



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2024
EIGHTEENTH 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

Ricercare

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)
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.

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

Rick Derr

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Here, in this place, God welcomes all the dreamers, as well as the doubters:

All: **Here, the worriers and wanderers can call on God by name.**

One: Here, in this time, we can remember all the ways God has graced us:

All: **Here, in these moments, we are reminded that God is with us, always!**

One: Here are gathered those daring enough to step out of comfort into the unknown:

All: **Here, in this faith space, we will find the courage to claim the faithfulness of God and share it with all the world!**

†CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

Morning Has Broken
38 Pilgrim Hymnal (red)

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

Almighty and most gracious God, we give you thanks for this day and for calling us here to your place of worship. We gather to praise your name, for your faithfulness endures from generation to generation. Signs of your faithfulness are all around us: love, mercy, forgiveness, new life, and the gifts of your Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Yet too often when life threatens us, we lose sight of your evidence and instead trust the world to save us, finding it easy to believe the empty promises of earthly advantages. Help us claim your faithfulness as we seek to increase our faithfulness to you in all that we do. Help us to trust and follow your ways of healing and forgiveness, O God of Promises. 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♭ F B♭ F B♭ F Gm F

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

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

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

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

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

† Please rise in body or in spirit

Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate robe for him. When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.

One time Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more. He said to them, “Listen to this dream I had: We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it.”

His brothers said to him, “Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?” And they hated him all the more because of his dream and what he had said.

So Joseph went after his brothers and found them near Dothan. But they saw him in the distance, and before he reached them, they plotted to kill him.

“Here comes that dreamer!” they said to each other. “Come now, let’s kill him and throw him into one of these cisterns and say that a ferocious animal devoured him. Then we’ll see what comes of his dreams.”

When Reuben heard this, he tried to rescue him from their hands. “Let’s not take his life,” he said. “Don’t shed any blood. Throw him into this cistern here in the wilderness, but don’t lay a hand on him.” Reuben said this to rescue him from them and take him back to his father.

Judah said to his brothers, “What will we gain if we kill our brother and cover up his blood? Come, let’s sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him; after all, he is our brother, our own flesh and blood.” His brothers agreed.

So when the Midianite merchants came by, his brothers pulled Joseph up out of the cistern and sold him for twenty shekels of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt.

When Reuben returned to the cistern and saw that Joseph was not there, he tore his clothes. He went back to his brothers and said, “The boy isn’t there! Where can I turn now?”

Then they got Joseph’s robe, slaughtered a goat and dipped the robe in the blood. They took the ornate robe back to their father and said, “We found this. Examine it to see whether it is your son’s robe.”

He recognized it and said, “It is my son’s robe! Some ferocious animal has devoured him. Joseph has surely been torn to pieces.”

Then Jacob tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and mourned for his son many days.

SOLO

Close Every Door

(from *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*)

Andrew Lloyd Webber (b. 1948)

Danny Young, tenor

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 50:15-21
Common English Bible

When Joseph's brothers realized that their father was now dead, they said, "What if Joseph bears a grudge against us, and wants to pay us back seriously for all of the terrible things we did to him?" So they approached Joseph and said, "Your father gave orders before he died, telling us, 'This is what you should say to Joseph. "Please, forgive your brothers' sins and misdeeds, for they did terrible things to you. Now, please forgive the sins of the servants of your father's God.'" Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

His brothers wept too, fell down in front of him, and said, "We're here as your slaves."

But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I God? You planned something bad for me, but God produced something good from it, in order to save the lives of many people, just as he's doing today. Now, don't be afraid. I will take care of you and your children." So he put them at ease and spoke reassuringly to them.

MESSAGE

The Impossible Dream
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

HYMN

With Songs And Honors Sounding Loud
459 Pilgrim Hymnal (red)

PRAYER SHAWL DEDICATION

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

Betsy Kreuter

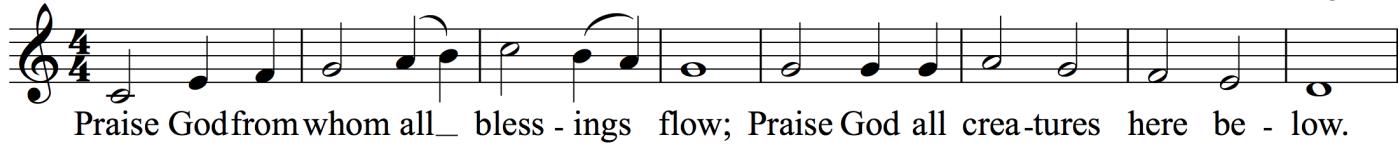
ANTHEM

We Are The Body Of Christ
Emily Lund (b. 1971)
The Chancel Choir

† Please rise in body or in spirit

†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.

