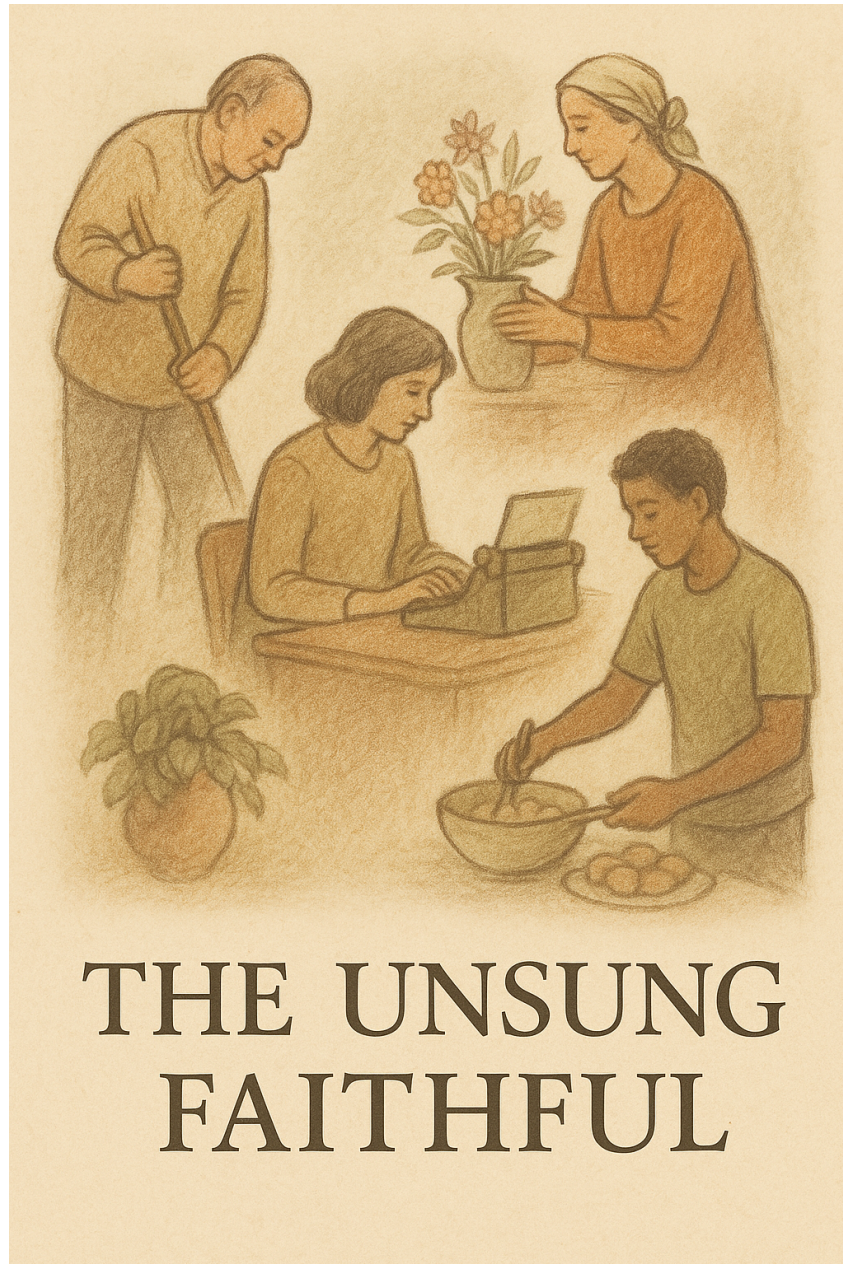




SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 2025
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING



THE UNSUNG FAITHFUL

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

Arioso
Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901)
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Patrick Collins

CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING

Carol Woodman, Church Clerk

†CALL TO WORSHIP

- One: A voice cries out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight!"
All: **We come to make room for Christ in our hearts, our lives, and our world.**
One: Long before the crowds arrived, someone cleared the path. Before the miracle, someone set the table. Before the light, someone lit the flame.
All: **Today, we give thanks for the ones who prepare the way, for every faithful soul whose quiet work makes holy things possible.**
One: Let us worship the God who sees what is done in secret, who blesses the humble path-makers and the unsung servants.
All: **We lift our hearts in praise to the One who calls us, prepares us, and sends us.**
Let us worship God!

†CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy
1 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

You call us in from the noise and hurry of life, into this sacred space of quiet and grace. We confess that we often miss the quiet work of love. We rush past the helpers, overlook the faithful, and seek recognition more than service. Forgive us. Remind us that your kingdom grows through humble hands and unseen acts of care. Make us whole again. Renew our spirits, and help us prepare the way for your love to move through us — quietly, faithfully, and well. 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



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 return to their seats.)

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-5
New Revised Standard Version
Peggy Whitlock

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.
A voice cries out:
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

ANTHEM

There's A Wideness In God's Mercy
Maurice Bevan (1921-2006)
The Summer Choir

SECOND LESSON

Luke 8:1-8
New Revised Standard Version

Soon afterward he went on through one town and village after another, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who ministered to them out of their own resources.

When a large crowd was gathering, as people were coming to him from town after town, he said in a parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed, and as he sowed some fell on a path and was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. Some fell on rock, and as it grew up it withered for lack of moisture. Some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. Some fell into good soil, and when it grew it produced a hundredfold." As he said this, he called out, "If you have ears to hear, then hear!"

