



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024  
SEVENTEENTH 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.

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## 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

*Prelude In Eb Major*  
Félix Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)  
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

## CHIMING OF THE HOUR

## CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

*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.*

## MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

### †CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Wait for the Lord; be strong!

All: **The promises of God will never be broken.**

One: With God as our light, what is there to fear?

All: **The promises of God will never be broken.**

One: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

All: **The promises of God will never be broken.**

### †CHORAL INTROIT

### †HYMN

*Jesus Shall Reign*  
265 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

### †PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

God of promises fulfilled; we gather as descendants of Abraham. We stand before you as faithful testimony to your covenant. We assemble as living proof that your love for humanity knows no limits. When we feel overwhelmed by the stresses of daily life, we need only look at the stars in the sky to remember your abiding faithfulness. When we are overcome with despair by the pain of war and poverty in our world, we need only see the light of a single candle to remember the one you sent as our light, our strength, and our salvation. We pray now in the name of that light, Jesus Christ. 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: 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) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)  
B $\flat$  F B $\flat$  F B $\flat$  F Gm F

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,  
2 World with - out end, ♪ with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)  
F B $\flat$  E $\flat$  B $\flat$  Gm7 C7

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,  
World with - out end, ♪ with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)  
C7 F A Dm

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.  
World with - out end, ♪ with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)  
Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 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 depart for Church School or 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 8*  
New Revised Standard Version  
Mariann Ekernas

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

Out of the mouths of babes and infants  
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,  
to silence the enemy and the avenger.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars that you have established;  
what are humans that you are mindful of them,  
mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than God  
and crowned them with glory and honor.

You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet,  
all sheep and oxen,  
and also the beasts of the field,  
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,  
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

## SOLO

*Lord God Of Abraham*  
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)  
Thomas Woodman, baritone

## SECOND LESSON

*Genesis 15:1-6*  
New Revised Standard Version

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

## MESSAGE

*Look To The Stars*  
Reverend Patrick Collins

## †HYMN

*Great God Of Every Blessing*  
694 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

Lynn Robertson

## ANTHEM

*Awake, Awake To Love And Work*  
Arr. Craig Scott Symons (b. 1962)  
The Chancel Choir

## †DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*



Praise God from whom all\_ bless - ings flow; Praise God all crea-tures 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

*Praise The Lord! God's Glories Show*  
33 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

## †BENEDICTION

## †CHORAL RESPONSE

## †POSTLUDE

*Make A Joyful Noise*  
Alan Viner (b. 1951)

† Please rise in body or in spirit

## CHURCH SCHOOL KICK OFF - SEPT 15!

Sept 15 & 22 – Regular Church School! Church School is back, and we can't wait for the year ahead together! God is Good!

Sept 29 – The children will be making an altar cloth during church school for use on World Communion Sunday (October 6).



## CELEBRATING DIVERSE WORSHIP EXPERIENCES: INTRODUCING THE SENSORY SANCTUARY

At FCCOG, we welcome that everyone worships in unique ways, and honor the diverse needs of our community. For many, sensory items can both greatly enhance their worship experience and also provide belonging and acceptance in the worship space. That's where the Sensory Sanctuary comes in: **a dedicated resource library designed to support sensory worship needs, located at the back of the Meetinghouse.**

**The Sensory Sanctuary Resource Library** offers a variety of items to help create a more inclusive worship environment, including: **Noise-Canceling Headphones:** To help reduce overwhelming sounds and create a more focused experience. **Fidgets:** A range of tactile items such as crochet hooks and yarn, finger labyrinths, thera-putty, and more, allowing individuals to engage their hands while they worship. **Focusing Visual Aids:** Tools that assist in maintaining attention and grounding oneself during worship. **An Alternative Seating Option:** Rocking chairs, catering to individual preferences and needs.

**The Sensory Sanctuary** is part of our ongoing commitment to providing the tools and resources that everyone deserves to make the Meetinghouse accessible and welcoming for all. We already do this through offerings like auditory aids and closed captioning, ramps and the Liftovator, and now, also through sensory implementations. We invite you to explore these resources and enrich your worship experience in a space that values and embraces diversity. No matter who you are, where you are on life's journey, or your sensory requirements, you are welcome at First Church.

## 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.

## WIRED WORD BIBLE STUDY IS BACK!

Join Pastor Patrick for lunch on Thursdays at noon in the lounge. Using the Wired Word 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). BYO lunch optional.





GET INVOLVED WITH OUR MUSIC MINISTRY THIS YEAR!

## Choir Opportunities For Young People!

**The Cherub Choir** is for children in kindergarten through second grade.  
Carol Woodman, director  
Meets on Sundays  
11:15-11:45



**The Celebration Singers** is for youth in grades 3 to 6.  
Craig Symons, director  
Meets on Sundays 11:15-12:00

**The Genesis Choir** is for youth in grades 7 through 12 and early college ages.  
Danny Young, director  
Meets on Sundays 11:15-12:15



**ALL REHEARSALS  
BEGIN  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15!**

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS

**The Chancel Choir** meets in the choir room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> level on Thursdays from 7:30-9:00 p.m. for ages 18 and up. The sing each Sunday morning for the 10:00 a.m. worship service.



