



SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 2024

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OPEN AND AFFIRMING SUNDAY
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 **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

Hyfrydol Sur Le Canerie

Kris Rizzotto (b. 1989)

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

Julianna Laicher, handbell

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Patrick Collins

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

First half of "A Litany of Faith and Hope, UCC Version"

adapted by Kimi Floyd Reisch from *A Litany of Faith and Hope*

published by the Muslim and Unitarian Universalist communities of greater Columbus, Ohio.

One: We are a garden:

All: A community of many different colors and varieties growing together. We all need water, sun, and soil to grow. We live alongside one another, respecting one another, maintaining our identities, like an iris and a carnation, both beautiful, both distinct and different, but still connected.

One: We come together:

All: To discover we have a common language: the language of our children, our families, our communities. The language of hope. The language of God's incredible love for the world.

One: We seek:

All: To know one another.

One: We need:

All: To build on these experiences of community, to be full of care for people of all faiths.

One: We worship and praise:

All: Our God of all creation, beauty, and diversity.

†CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

There Is Now A New Creation

774 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

† Please rise in body or in spirit

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS

“A Prayer to Humankind”

by Chief Medicine Story of the Wampanoag Nation, edited by Kimi Floyd Reisch

Reader I: Hear O Humankind, the prayer of my heart. Are we not one? Have we not one desire, to heal our Mother Earth, to bind her wounds?

Reader II: Are we not all siblings? Are we not all grandchildren of the same mystery? Do we not all want to love and be loved? Do we not want to work and play, and sing, and dance together?

Reader I: May we live forever

All: **May we live forever**

Reader II: In Jesus' name

All: **In Jesus' name**

Reader I: As with one desire, together as one.

All: **As siblings, may we live as one.**

Reader II: But we live in fear. Fear that is hate. Fear that is mistrust, and envy and greed . . .
Fear that is anger and cruelty, loneliness and bitterness.

Reader I: We live in fear that is love, twisted and turned back on itself.
Love denied and love rejected.

Reader II: In Jesus' name we pray: let us love forever. Let us live without fear.
Let us live in love.

All: **May we love forever in Jesus' name.**

Reader I: Hear my heart's prayer, O Humankind! Life is a treasure. We are the custodians of earth, the nurturer of life. It is our sacred trust.

All: **Life is wondrous, awesome, and holy. Life is burning glory in all the colors of the rainbow. And its price is simply this: Courage. We must be brave enough to love ourselves and to love each other.**

All (*quietly*): Radical Love is courage.

All (*loudly proclaiming*): Radical Love is courage!

Moment of silence for personal reflection

†ASSURANCE OF GRACE (in unison)

Second half of “A Litany of Faith and Hope, UCC Version”

All: We believe in our children being friends with other children who may not look like them, who may hold different beliefs, who have different backgrounds.
We believe the barriers are in our minds; justice, peace, and understanding will ultimately prevail.

We believe we share a common origin as human beings;
we are children of the same creator.

We believe in the dignity and worth of all human beings, no matter who they are or where they are on life's journey.

We know the world is big enough for all of us, because we believe in a world of love and love creates space for all to live and thrive.

†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



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

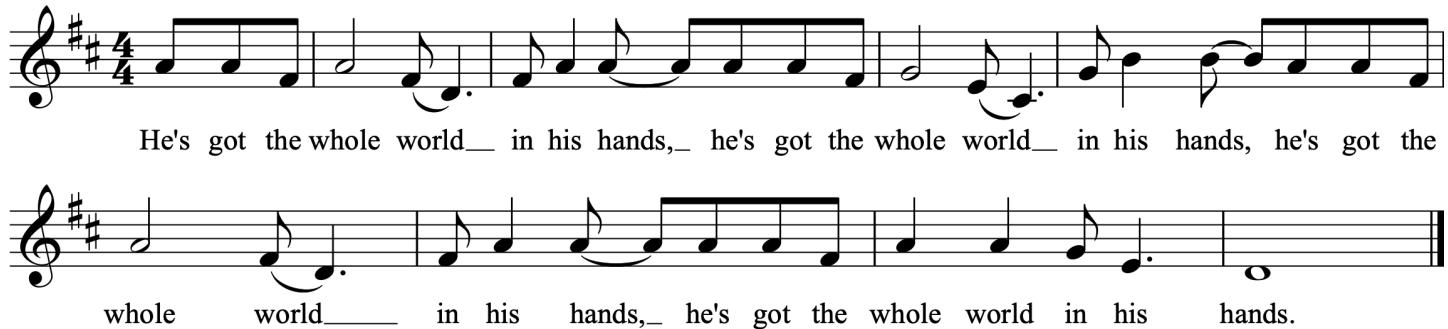
Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal-le - lu-jah! Hal-le - lu - jah!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(During the response, the children will return to their seats.)

