring friends to show them First Church in action!



We will be underwriting the cost of the 20,000 meals as our Lenten Offering this year.

See below to help.



Baseball hats are welcome instead of a hairnet; no bracelets or rings other than wedding bands.... we don't want you to lose anything!



Please consider a Lenten Gift toward underwriting the cost of meals - every donation makes a difference!

[You may donate here.](#)

(Select Rise Against Hunger as the donation category)

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

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE: LABYRINTH

Walking Labyrinths, and their more contemporary variety, Finger Labyrinths, encourage listening to God through focused rest.

During the service, or any time, breathe deeply and gently pray, “I place myself in your presence, O God.”

Trace your finger along the winding path, pausing in the center with openness to receive God's love.

When ready,
retrace the path outward.

Remember, Jesus is with you every step of the way, asking you what it is you want. You are never alone.



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

Parish Nurse

Church Office Coordinator

Financial Administrator

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

Susan Asselin, RN

Wendy Spezzano

Greg Girolamo

Daniel Lepoutre

Bob Small

Sue Wilder

Julio Yika

Curtis Gay

Beth Genovese

Kayla Vozzella

Karina Germosen

Reverend Sally Colegrove



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OF CHRIST
a just world for all