MESSAGE

The Unsung Faithful
Reverend Patrick Collins

†HYMN

God Of Great, And God Of Small
19 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

One: As Jesus journeyed from town to town, preaching and teaching the good news, there were those who traveled with him, not just the twelve, but faithful women who provided for the ministry out of their own resources. Today, we give thanks for those who do the same in our church.

All: For those whose names are not always spoken, but whose work is always felt, we give thanks.

One: For the staff who open the doors, tend the sanctuary, prepare the bulletins, answer the phones, schedule the meetings, balance the books, and keep things running smoothly...

All: We honor your faithfulness and bless your dedication.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

One: For those who care for our building and grounds, who change the lights, take out the trash, mop the floors, trim the bushes, and make this place feel like home...

All: **We see the beauty you make possible and give thanks.**

One: For those who plan the music, manage the tech, prepare communion, care for our children, and make our worship joyful and seamless...

All: **Your gifts help us experience the Spirit. We are grateful.**

One: For those who hold confidences, offer hospitality, keep our records, file our forms, and remember the details so we don't have to...

All: **You show love in every unseen task. We give thanks.**

One: And for each staff member at First Church, for your ministry, your presence, your effort, and your grace...

All: **We thank God for you. We bless you. We honor your role in shaping this church and sharing Christ's love. May your work continue to bear fruit. May your labor never be in vain. And may you know, deep in your spirit, that you are part of something sacred. Amen.**

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

DUET

I Lift Up My Eyes

David von Kampen (b. 1986)

Hanna Golodinskii, soprano

Linnea Conley, mezzo soprano

†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

Give To The Winds Thy Fears
815 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

† Please rise in body or in spirit

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL RESPONSE

†POSTLUDE

Con Moto
Josef Rheinberger

†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 back of the Meetinghouse where you can greet one another, have a cup of coffee, and a light snack before the Annual Meeting. Hosts for June are members of the Outreach Committee.

**COMMUNITY
HOUR**



CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING

The 354th Annual Meeting of the members of the First Congregational Church of Greenwich, Old Greenwich, CT is hereby called for Sunday June 22, 2025 in the Meetinghouse immediately following the 10 a.m. worship service for the following purposes:

- To hear and act upon the report of the Nominating Committee and to elect officers and Committee members and to fill other positions for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025
- To adopt the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025
- To hear certain reports of the pastors, officers and committees
- To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting

Members are encouraged to attend in the Meetinghouse if possible and comfortable. However, if you join remotely via Zoom.us, please follow the instructions in the Friday emails. The meeting may be recorded for the purpose of taking minutes.

Carol Woodman,
Church Clerk



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.

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).



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP SUMMER SOCIALS

The first of this year's three Women's Fellowship Summer Socials is Monday, June 23 from 5:30 p.m. on at the Sue Baker Pavilion at Greenwich Point. The rain date is the following evening. We bring our own food/drinks and meet for an informal gathering. Feel free to bring a friend/neighbor. If you don't have a current Greenwich beach pass, we can arrange a ride from the church parking lot if you let Car Westbrook know.

Future dates are: Monday, July 28 and Monday, August 25 with rain dates the following evenings. Questions? Contact Car Westbrook at carwestbrook@optimum.net.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING



Parish Nurse Sue Asselin, RN will be available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following Sunday'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.



SUNDAY BEACH SERVICES at 8 a.m.

**JULY 13, 20, 27 &
AUGUST 3, 10, 17**

**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

FCCOG CHURCH SCHOOL SUMMER BASH

**29
JUNE
@ 5 PM**



ALL CHURCH SCHOOL FAMILIES

15 Forestwood Drive, Stamford CT 06903

HOSTED BY THE GARTNER FAMILY

Play | Smores | Fun | Community

RSVP via email : KhaleighL@FCCOG.org



Upcoming Events

Beach Services

Our Summer Beach Services continue 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 July 13, 20, 27, August 3, 10, 17.

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.

Women's Fellowship Summer Social - Monday June 23

The first of this year's three Women's Fellowship Summer Socials is Monday, June 23 from 5:30 pm on at the Sue Baker Pavilion at Greenwich Point. The rain date is the following evening. We bring our own food/drinks and meet for an informal gathering.

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.

Founders Day & Heritage Sunday - July 20

Join us as we celebrate the founding of First Church and the Town of Greenwich. We will also welcome a new class of 50-year members during worship in the Meetinghouse. A special community hour will be held following worship with historic artifacts curated by our historian Pat Larrabee.

See the full Church Calendar for all upcoming events
www.fccog.org

Reflection Questions: The Unsung Faithful

Who are the “Joannas” in your life or in this church – the people whose quiet work helps others shine? Have you thanked them?

When have you supported something important not by being in the spotlight, but by showing up faithfully behind the scenes? How did that feel?

What gifts or resources – time, presence, finances, encouragement – might God be inviting you to offer quietly and generously?

Joanna used her position and privilege to support a movement that challenged the very empire she was part of. What risks are we willing to take to support God's work of love and justice?

Jesus saw and honored the faithfulness of those others overlooked. How might you train your eyes this week to notice the unseen good around you?



**Join us for a two week summer theater program
with a big final show!**

**July 7-18th at
The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
\$750 for one week - \$1450 for two weeks**

**To sign up please email:
Bonnie Kelley-Young - bdryoung61@gmail.com
Denise Casazzone - dcasazzone@gmail.com**

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
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