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†HYMN

Who Trusts in God, A Strong Abode
355 Pilgrim Hymnal (red)

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL RESPONSE

†POSTLUDE

When Morning Gilds The Skies
Arr. Dale Wood (1934-2003)

† Please rise in body or in spirit

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CHURCH SCHOOL

Sept 22 – Regular Church School

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

Oct 6 – World Communion Sunday – all-ages worship



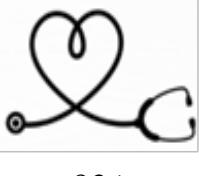
CELEBRATING DIVERSE WORSHIP EXPERIENCES: INTRODUCING THE SENSORY SANCTUARY

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



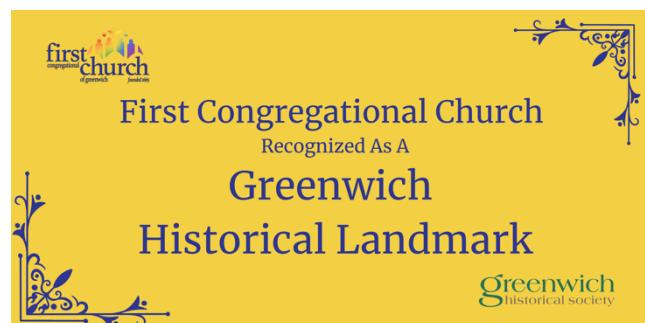
Sue Asselin, Parish Nurse is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service. If community hour is outside, look for her there. If inside, she will be in her office, just to the right of the Auditorium stage. During the week, she is available by appointment 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. BYO lunch optional.



FCCOG GRANTED HISTORICAL LANDMARK STATUS



We are thrilled to announce that on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, the Greenwich Historical Society awarded FCCOG prestigious Historical Landmark Status and have presented us a plaque in commemoration of that recognition. Our official celebration will be on Saturday, November 2 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Meetinghouse and Memory Garden, with details to follow.

Congratulations to FCCOG for this important recognition, and to Debbie Silverthorn and Pat Larrabee for their 17 months of tireless work helping us to achieve this. Here is a QR code that links to the video created by the Greenwich Historical Society on the history of First Church.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



Can you knit a basic stitch? If so, please consider knitting a prayer shawl for our ministry. It will bless you and the recipient. The few stolen moments of knitting a few rows while saying a prayer to the future recipient is peaceful and uplifting, I promise.

Join us in creating these prayer shawls, knitting into them our prayers, love and support. These shawls are then distributed to those experiencing a crisis or loss- and truly are beloved. No expertise needed as we use very forgiving yarn, larger needles and one basic stitch. We meet on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 7pm in Rick's Room of First Church. We can supply the needles and yarn. Contact Angela Stevens for more information. angelamessinastevens@gmail.com Hope to see you soon!



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

RYM is going to **BOUNLESS 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



khaleigh@fccog.org | myrym.org | [@myrym.lfc](https://www.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

THE CHAMBER PLAYERS OF THE GREENWICH SYMPHONY

First Church is proud to be the new home of one of two concerts each series the coming season. On Sunday, October 6 at 3 p.m., a woodwind concert will be held in the Meetinghouse, featuring works by **Elizabeth Brown Pentalogue for Woodwind Quintet**, **Ludwig van Beethoven Sextet in E flat major Op. 71**, **Carl Nielsen Quintet for Winds Op. 43**. Tickets are Adult Season:\$100 - Student Season:\$15 - Adult Admission (per concert):\$35 Student Admission (per concert) \$5 For full information, visit www.chamberplayersofthegso.org



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

A poster for the Intempo Hispanic Heritage Month Benefit Concert Series. It features a banner with colorful Mexican papel picado flags and musical notes. The text "INTEMPO" is written in a stylized, colorful font. Below it, "Soundscapes from Latino America" is written in blue. The main title "HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH" is in large red and blue letters. Below that, a red banner reads "BENEFIT CONCERT SERIES". The First Congregational Church of Greenwich logo is in the top right. The date "SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13 - 4PM" and location "First Congregational Church of Greenwich, 108 Sound Beach Ave, Old Greenwich, CT" are in the center. Logos for "The CAPITOL Theatre", "WOFSEY ROSEN", "Pennington", and "MANFREDI jeweler" are at the bottom. A yellow box at the bottom right says "Suggested donation: \$10. Reserve your seat at www.intempo.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	Reverend Patrick Collins
Associate Pastor	Reverend Cydney Van Dyke
Minister of Music	Dr. Craig Scott Symons
Director of FCCCOG Church School/Regional Youth Ministry	Khaleigh Laicher
Parish Nurse	Susan Asselin, RN
Church Office Coordinator	Wendy Spezzano
Financial Administrator	Greg Girolamo
Administrative and Communications Colleague	Carolyn Samuel
Livestream Director	Daniel Lepoutre
Audio Technician	Bob Small
Database Administrative Assistant	Sue Wilder
PrayGround Supervisor	Amalia Samuel
Facility Manager	Julio Yika
Senior Sexton	Curtis Gay
Junior Sexton	Brandon Speight Gay
First Church Preschool Director	Beth Genovese
First Church Preschool Assistant Director	Kayla Vozzella
First Church Preschool Administrative Assistant	Melanie Garnett
Pastor Emerita	Reverend Sally Colegrove



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all