RESPONSE

He's Got The Whole World



He's got the whole world in his hands, he's got the whole world in his hands, he's got the

whole world in his hands, he's got the whole world in his hands.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 104:1-15

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition
Lynn Robertson

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

O Lord my God, you are very great.
You are clothed with honor and majesty,
 wrapped in light as with a garment.
You stretch out the heavens like a tent;
 you set the beams of your chambers on the waters;
you make the clouds your chariot;
 you ride on the wings of the wind;
you make the winds your messengers,
 fire and flame your ministers.

You set the earth on its foundations,
 so that it shall never be shaken.

You cover it with the deep as with a garment;
 the waters stood above the mountains.

At your rebuke they flee;
 at the sound of your thunder they take to flight.

They rose up to the mountains, ran down to the valleys,
 to the place that you appointed for them.

You set a boundary that they may not pass,
 so that they might not again cover the earth.

You make springs gush forth in the valleys;
 they flow between the hills,

giving drink to every wild animal;
 the wild asses quench their thirst.

By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation;
 they sing among the branches.

From your lofty abode you water the mountains;
 the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.

You cause the grass to grow for the cattle
 and plants for people to cultivate,
to bring forth food from the earth
 and wine to gladden the human heart,
oil to make the face shine
 and bread to strengthen the human heart.

ANTHEM

The Church Where Love Lives
Amanda Udis-Kessler (b. 1965)
The Summer Choir

SECOND LESSON

Psalm 104:16-34

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

The trees of the field are watered abundantly,
the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.
In them the birds build their nests;
the stork has its home in the fir trees.
The high mountains are for the wild goats;
the rocks are a refuge for the coney.
You have made the moon to mark the seasons;
the sun knows its time for setting.
You make darkness, and it is night,
when all the animals of the forest come creeping out.
The young lions roar for their prey,
seeking their food from God.
When the sun rises, they withdraw
and lie down in their dens.
People go out to their work
and to their labor until the evening.

O Lord, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
There is the sea, great and wide;
creeping things innumerable are there,
living things both small and great.
There go the ships
and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

These all look to you
to give them their food in due season;
when you give to them, they gather it up;
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.
When you hide your face, they are dismayed;
when you take away their breath, they die
and return to their dust.

When you send forth your spirit, they are created,
and you renew the face of the ground.

May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
may the Lord rejoice in his works—
who looks on the earth and it trembles,
who touches the mountains and they smoke.
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.
May my meditation be pleasing to him,
for I rejoice in the Lord.

MESSAGE

Proudly Created
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

†HYMN

God Of Many Faces

God of many faces, we offer our praise,
 God of many genders, our world reflects you,
 God of many names, we invite you to show
 God of many bodies, abide with in ours,

sing - ing your glo - ry through all of our days.
 sun - rise and sun - set u - ni - ting our hues,
 us the new names that re - flect our true souls.
 shift - ing more each day through time and through scars.

Hear ev - er grow-ing voi - ces, once fra - gile, now strong,
 wo - ven in - to a ci - ty with jewels of all shades,
 Breathe with your ho - ly spir - it to give us the Word
 Come sanc - ti - fy our bod - ies, all fash - ioned by you,

car - ry - ing mel - o - dies in ex - pan - sive new songs.
 hou - ses of ru - by and walls rowed wth jade.
 that will in - dwell dry bones, grant-ing new life once heard.
 ho - li - er ev - ery - day, still be - com - ing more true.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

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

Mary Fike

ORGAN OFFERTORY

Amazing Grace

Arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below.



Praise God above ye heavenly host; Cre-a-tor, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

† Please rise in body or in spirit

†HYMN

Sing A New World Into Being

1. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sound a bold and hope - ful theme.
 2. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where each gen - der class and race
 3. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where the home - less find a home.
 4. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Join the an - cient proph-ets' cry

Find a tune for si - lent yearn - ings. Lend your voice and dare to dream:
 brings its rain - bow gifts and col - ors to God's lim - it - less em - brace;
 where no chil - dren ev - er hun - ger but are filled with God's sha - lom;
 for a time of health and plen - ty when all tears have been wiped dry;

dream a church where all who wor - ship find their lives and loves be - long.
 where the lines that once di - vi - ded form in - stead the ties that bind.
 where all peo - ple work for jus - tice, where all hate and vengeance cease.
 when com - pas - sion flows like wa - ters, pour - ing balm for all who grieve.

Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sing as Christ in - spires your song!
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing: risk trans - form - ing heart and mind!
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing: raise the har - mo - nies of peace.
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing: live the prom - ise you be - lieve!

† Please rise in body or in spirit

†BENEDICTION - OPEN & AFFIRMING STATEMENT (in unison)

Our church's mission is to proclaim the gospel to all people and to work for the promotion of justice, the reign of peace, and human understanding in all our relationships. We strive through our example to overcome exclusionary practices, discrimination and violence in our society based upon considerations, including but not limited to race, ancestry, age, physical or mental limitations, gender, sexual orientation, social or economic class, and religious background. We commit ourselves to work towards ending hatred, prejudice and discrimination, thereby providing a safe physical, emotional and spiritual haven. As Jesus accepted and included all people, so do we as individuals and as a congregation welcome all who wish to enter our community of faith and invite their participation in the full life of the church. Without exception, we accept each person who joins our community of faith, as an individual and our equal within God's family.

