

SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024
EASTER SUNDAY
9 AM & 11 AM



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.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Overture (from Water Music)
G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

Organ, Brass, Percussion, Dr. Craig Scott Symons, director

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Patrick Collins

INTROIT

Introit For Easter
Mark Schweizer (1956-2019)
The Chancel Choir

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The tomb is dark, but empty
All: The one you are looking for has overcome the darkness
One: The stone has been rolled away
All: The one you are looking for has overcome death
One: The burial clothes are put aside
All: The one you are looking for is alive!
One: Christ is Risen!
All: Christ is Risen Indeed! Let us worship our Risen Savior!

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Christ The Lord Is Risen Today
Arr. William Bradley Roberts (b. 1947)

Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia! Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once He died our souls to save, Alleluia! Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids His rise, Alleluia! Christ hath opened paradise, Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ hath led, Alleluia! Foll'wing our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

† Please rise when directed

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

We serve a risen Savior yet live as if in chains. Forgive us, God that we are so hesitant to live the resurrection life. Forgive us that we fail to show through word and action the truth that you loved us into life through the glorious mystery of the cross. Forgive us that there is still fear in our lives that prevents us from achieving our full potential. Draw us close. Open our eyes to the glory of the risen Christ, our hearts to the wonder of the empty tomb and our hands to the service of living into the resurrection wherever you have placed us, that your name might be glorified through our lives. 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)

Halle, Hallelujah



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(During the response, the children will 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 forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”*

† Please rise in body or in spirit

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
New Revised Standard Version
Carol Woodman (9 a.m.)
Juliet Primo (11 a.m.)

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

The Lord is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;
the right hand of the Lord is exalted;
the right hand of the Lord does valiantly."

I shall not die, but I shall live
and recount the deeds of the Lord.

The Lord has punished me severely,
but he did not give me over to death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

ANTHEM

Alleluia, Amen!
Thomas Norris (1741 - 1790)
Arr. James Kirkby (b. 1949)

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 16:1-8
Common English Bible

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they could go and anoint Jesus' dead body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they came to the tomb. They were saying to each other, "Who's going to roll the stone away from the entrance for us?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away. (And it was a very large stone!) Going into the tomb, they saw a young man in a white robe seated on the right side; and they were startled. But he said to them, "Don't be alarmed! You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised. He isn't here. Look, here's the place where they laid him. Go, tell his disciples, especially Peter, that he is going ahead of you into Galilee. You will see him there, just as he told you." Overcome with terror and amazement, they fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone because they were afraid.

MESSAGE

Live Your Story
Reverend Patrick Collins

HYMN

Crown Him With Many Crowns
Arr. Mark Schweizer

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!

Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time;
creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

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

Clem Lepoutre

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Christ Our Passover
Will C. Macfarlane (1870-1945)

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below: Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†HYMN

Thine Is The Glory
Arr. Mark Schweizer

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

Refrain:

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting. (Refrain)

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. (Refrain)

†BENEDICTION

†EASTER RESPONSE

Hallelujah Chorus

G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

Congregation, Choir

Music can be found in the rack under the seat in front of you.

Sing with your whole being!

Please return music to the rack after use.

POSTLUDE

Easter Fanfare

Kevin Hildebrand (b. 1973)

† Please rise in body or in spirit

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ORGAN, BRASS, PERCUSSION

Organ: William Roslak

Trumpets: Anthony Gorusso, Jim Cifelli

French Horn: Debbie Schmidt

Trombones: Steve Shulman, Cliff Haynes

Percussion: Barbara Freedman



INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT JOINING FIRST CHURCH?

Our next New Member Class will be held on
Sunday, April 14th at 11:15 a.m. in the Lounge
and a second opportunity on

Wednesday, April 24th at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium.

The first session will last approximately 45 minutes. During the class, prospective new members will have the opportunity to hear about the history and faith of our denomination, the United Church of Christ, and our church. The second session will allow everyone the opportunity to meet the leadership of the Church Council and learn more about how to get involved with the church.

Attending the class does not obligate you to join, but we hope that this time together will strengthen you on the journey of faith. New members will then be received on Sunday, April 28th. Please feel welcome to join us. If you are planning to attend, or you have questions, please contact Rev. Patrick Collins.



CHURCH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

- Mar 31: All-Ages Worship – Easter Sunday 9 & 11 a.m.
- Apr 7, 14, 21: Regular Church School



2024 LENTEN OFFERING SUPPORTING RISE AGAINST HUNGER

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 most important events... meal packing for Rise Against Hunger on Sunday, April 28 at 10 a.m. Please consider a Lenten Gift toward underwriting the cost of meals - every donation makes a difference to those that are hungry!

THE RUMMAGE ROOM

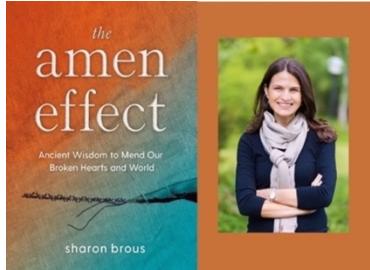
Shopping hours are Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m., with the same hours for donation drop off.

