



SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2024
NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
FOUNDERS' DAY & HERITAGE 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

Sursum Corda

John Ireland (1879-1962)

William Roslak, guest director/organist

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.

FOUNDERS DAY PROCLAMATION

Fred Camillo, First Selectman of Greenwich

Founders Day is July 18th every year since July 18th, 1640 when the settlers acquired the land that is now Old Greenwich from the local indigenous people. Because the law in those days was that you could not have a town without a church first being established, 1665 is the date our church uses as its founding date. It took 25 years to have enough people in town to be able to afford the salary of a minister. The town of Greenwich uses the 1640 date for its founding.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: How good and pleasant it is

All: When God's people live together in unity!

One: This is the good news which we proclaim:

All: Jesus Christ, our risen Savior, is the light of the world.

One: Walk in the light of his love.

All: Live in the light of his teachings and healing mercies.

One: May the light shine through our radical fellowship:

All: The story of a community gathered in one heart and soul;

One: The power of our community lying in our willingness to testify to Christ's light and love.

All: How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

†CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

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

† Please rise in body or in spirit

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

God of mercy, we come celebrating our unity, but we confess the many ways that we are divided. Our nationality, ethnic origin, economic status, gender, age, and musical preferences all too often obscure the common calling we share in Christ's name. May our common identity as your children and our communal witness to Christ bind us together in your name. Forgive our tendency toward separation and division, and remind us that we are your Easter people in all seasons of life. 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



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!

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

John 1: 1-9
The Voice
Pat Larrabee

Before time itself was measured, the Voice was speaking.

The Voice was and is God.
This *celestial* Word remained ever present with the Creator;
His speech shaped the entire cosmos.
Immersed in the practice of creating,
all things that exist were birthed in Him.
His breath filled all things
with a living, breathing light—
A light that thrives in the depths of darkness,
blazes through murky bottoms.
It cannot and will not be quenched.

A man named John, who was sent by God, *was the first to clearly articulate the source of this Light.* This *baptizer* put in plain words the *elusive mystery of the Divine Light* so all might believe through him. *Some wondered whether he might be the Light,* but John was not the Light. He merely pointed to the Light. The true Light, who shines upon *the heart of* everyone, was coming into the cosmos.

ANTHEM

When I Can Read My Title Clear
Lori Larson (1926-2011)
The Summer Choir

SECOND LESSON

1 John 1:2:2

First Nations Version

“There is one who has existed from the beginning. We heard his story. We saw him with our own eyes. We stared in *wonder* at him and touched him with our own hands. He is the one we call the Word of Life. This Life was made known to us. We have seen it, we give witness to it, and we are now telling you the story of the life of the world to come that never fades away, full of beauty and harmony. This Life was with our Father *the Great Spirit* and has now been revealed to us. We are telling you about the things we have seen and heard so that you may share with us the same life we share in harmony with our Father *the Great Spirit* and his Son, Creator Sets Free (Jesus) the Chosen One. We write these things to you so that our hearts can dance together *in the circle of life.*

The Great Spirit is light, and in him there is no darkness. This is the message we heard from the Chosen One and now are telling you. If we say we are in harmony with him yet walk a path of

darkness, we are living a lie and not following the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we will be in harmony with each other as the lifeblood shed by Creator Sets Free (Jesus), the Son of the Great Spirit, cleanses us from all our broken ways. If we say that we have no broken ways, we are lying to ourselves, and the truth is not alive in us. If we name our broken ways, our Creator can be trusted to release us from them and purify us from all wrongdoing. If we say we have never walked in broken ways, we are calling him a liar, and his words are not at home in us.

My much-loved children, I am writing these things to you so you will not walk a path of broken ways. But if anyone does, we have one who represents us before our Father the Great Spirit. He is Creator Sets Free (Jesus) the Chosen One, who has always done what is right. He paid a great price to set us free from our bad hearts and broken ways, not only for us but for all people.

MESSAGE

Follow the Voice
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

†HYMN

All Things Bright and Beautiful
20 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

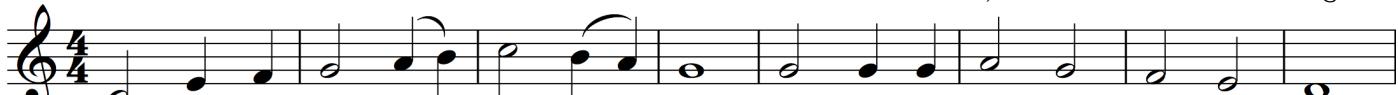
Mariann Ekernas

ORGAN OFFERTORY

Adoration
Florence Price (1887-1953)

†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; Creator, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HERITAGE SUNDAY RECOGNITION

†HYMN

Guide me O thou Great Jehovah
65 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL RESPONSE

†POSTLUDE

Caprice
Louis-Nicolas Clerambault (1676-1749)

† Please rise in body or in spirit

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Join us for Community Hour in the Memory Garden where you can greet one another, have a cup of coffee, and a light snack. Hosts for July are members of the Women's Fellowship committee.

HEALTH SCREENINGS/BLOOD PRESSURE

Sue Asselin, Parish Nurse is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service. If community hour is outside, look for her there. If inside, she will be 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:
Men's business shirts
Fall handbags
Jewelry

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!



BEACH SERVICES

Our summer beach services are at Greenwich Point Park (Tod's Point) at 8 a.m. and 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 21, 28 - August 4, 11, 18, 25



RESULTS OF SURVEY FROM VISION TASK FORCE & CONVERGENCE



For those wanting to review the results of the Vision Survey and hear a replay of the report-out by Convergence, please check your email for the recent Friday e-blast which has links with those details. Feel free to contact anyone on the VTF with questions and ideas.

Thanks,
The Vision Task Force

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

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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

Director of Finance and Administration

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



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all