



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2024
NINETEENTH 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

Andante (from *Sonata in D* BWV 1028)
Johann Sebastian Bach (1653-1706)
Dr. Tod Hedrick, viola da gamba
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, harpsichord

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: In every age, God has spoken.

All: Today, we seek to hear God's call to us.

One: In music, in spoken word, in the work of the spirit that speaks to our hearts.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, fill this time and space with your love.

†CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

Let Us With A Gladsome Mind
70 Pilgrim Hymnal (red)

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

Merciful God, You delivered Your people from slavery and led them to freedom, yet we confess that we often forget Your saving power in our lives. We allow fear and doubt to keep us captive, neglecting to fully trust in Your guidance and offer ourselves to Your will. Forgive us for our lack of faith and for failing to honor the blessings You have given. Renew our hearts, that we may follow Your path of grace and live as a people set apart for You.

In Jesus' name, we pray. 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) (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, γ with - out end. A - men.

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

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

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

† Please rise in body or in spirit

FIRST LESSON

Exodus 12:1-13
New Revised Standard Version
Joe McBride

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, “This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn with fire. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand, and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the Lord. I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

SOLO

Prelude In D (from *Pièces de Viole*, book 4)
Marin Marais (1656-1728)
Dr. Tod Hedrick, viola da gamba

SECOND LESSON

Exodus 13:1-8
New Revised Standard Version

The Lord said to Moses, “Consecrate to me all the firstborn; whatever is the first to open the womb among the Israelites, of human beings and animals, is mine.”

Moses said to the people, “Remember this day on which you came out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, because the Lord brought you out from there by strength of hand; no leavened bread shall be eaten. Today, in the month of Abib, you are going out. When the Lord brings you into the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, which he swore to your ancestors to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey, you shall keep this observance in this month. Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a festival to the Lord. Unleavened bread shall be eaten for seven days; no leavened bread shall be seen in your possession, and no leaven shall be seen among you in all your territory. You shall tell your child on that day, ‘It is because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt.’

MESSAGE

The Sign

Reverend Patrick Collins

†HYMN

When Israel Was In Egypt's Land
428 Pilgrim Hymnal (red)

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

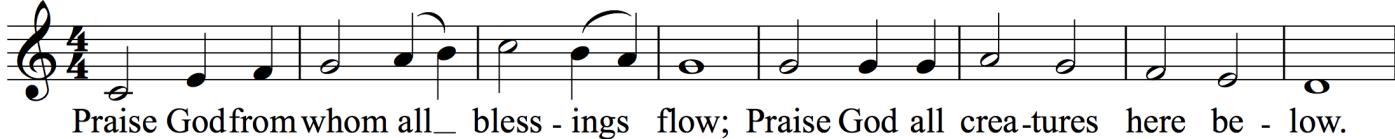
ANTHEM

Lauda Anima

Mark Andrews (1875-1939)
The Chancel Choir

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow



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

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†HYMN

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
93 Pilgrim Hymnal (red)

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL RESPONSE

†POSTLUDE

Scherzando (from *Sonata in D TWV 41*)
Georg Philipp Telemann (1681-1767)

† Please rise in body or in spirit



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

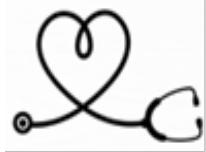
CELEBRATING DIVERSE WORSHIP EXPERIENCES: INTRODUCING THE SENSORY SANCTUARY

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



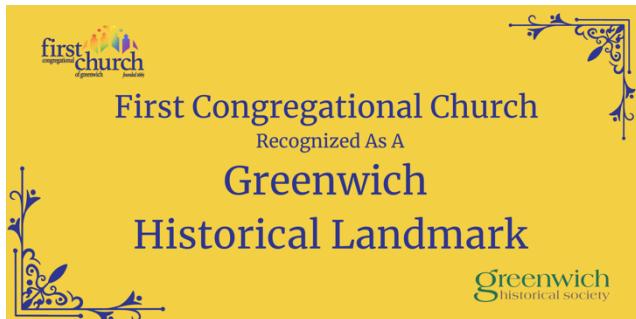
Sue Asselin, Parish Nurse is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service. If community hour is outside, look for her there. If inside, she will be in her office, just to the right of the Auditorium stage. During the week, she is available by appointment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

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP ALLOCATIONS TO SEND GRANT APPLICATIONS

As we enter the fall season, it is now time to launch our Allocations cycle, by inviting local nonprofit organizations to apply for a grant from the proceeds of the Rummage Room for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

This past May, we distributed \$141,750 across 46 organizations. If there is an organization that you would like the Allocations Committee to invite to apply, please email sheilabennettms@gmail.com. Applications will be sent out at the end of the month.



VISIONING DATES

The Great Unveiling with Convergence, WEBINAR

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

PETTING ZOO

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH
ANNUAL

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 12 TO 2 PM

Bring your pet to our Front Lawn for a Blessing with Pastor Patrick and Pastor Cydney, and visit our Petting Zoo, and get your photo taken! Pets of all kinds are welcome! Open to the Whole Community

12 pm to 2 pm

Saturday, October 5 2024

First Congregational Church of Greenwich
108 Sound Beach Ave, Old Greenwich

**first
congregational
church
of greenwich
founded 1665**

TRUNK OR TREAT.

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 26
6:00 - 7:30 PM**

Music - Food Trucks - Candy

First Church Parking Lot,
108 Sound Beach Ave, Old Greenwich, CT

\$20 Per Family

**Special Appearance -
Back To The Future Delorean**



Upcoming Dates 2024

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

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.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

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

INTEMPO
Soundscapes from Latino America

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 Theatre **WOFSEY ROSEN** **Pennington** Since 1968 **MANFREDI** jewels

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 FCCOG 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