



SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MUSIC SUNDAY
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.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

Please know our worshipping community gathers in-person and online via livestream
with multiple camera angles of the Meetinghouse and congregation.

PRELUDE

Two Hymn Tunes:

Le P'ing

Land Of Rest

Anne Krentz Organ (b.1960)

The Palmer Handbell Choir

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, piano

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rainbow Song

The Cherub Choir

Carol Woodman, director

Lynn Hawkhurst, ukulele

Carolyn Paulus, piano

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O Lord, open our lips,

All: **and our mouth will proclaim your praise.**

One: It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High,

All: **to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night.**

One: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

All: **Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.**

Psalm 92:1-2; 95:1-2

†HYMN

When In Our Music God Is Glorified

1 When in our music God is glo - ri - fied,
 2 How of - ten, mak - ing mu - sic, we have found
 3 So has the church, in lit - ur - gy and song,
 4 And did not Je - sus sing a psalm that night
 5 Let ev - ery in - stru - ment be tuned for praise!

and ad - o - ra - tion leaves no room for pride,
 a new di - men - sion in the world of sound,
 in faith and love, through cen - tu - ries of wrong,
 when ut - most e - vil strove a - gainst the light?
 Let all re - joice who have a voice to raise!

it is as though the whole cre - a - tion cried:
 as wor - ship moved us to a more pro - found
 borne wit - ness to the truth in ev - ery tongue:
 Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:
 And may God give us faith to sing al - ways:

1-4 Al - le - lu - ia!
 5 Al - le - lu - ia!

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

Lord, you have called us to worship you. We gladly gather! As we praise you, though, our own inadequacy reminds us of how we have broken our relationship with you. Because we have sinned against you, even our worship fails to be what it could. We often treat it as a show. We simply go through motions, failing to recognize that you want to engage us deeply. Renew us according to your steadfast love. Remind us of your covenant faithfulness and have mercy on us, in the name of Jesus Christ. 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)

Halle, Hallelujah



Halle, halle, hal - le - lu - jah! Halle, halle, hal - le - lu - jah!

Halle, halle, hal - le - lu - jah! Halle - lu-jah! Hal-le - lu - jah!

ANTHEM

Small Deeds

John Horman (b. 1946)

The Celebration Singers

Vance Briceland, piano

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 5:1-2, 8-14, 19-20

New International Version

Juliet Primo Lee

Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. This is why it is said:

“Wake up, sleeper,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

ANTHEM

A Gaelic Blessing
John Rutter (b. 1945)
The Genesis Choir
Daniel Young, director
Matt Stolfi, piano

REFLECTION

Everything That Has Breath Ought To Praise Him
Dr. Craig Scott Symons

OFFERING FOR ROYALTIES FOR SPIRITUALS

SOLO

Hush! Hush! Somebody's Callin' My Name
Andrew Barnes Jamieson, piano

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

Karen Yancey

MESSAGE IN SONG

Gospel Mass
Robert Ray (1946-2022)
The Chancel Choir
Andrews Barnes Jamieson, piano -Tod Hedrick, bass - Sean Charles, drums

Kyrie – Lord have mercy
Daniel Young, tenor

Gloria – Glory to God in the highest
Linnea Conley, mezzo soprano – Hanna Golodinskii, soprano

Credo – I believe in God
Thomas Woodman, baritone – Julianna Laicher, soprano

Acclamation – Hallelujah praise the Lord

Sanctus – Holy, holy Lord God of hosts
Daniel Young, tenor

Agnus Dei – Lamb of God
Carol Woodman, soprano

†HYMN

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

1 I'm gon-na live so (live so)
2 I'm gon-na work so (work so)
3 I'm gon-na pray so (pray so) God can use me an - y -
4 I'm gon-na sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, an - y - time! (an - y - time!) I'm gon-na I'm gon-na I'm gon-na I'm gon-na

live so (live so) work so (work so) pray so (pray so) sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, (my Lord,) an - y - time! (an - y - time!)

†BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE

† Please rise in body or in spirit

Join us for our annual Music Sunday Community Hour in the Memory Garden (weather permitting) or the Auditorium where you can greet one another, enjoy berries, croissants, whipped cream, and coffee and water. Hosts for today are members of the First Church Music Ministry.



CHURCH SCHOOL



Church School

May 25 One-Room - Undercroft



ALL AGES WORSHIP (AAW)

AAW is a Sunday morning experience for the whole family of faith to sing, pray, hear stories and partake in communion together!

May 18 - Music Sunday

June 8 - Confirmation Sunday

June 15 - Celebration Sunday

Kids and Youth can sign up to read. Scan QR code to the right

CONGRATULATIONS, KHALEIGH!!



On May 8th, our very own Khaleigh Laicher graduated from the first cohort of the Certificate in Youth Ministry Leadership Program through the Yale Youth Ministry Institute at Yale Divinity School. The program is the first of its kind, aimed at supporting youth ministry leaders through an academic and practical primer on the themes relevant to leading resilient, healthy, theologically rooted youth ministries. Designed with youth pastors, committed volunteers, part-time workers, and laypeople in mind, the group read important literature and heard from the nation's leading scholars about three key topics: 1. Leadership Theory in Church Organizations, 2. Theological and Spiritual Care for Youth (with a focus on mental health), and 3. Empowerment, Liberation, and Justice Work with Youth. Congratulations to Khaleigh for maintaining a 4.0 GPA throughout the program, on top of all the amazing work she does for the children of our church and for the youth in our wider community! Please send her your congratulations in an email, a card, or in person!

