



SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2024
TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
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 front 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

Adagio

Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, 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.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We have come together as one.

All: One people, gathered in the name of the one God.

One: We will worship together as one.

All: One community, giving praise and honor to the righteous one.

One: We are being empowered as one by one.

All: One body and one Spirit, called to the hope of one calling,

One: one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

All: one God and Creator of all who is above all and through all and in all.

One: Now, in the name of the Three-in-One, we act as one.

All: One people, giving witness to the power of One.

†CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

In Christ There Is No East Or West
318 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

Merciful One, you know when we are afraid to love; you know when we are too cowardly to show mercy. Remind us again that perfect love casts out such fears. Surround us and strengthen us with your perfect love, even in the face of our imperfections. Imbue us with a love so strong, with such growth toward perfection, that we may cast aside our pride and embrace the power of love. Amen.

Moment of silence for personal reflection

†ASSURANCE OF GRACE

† Please rise in body or in spirit

†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)

Glory To God

Capo 3: (G) B♭ (D) (G) (D) B♭ (G) F (Em) (D) B♭ F Gm F
1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, γ with - out end. A - men.
(D) F (G) B♭ (C) E♭ (G) B♭ (Em7) Gm7 (A7) C7
and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, γ with - out end. A - men.
(A7) C7 (D) F (F♯) (Bm) A Dm
and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, γ with - out end. A - men.
(Bm7) Dm7 (D) F (Bdim7) Ddim7 (Em7) Gm7 (Dm) (A7) (D) Fm C7 F
As it was in the be - gin-ning, is now and ev-er shall be. A - men.

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

Ephesians 4: 1-16
Common English Bible
Marilyn Derr

Therefore, as a prisoner for the Lord, I encourage you to live as people worthy of the call you received from God. Conduct yourselves with all humility, gentleness, and patience. Accept each other with love, and make an effort to preserve the unity of the Spirit with the peace that ties you together. You are one body and one spirit, just as God also called you in one hope. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father of all, who is over all, through all, and in all.

God has given his grace to each one of us measured out by the gift that is given by Christ. That's why scripture says, *When he climbed up to the heights, he captured prisoners, and he gave gifts to people.* What does the phrase "he climbed up" mean if it doesn't mean that he had first gone down into the lower regions, the earth? The one who went down is the same one who climbed up above all the heavens so that he might fill everything.

He gave some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers. His purpose was to equip God's people for the work of serving and building up the body of Christ until we all reach the unity of faith and knowledge of God's Son. God's goal is for us to become mature adults—to be fully grown, measured by the standard of the fullness of Christ. As a result, we aren't supposed to be infants any longer who can be tossed and blown around by every wind that comes from teaching with deceitful scheming and the tricks people play to deliberately mislead others. Instead, by speaking the truth with love, let's grow in every way into Christ, who is the head. The whole body grows from him, as it is joined and held together by all the supporting ligaments. The body makes itself grow in that it builds itself up with love as each one does its part.

SOLO

The Lord Is My Shepherd
Sally DeFord (b.1959)
Carol Woodman, soprano

SECOND LESSON

1 John 4: 7-21
Common English Bible

Dear friends, let's love each other, because love is from God, and everyone who loves is born from God and knows God. The person who doesn't love does not know God, because God is love. This is how the love of God is revealed to us: God has sent his only Son into the world so that we can live through him. This is love: it is not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son as the sacrifice that deals with our sins.

Dear friends, if God loved us this way, we also ought to love each other. No one has ever seen God. If we love each other, God remains in us and his love is made perfect in us. This is how we know we remain in him and he remains in us, because he has given us a measure of his Spirit. We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son to be the savior of the world. If any of us confess that Jesus is God's Son, God remains in us and we remain in God. We have known and have believed the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who remain in love remain in God and God remains in them. This is how love has been perfected in us, so that we can have confidence on the Judgment Day, because we are exactly the same as God is in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear expects punishment. The person who is afraid has not been made perfect in love. We love because God first loved us. Those who say, "I love God" and hate their brothers or sisters are liars. After all, those who don't love their brothers or sisters whom they have seen can hardly love God whom they have not seen! This commandment we have from him: Those who claim to love God ought to love their brother and sister also.

MESSAGE

Perfect Love

Reverend Patrick Collins

HYMN

This Is The Day The Lord Hath Made
681 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

Pat Larrabee

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Peace Of God
John Rutter (b. 1945)
The Summer Choir

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here be - low.



Praise God a - bove ye - hea - ven'ly host; Cre - a - tor, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†HYMN

Glorious Things Of Thee Are Spoken

81 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL RESPONSE

†POSTLUDE

Koraal

Flor Peeters

† 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 August are members of the Church Council.

THE RUMMAGE ROOM

The Rummage Room is closed until September 2 for annual cleaning and restocking and will reopen for a new season on Tuesday September 3.



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. 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. The final two beach services are August 18 & 25.



September Social

WELCOME
BACK FOR THE
START OF OUR
NEW CHURCH
YEAR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
11 AM

BRUNCH WILL BE SERVED
IN THE AUDITORIUM



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

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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
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