



SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2025  
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
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

*Prelude*

Everett Titcomb (1884-1968)  
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

## CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

## †CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In the hearing of the gospel,  
All: **we encounter God's extravagant love for us**  
One: In the community of God's people,  
All: **we encounter the Holy Spirit's persistence with us.**  
One: In our response of faithful living,  
All: **we encounter the ongoing daily faithfulness of Christ.**  
One: In our worship,  
All: **we will meet God here.**

## CHORAL INTROIT

## †HYMN

*God, How Can We Forgive*  
445 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

## †PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

You are always at work among us, O God, and we see your power creating and re-creating. We thank you for grace that is not just a one-time gift, but an everyday reality in which we live. You write your word on our hearts, you reveal yourself in the beautiful and the mundane, now empower our faith by your faithfulness, that we may know ourselves first by your love, and that others may know us by our love. We ask in the name of the Living Word, Jesus the Christ. 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: May the peace of Christ be with all of you.  
All: **And also with you.**

† Please rise in body or in spirit

†RESPONSE (remain standing)

*Halle, Hallelujah*



## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

RESPONSE

*Jesus Loves Me*

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

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

## FIRST LESSON

*Isaiah 43:14-21*

Common English Bible  
Carol Woodman

The Lord your redeemer,  
the holy one of Israel, says,  
For your sake, I have sent an army to Babylon,  
and brought down all the bars,  
turning the Chaldeans' singing into a lament.  
I am the Lord, your holy one,  
Israel's creator, your king!  
The Lord says—who makes a way in the sea  
and a path in the mighty waters,  
who brings out chariot and horse,  
army and battalion;  
they will lie down together and will not rise;  
they will be extinguished, extinguished like a wick.  
Don't remember the prior things;  
don't ponder ancient history.  
Look! I'm doing a new thing; now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it?  
I'm making a way in the desert, paths in the wilderness.

† Please rise in body or in spirit



The beasts of the field,  
the jackals and ostriches, will honor me,  
because I have put water in the desert  
and streams in the wilderness  
to give water to my people,  
my chosen ones,  
this people whom I formed for myself,  
who will recount my praise.

## ANTHEM

*Cast Thy Burden Upon The Lord*  
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Hanna Golodinskii, Linnea Conley, Daniel Young, Thomas Woodman

## SECOND LESSON

*Galatians 3:1-9, 23-29*  
Common English Bible

You irrational Galatians! Who put a spell on you? Jesus Christ was put on display as crucified before your eyes! I just want to know this from you: Did you receive the Spirit by doing the works of the Law or by believing what you heard? Are you so irrational? After you started with the Spirit, are you now finishing up with your own human effort? Did you experience so much for nothing? I wonder if it really was for nothing. So does the one providing you with the Spirit and working miracles among you do this by you doing the works of the Law or by you believing what you heard?

Understand that in the same way that Abraham *believed God and it was credited to him as righteousness*, those who believe are the children of Abraham. But when it saw ahead of time that God would make the Gentiles righteous on the basis of faith, scripture preached the gospel in advance to Abraham: *All the Gentiles will be blessed in you*. Therefore, those who believe are blessed together with Abraham who believed.

Before faith came, we were guarded under the Law, locked up until faith that was coming would be revealed, so that the Law became our custodian until Christ so that we might be made righteous by faith.

But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a custodian.

You are all God's children through faith in Christ Jesus. All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek; there is neither slave nor free; nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. Now if you belong to Christ, then indeed you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to the promise.

## MESSAGE

*Movement, Motion, and Possibilities*  
Reverend Patrick Collins

## †HYMN

*Seek Ye First*  
175 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

Bill DeHaven

## ANTHEM

*I Shall Wear A Golden Crown*  
Arr. Brandon Waddles (b. 1988)  
The Summer Choir

## †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, alleluia!

## †PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## †HYMN *To God Be The Glory*

634 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

## †BENEDICTION

## †POSTLUDE

*Fanfare*  
Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988)

† Please rise in body or in spirit

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

Join us for Community Hour in the Memory Garden (weather permitting) or the Auditorium where you can greet one another, have a cup of coffee, and a light snack. Hosts for June are members of the Outreach Committee.

**COMMUNITY**  
*hour*  
**HOURL**



## CHURCH SCHOOL



Church School  
June 1

## 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!

**June 8 – Confirmation Sunday & June 15 – Celebration Sunday**

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



## BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING



Parish Nurse Sue Asselin, RN, is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service. If Community Hour is held outside, Sue will be in the Memory Garden. If held inside, Sue will be in her office, to the right of the Auditorium stage.