ROYALTIES FOR SPIRITUALS



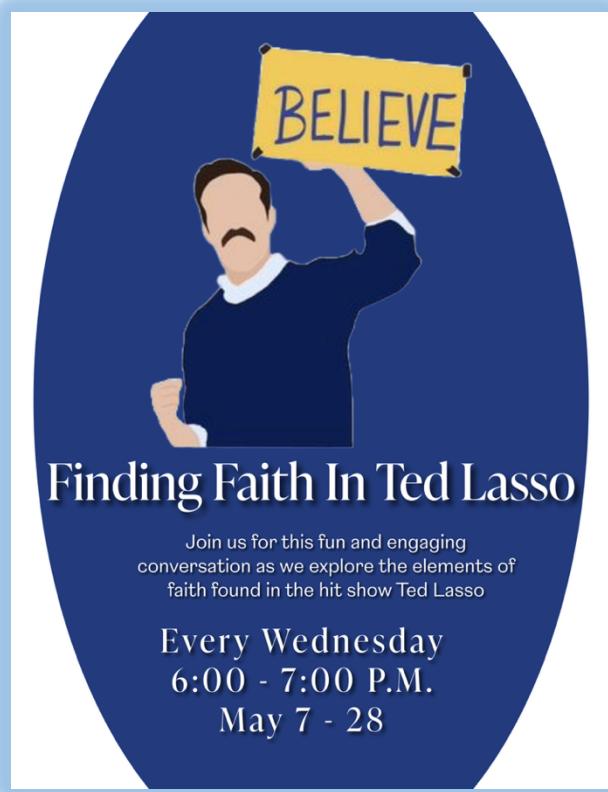
A nationwide movement has developed over the past several years to recognize that spirituals/gospel songs are the creative product of a people whose work was never compensated. The need to rectify this injustice has become apparent. The creators of a genre of American song now recognized as classic were never paid royalties for their work. We have enjoyed spirituals in our hymnals, instrumental and vocal arrangements, and have listened to them in concerts for decades without just compensation. The time has come to recognize this injustice and to pay it forward in the form of "royalties." Though we can no longer compensate the original composers, we can pay back our debt as close to the original source as possible. Use the QR code to donate online and choose Royalties for Spirituals in the pull-down menu.

FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES



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:

- Baby through to 8-year-old boys and girls clothing
- Jewelry
- Ladies spring/summer handbags



BEACH SERVICES COMING SOON!

Our annual beach services at Greenwich Point will be returning Sunday, June 15 at 8 a.m. Bring your beach chair, or blanket, and bask in the beauty of sunshine, waves lapping at the shore and offering worship to the God that made us and the earth. Passes are not necessary to get in Greenwich Point – just tell the gatekeeper you're there for First Church worship. Dates for the summer are:

June 15, 22, July 13, 20, 27, August 3, 10, and 17.

LOST AND FOUND



Over the last few months, there are several coats in the Meetinghouse coat room that have lost their owners! Do these coats look familiar to you or someone you know? Stop by the coat room and pick them up. If they aren't claimed by the end of May, they will be donated to the Rummage Room.

JOIN THE SUMMER CHOIR!



All are welcome to join the Summer Choir on Sunday mornings throughout the summer at 9:00 a.m. in the Meetinghouse for a warm-up and rehearsal of the music being sung that day. Head to the 3rd floor, outside the choir room, to pick up the anthem, bulletin, and a folder, then meet downstairs in the choir loft.

Come any Sunday that you are available to help lead the congregation in worship. It also gives you a chance to experience worship from the choir loft. Everyone is welcome – no robes will be worn! If you have any questions, please contact Craig Symons (ext. 822).

QUILT RAFFLE WINNER



Nanette Laffan, winner of the Women's Fellowship Raffle, with Betsy Kreuter, head of Kettle Quilters.





Upcoming Events

Confirmation Sunday - June 8

We celebrate and honor the year-long dedication of our confirmants as they publicly declare their faith with the First Church community.

Interfaith Pride Service - June 10

Gather at St. Paul's Church in Riverside for our 2nd Annual Interfaith Pride Tuesday, June 10 at 6:30 p.m.

Beach Services begin - June 15

Our Summer Beach Services start today at 8 a.m. at Greenwich Point Park. No passes are necessary - simply tell the gatekeeper you're attending First Congregational service. Remaining dates are June 22, July 13, 20, 27, August 3, 10, 17.

Celebration Sunday - June 15

This day features our youngest in the church as they conclude another exciting year of Church School activities.

Annual Meeting - Sunday June 22

Attend this important gathering following worship as we hear reports and watch a special video highlighting the activities of the past year.

Open And Affirming Sunday - June 29

Each year we celebrate our church's Open & Affirming designation achieved in 2003 and re-affirm and re-commit to the inclusion of all people as beloved children of God, regardless of matters like age, race, gender, and sexual orientation.

See the full Church Calendar for all upcoming events
www.fccog.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	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
Livestream Director	Daniel Lepoutre
Audio Technician	Bob Small
Database Administrative Assistant	Sue Wilder
Facility Manager	Julio Yika
Sexton	Curtis Gay
Sexton	Jose Jolon
First Church Preschool Director	Beth Genovese
First Church Preschool Assistant Director	Melanie Garnett
Pastor Emerita	Reverend Sally Colegrove



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all