Therefore, The First Congregational Church of Greenwich declares itself to be open and affirming; open to all for participation, membership, leadership and employment, and affirming all who wish to join us as children of God. We continue to give thanks for God's guidance in our journey of faith.

Adopted by the Congregation in a Special Meeting on March 9, 2003

†CHORAL RESPONSE

†POSTLUDE

Christians, We Have Met For Worship
Arr. Mark Hayes

† Please rise in body or in spirit

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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.

Hosts for June are members of the Outreach committee.



VISION TASK FORCE SURVEY RESULT MEETING

The Vision Task Force (VTF) invites the membership and friends of FCCOG to join us on **TODAY Sunday, June 30, 2024 after the 10 a.m. service** to hear the results of the Visioning Survey and Community Leader interviews done by the VTF.

HEALTH SCREENINGS/BLOOD PRESSURE

Sue Asselin, Parish Nurse is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service. Look for her at the back of the Meetinghouse during the Survey results presentation, or in her office, just to the right of the Auditorium stage. During the week, she is available by appointment by calling 203-637-1791 ext. 821.



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 handbags, summer shoes for all.

NO BEACH SERVICE JULY 7

Our summer beach services are at Greenwich Point Park (Tod's Point) at 8 a.m. The services are held near Innis Arden Cottage, the main building on your left as you enter the park. All are welcome if you have a beach pass or not – simply state you're here for First Congregational Church services and the guard will let you in. Bring your beach chair or blanket. There will also be activities for children. Dates for beach services are July 14, 21, 28 – August 4, 11, 18, 25



OUTREACH NEWS

NOW SERVING DINNER!

The very popular opportunity to serve a meal for New Covenant Center Cafe visitors is open for sign-ups! All the food will be delivered from ShopRite. Volunteers will slice bread, arrange desserts, and serve the hot meal. The NEW time commitment is 4pm – 5:30pm on the first Monday of the month. Scan the code to sign up for your spot!



UCC MUSICIANS ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CONFERENCE



By now, you should have received a couple emails about the National Conference of the UCC Musicians Association (UCCMA) being held here at First Church July 10-13. There are lots of ways to volunteer during the conference (and we need lots of you!!), so check your email and click on the links to sign up! If you have questions, please contact Craig after worship, or email him at craigs@fccog.org

UCCMA GALA OPENING CONCERT

On Wednesday, July 10 at 7:30 p.m., **Nathan Avakian** will present a concert on the New York Theater Organ Society Allen Digital Touring Organ right here in our Meetinghouse. The concert is free and open to the public! Mark your calendars and invite your friends!!



NEW CONCERT OPPORTUNITY

FRIDAY JULY 12, 7:30 P.M. - MEETINGHOUSE



Members of First Church are being welcomed to this special concert as a thank-you for the work done to host the conference. The Cabaret Concert features singing sensations **Seth Sikes** and **Nicolas King**, accompanied by pianist **Billy Stritch**. **Sikes** is one of New York's most popular young nightclub singers. His critically acclaimed tributes to Judy Garland (which won a Broadway World Award), Liza Minnelli, and Barbra Streisand are a consistent draw for audiences. **King** is an award-winning artist who's been 'belting' out tunes since he was 4-years old, having been seen in dozens of TV commercials, and numerous times on Broadway opposite Tom Selleck, Carol Burnett, Linda Lavin and Andrea McArdle. **Stritch** was the pianist/musical director for Liza Minnelli for over 25 years and toured with Tony Bennett as his pianist and musical director.

CLOSING WORSHIP SERVICE

On Saturday morning July 13, 11:00 a.m. the conference closing worship will be in the Meetinghouse and the public is welcome to attend this inspiring service, with guest preacher **Rev. Liz Garrigan-Byerly**, Acting Conference Minister (during the summer sabbatical of Rev. Darrell Goodwin), vocal choir (**Tom Shelton**, conductor - associate professor of Sacred Music at Westminster Choir College), handbell choir (**Ellen Dickinson**, Executive Director Music On The Hill, Wilton, CT), and organist **Dr. Nathaniel Gumbs**, (Director of Chapel Music at Yale University) comprised of local musicians and conference attendees.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

CHURCH SCHOOL BEACH EDITION

NO
BEACH
PASS
NEEDED

DURING FCCOG'S BEACH SERVICE
A 8 M

@ GREENWICH POINT - INNIS A. COTTAGE

AGES 3-6TH GRADE
SHORT & FUN

JUNE
23&30

JULY
14,
21&28

AUGUST
4, 11,
18&25

FOR ?S EMAIL KHALEIGH@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

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

PrayGround Supervisor

Facility Manager

Senior Sexton

Junior Sexton

Director of First Church Preschool

Assistant Director of First Church Preschool

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

Amalia Samuel

Julio Yika

Curtis Gay

Brandon Speight Gay

Beth Genovese

Kayla Vozzella

Reverend Sally Colegrove



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OF CHRIST
a just world for all