**The Palmer Handbell and Silverthorn Handchime Choirs**, for ages 18 and up, generally meets on Thursdays in the Meetinghouse from 6:30-7:20 p.m. or as scheduled. Music is chosen for a larger group or for a quartet of ringers.





# VISIONING DATES

## **Visioning Survey Recap and Discussion with Pastor Patrick**

Sunday, Sept 15, 11am to 12pm - Lounge or  
Sunday, Sept 22. 11am to 12pm - Lounge

## **The Great Unveiling with Convergence**

Sunday, Sept 29, 11am to 12.30pm - Auditorium or  
Tuesday, Oct 1, 7-8.30pm - Lounge or  
Wednesday, Oct 2, 9.30-11am - Lounge

## **Visioning Discussion with Pastor Patrick**

Sunday, Oct 13, 11am to 12pm - Lounge

## **Creative Churches: A Virtual Tour with Convergence**

Sunday, Oct 20, 11am to 12.30pm - Auditorium or  
Tuesday, Oct 22, 7-8pm - Lounge or  
Wednesday, Oct 23, 9.30-11am - Lounge

## **Creative Vision Worship with Pastor Patrick**

Sunday, Oct 27, 10-11am - Meetinghouse

## **Futures Lab with Convergence**

Saturday, Nov 16, 10am to 2pm - Auditorium



# MYM is going to **BOUNDLESS ADVENTURES!**

for any **6th-8th** graders

**10/3 @ 4 pm**

**735 Anderson Hill Rd, Purchase, NY**

**Van  
Pickup  
Schedule:**

United Norwalk @ 2:30

United Memorial @ 3:00

FCCOG @ 3:30



[khaleighl@fccog.org](mailto:khaleighl@fccog.org) | [myrym.org](http://myrym.org) | [@myrym.lfc](https://www.instagram.com/myrym.lfc)



***A new 1/4ly Faith Formation  
offering, specially designed  
for young families!***

## *Musical Morning Routines*

*Come learn some of your favorite  
Church School songs and how to  
incorporate these songs into your  
families daily faith!*

**October 17th, 2024**

**5:00pm Dinner**

**5:30 - 6:30 Program**

**108 Sound Beach Ave**





## Upcoming Dates 2024

Sept. 8, 11 am	September Social
Sept. 14, 4 -7 pm	Friends & Family Fest
Sept. 15, 11-12 pm	Visioning Recap
Sept. 22, 11-12 pm	Visioning Recap Repeat
Sept. 29, 11-12:30 pm	Visioning Webinar One
Oct. 1, 7 - 8 pm	Visioning Web One Repeat
Oct. 2, 9:30 am	Visioning Web One Repeat
Oct. 5, 12-2 pm	Blessing of the Animals
Oct. 6, 11-12 pm	Quarterly Cong Mtg
Oct. 13, 11-12 pm	Visioning Webinar Recap
Oct. 20, 11-12:30 pm	Visioning Webinar Two
Oct. 22, 7 - 8 pm	Visioning Web Two Repeat
Oct. 23, 9:30 am	Visioning Web Two Repeat
Oct. 26, 6-8pm	Trunk or Treat
Oct. 27, 11-12 pm	Soothing Second Hour 1
Nov. 2, 5-7pm	Celebratory Event
Nov. 3, 11-12 pm	Soothing Second Hour 2
Nov. 10, 11-12 pm	Soothing Second Hour 3
Nov. 16, 10 - 2 pm	Futures Lab
Nov. 17, 11-12 pm	Soothing Second Hour 4
Nov. 24, 10 am	Harvest Sunday, H.O.M.E.
Dec. 1, 11-12 pm	Advent Craft Fair
Dec. 8, 5 -7:30 pm	Christmas Party
Dec. 14, 4 -5:30 pm	Messiah
Dec. 24, 10 am, 3 pm, 6 pm, 9 pm	Christmas Eve Worship

**INTEMPO**  
*Soundscapes from Latino America*

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# HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

♥ **BENEFIT CONCERT SERIES** ✨

first congregational church of greenwich  
founded 1665

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13 - 4PM**  
**First Congregational Church of Greenwich**  
108 Sound Beach Ave, Old Greenwich, CT

Presented by: **The CAPITOL Rosen** **WOFSEY ROSEN** **Pennington** **MANFREDI jewelry**

Suggested donation: **\$10**. Reserve your seat at [www.intempo.org](http://www.intempo.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

Administrative and Communications Colleague

Livestream Director

Audio Technician

Database Administrative Assistant

PrayGround Supervisor

Facility Manager

Senior Sexton

Junior Sexton

First Church Preschool Director

First Church Preschool Assistant Director

First Church Preschool Administrative Assistant

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

Melanie Garnett

Reverend Sally Colegrove



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
a just world for all