During the week, she is available by appointment, which can be made by calling extension 821 or emailing [susana@fccog.org](mailto:susana@fccog.org).



## 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](http://thewiredword.com) Join Pastor Patrick for lunch on Thursdays at noon in the lounge. BYO lunch optional.



## FAREWELL, JOSE!

Jose Jolon, our sexton since November, has resigned to take a job in his degree field of TV and film production. We thank him for his outstanding work here at First Church and wish him all the best in his career.

## SUMMER TAI CHI

Did you know that First Church is home to Tai Chi classes? Will Morrison has been teaching these classes in our building for years and recently became a member along with his wife Leslee. Why not check a class out this week and create a new summer routine? There are classes on Monday and Thursday mornings – email Will at [wdmorrison@gmail.com](mailto:wdmorrison@gmail.com) for more information and to sign up.



## 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 a different perspective in the choir loft. Everyone is welcome – no robes will be worn! If you have any questions, please contact Craig Symons (ext. 822).



### ***Awesome news, First Church!***

Meals packaged at your Rise Against Hunger Experience have shipped. At this moment, healthy meals are on their way to a community in urgent need of nutrition. We're excited to share that destination with you.

*(drumroll, please!)*

### ***Meals you packaged are headed to Vietnam!***

Located in Southeast Asia, Vietnam is the easternmost country on the Indochinese Peninsula. While poverty rates have decreased in the past decade, many minority groups, especially in rural mountainous regions of the country, continue to face food insecurity. Frequent natural disasters that cause flooding and landslides create further instability for many families who rely on farming for income. The Global Hunger Index, which assesses food insecurity based on indicators that measure undernourishment and undernutrition, categorizes the country of Vietnam as a whole as having a "moderate" level of hunger. Rise Against Hunger serves in the regions of Vietnam where hunger is most urgent.



## SUNDAY BEACH SERVICES

START JUNE 15 @ 8 A.M.

8 A.M. AT GREENWICH POINT PARK  
ALL ARE WELCOME - SIMPLY SAY YOU'RE HERE  
FOR FIRST CHURCH SERVICE  
BRING YOUR BEACH CHAIR OR BLANKET

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH  
[WWW.FCCOG.ORG](http://WWW.FCCOG.ORG)



**RYM END  
OF YEAR  
MEGA  
PARTY!**

**JUNE  
7TH @  
7 PM**

**2CC  
139 E.  
PUTNAM  
AVE GRE-  
ENICH**

**BBQ,  
CANDY  
TABLE &  
POPCORN**

**ALL OF  
RYM -  
3RD TO  
12TH  
GRADE!**

**RYM**

**LOCAL  
MISSION  
PROJECT:  
HOMELESS  
CARE KITS**

# **MOVIE & MISSION**

## **NIGHT**



Hosted by the Greenwich Fellowship of Clergy

# INTER FAITH PRIDE SERVICE

Tuesday

**June 10th**

2025

**6:30**

pm

📍 **Outdoor Meadow at St. Paul's  
Episcopal Church in Riverside**  
200 Riverside Ave, Riverside, CT

Bring a chair  
or blanket!  
**Raining? Join  
us inside!**

**Family Friendly**  
**Participation**  
**Affirmation**  
**Community**  
**Prayer**  
**Music**  
**& Rainbow**  
**Social**

## PICK-UP PRIDE CHOIR

Anyone (including youth) is invited to join us **day of** to learn a few songs and sing in the service!

**5:30 PM IN THE LIBRARY**

**YOU CAN BRING AN INSTRUMENT!**



REGIONAL YOUTH MINISTRY  
IN LOWER FAIRFIELD COUNTY

## YOUTH ART SHOWCASE

Youth of **ALL** ages are invited to submit artwork on the theme "**Resistance, Resilience, Rejoicing.**" Email entries to [khaleighl@fccog.org](mailto:khaleighl@fccog.org) by **June 3rd**.

**Community voting** the following week to **select cover art for the service!**





# Upcoming Events

## **Confirmation Sunday - June 8**

We celebrate and honor the year-long dedication of our confirmands 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](http://www.fccog.org)**

## THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

108 Sound Beach Avenue Old Greenwich CT 06870

203-637-1791 • [www.fccog.org](http://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

Facility Manager

Sexton

First Church Preschool Director

First Church Preschool Assistant Director

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

Julio Yika

Curtis Gay

Beth Genovese

Melanie Garnett

Reverend Sally Colegrove



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
a just world for all

See more about the stories of our  
Stained Glass Windows



See the Tour of our Main Cemetery -  
People of Note