Needs this week are:

Summer shoes
Men's business shirts
Jewelry



FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES



THE AMEN EFFECT

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

Join us on Wednesday, April 3 as we discuss chapter 6, which reflects on the importance of taking care of those in our community who provide healing, comfort, and care to those in need.

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.





JUNIOR/SENIOR/COLLEGE PILGRIM REUNION

Calling all alumni of the JPF/SPF/CPF and Advisors. We invite all past members of these fellowships and their families for a reunion on **Saturday July 20, 2024** at FCCOG. Please join us for a dinner between 5-9 p.m. in the Auditorium to cherish past memories and rekindle old friendships. Be on the lookout for future links to RSVP. Spread the word.

FINAL PERFORMANCES IN FIRST MUSIC & ARTS CONCERT SERIES



Ensemble BREVE -

The Magic of the German Baroque -

Telemann, Bach, & Handel

Sunday, April 7, 2024 - 4 p.m.

Deborah Booth, recorder - Jeremy Rhizor, violin

Lisa Terry, viola da gamba/baroque cello - Stephen Rapp, harpsichord Free-will offering received.



Pavlo Gintov, piano

Sunday, May 5, 2024 - 4 p.m.



Ukrainian-born pianist Pavlo Gintov brings his fiery energy to the Steinway piano in the First Church Auditorium. Free-will offering received.

MUSIC SUNDAY MAY 5 10 A.M.



Join us for the annual celebration of our Music Ministry at First Church. All of the vocal and handbell ensembles will present inspiring pieces for our theme "What A Fellowship". This is one of our special days throughout the season to invite your friends and neighbors to come with you and experience all that our community of faith has to offer. As always, our Community Hour after worship will feature some extra goodies as we continue building relationships with each other.

VISIONING TASK FORCE SURVEY ANNOUNCEMENT

Recently the Church Council established a Visioning Task Force. Our purpose is to form a vision for our future by broadening our programs and offerings to church members and the community at large. For this, we have enlisted the assistance of an outside consultant.

We will be reaching out to all of you to share your feedback through a short survey to learn about what is it you value about FCCOG? What more can we create that instills the value of belonging to our church community and leaves our young families with cherished memories and a desire to always be involved in church life.

In the coming weeks, we will be sending via email a link to our Congregational Survey. If you receive our Friday e-blasts you will receive this link. If you wish to add yourself to our contact list please use the QR code or link listed in your bulletin. We look for your input to help us build our shared vision for the future.



EASTER FLOWER & BRASS DONATIONS

List reflects donations received through 12 p.m., Wednesday, March 27, 2024

GIVEN BY

Cyndy & Ty Anderson
Shawn & Susan Asselin

Sue Hout Baker, Sara, Charlie, Liz
Lois Berlin & Family

Arthur & Wynne Delmhorst
Their Family
Her Family
Jane Finch
Cindy Fong
Erlinda & Larry Haviland

Lynn & Ed Hawhurst
R. B. Hopkins, J. A. Hopkins, &
J. L. Wilson Families
Diane & Paul Kretschmann
Betsy Kreuter & Eric Kreuter family

Eric Kreuter Family
His Family
The Meyer & Dayton Families
Christopher A. Mill
The Moore Family
Ken & Erna Olson
Karen & Paul Pacent & Nicole Pacent-Lindquist

Karen Pacent & Nicole Pacent-Lindquist

Robin DuCharme Pastore

Carolyn Paulus, Stephanie Woodman &
Gillian Woodman
Their Family

Heather, Jeffrey, Ainsley,
Tommy, Maya Sahrbeck
Linnea Stenberg
Mary M. Webster
Stephen & Ronald Weigner, sons
Thomas, Leighton, & Owen White

IN HONOR/MEMORY OF

Our parents & grandparents
Our sister Donna Bartosz
Brother Wayne Asselin
Mother Audrey Bovard
Marian & Fred Hout
My husband, Marty
My parents, Sam & Alice Yee

Anne, Bill & Sue Denne
Joan Denne
Paul Hudson & George Finch
Selina Clive, beloved sister and aunt
Our parents - Purisima & Feliciano Teria
Louise & Richard Haviland
Harry Woodman & Rick Woodman
Richmond B. Hopkins

Margaret (Marge) Speidel
Joan & Jim Kreuter
Charlie & Bill Robertson
Betty & John Briggs
Roger A. Lepoutre
Jan Meyer - we miss you so much!

Earl S. Moore Jr.
Emily & Julie Hasler
Kimberly Dawn Pacent,
Our cherished daughter & sister
Phyllis & John Kimball,
loving parents & grandparents
Jo & Waldo DuCharme
Joanna & Richard Pastore
Elisabeth Seley Wold
Rick Woodman, Harry Woodman, & Bob Osker

Melita & John Magness
Diane, Erling, & Dana Andersen
My Mother, Connie Stack

Jeannette & Lars Stenberg
William Webster
Catherine G. Weigner & Arthur C. Weigner
Marian F. Warren
Peter & Lori White

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

Senior Sexton

Junior 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

Brandon Speight Gay

Beth Genovese

Kayla Vozzella

Karina Germosen

Reverend Sally Colegrove



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all