



SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2026
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

declares itself to be Open and Affirming (ONA); 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.

Welcome to Worship!

We welcome you this day and are glad you are here! May worship be a blessing to you.

First Church Welcomes *You.*

With Worship. A casual tone, stirring music, moving prayers, & a faith-invoking message. **Prayer Book requests** (in Narthex) are uplifted during the Prayers of the People.

With Inclusion. Open & Affirming (ONA). We make a point of meeting all and name tags are worn.

With Communion. The first Sunday of each month, all ages share in the sacred meal together. We use juice & gluten-free bread!

With Care. We pass the Peace of Christ to one another. We are a mask-friendly, come-as-you-are, leave-as-a-friend community.



First Church Welcomes *Children.*

The PrayGround. In the Chapel space, guiding kids in worship.

Cherub Choir, Celebration Singers, & Genesis Choir. Children of all ages are welcome to offer music in worship!

Children's Message. A moment for kids & the child in each of us.

Church School. Faith learnings for the day continue in the Undercroft classrooms after the Children's Message.

Children's Take Home Library. Located by the PrayGround. Check out what interests you & bring it back next week!



First Church Welcomes *All.*

Sensory Sanctuary & Rocking Chairs. Focusing resources located in the back of the Meetinghouse.

Visual Worship Aids & Live captioning. Found on the monitors.

Audio Hearing Aids. To use, ask Greeters or Ushers.

Spaces in Meetinghouse for Wheelchair Users

Exterior Ramp. In the back of the Meetinghouse, driveway side.

Liftavators. Located inside, from Narthex to Auditorium Level & Outside in the Memory Garden.



Enjoy a cup of coffee, food, & fellowship at *Community Hour* after the service!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Church is a mask-friendly community of faith. Anyone who prefers to wear a mask should feel comfortable doing so.

Please know our worshipping community gathers in-person and online via livestream

with multiple camera angles of the Meetinghouse and congregation.

Audio Hearing Aids are available for your use during the service. See an usher to request a device.

Please silence all electronic devices.

PRELUDE

Voluntary

Samuel P. Jackson (1818-1885)
Steven Russell, guest organist/director

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Patrick Collins

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: For what shall we ask our God

All: **Whose generosity knows no bounds?**

One: Do we seek after the things that perish,

All: **Or after qualities of the spirit?**

One: With Solomon let us ask our God for wisdom,

All: **The discernment of right and wrong**

One: That we might recognize what we are called to do,

All: **That we might work for God's justice in all things.**

†CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

Awake, My Soul

663 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

Holy Wisdom,

You granted Solomon's request for an understanding mind and the knowledge to discern good from evil. Fill us with such understanding and knowledge that we may act as instruments of your loving desire for creation, working with you to transform our conceit into concern for others, our fear into love, our violence into peace, and our brokenness into wholeness. 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: May the peace of Christ be with all of you.

All: And also with you.

†Please rise in body or in spirit

†RESPONSE (remain standing)

Halle, Hallelujah



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(During the response, the children will return to their seats.)

RESPONSE

Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 119:33-40

New International Version

Cynthia De Riemer

Teach me, Lord, the way of your decrees,
that I may follow it to the end.
Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law
and obey it with all my heart.
Direct me in the path of your commands,
for there I find delight.
Turn my heart toward your statutes
and not toward selfish gain.
Turn my eyes away from worthless things;
preserve my life according to your word.
Fulfill your promise to your servant,
so that you may be feared.
Take away the disgrace I dread,
for your laws are good.
How I long for your precepts!
In your righteousness preserve my life.

ANTHEM

Lord, I Trust Thee

G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

The Summer Choir

SECOND LESSON

1 Kings 3:1, 16-28

New International Version

Solomon made an alliance with Pharaoh king of Egypt and married his daughter. He brought her to the City of David until he finished building his palace and the temple of the Lord, and the wall around Jerusalem.

†Please rise in body or in spirit

Now two prostitutes came to the king and stood before him. One of them said, "Pardon me, my lord. This woman and I live in the same house, and I had a baby while she was there with me. The third day after my child was born, this woman also had a baby. We were alone; there was no one in the house but the two of us. During the night this woman's son died because she lay on him. So she got up in the middle of the night and took my son from my side while I your servant was asleep. She put him by her breast and put her dead son by my breast. The next morning, I got up to nurse my son—and he was dead! But when I looked at him closely in the morning light, I saw that it wasn't the son I had borne."

The other woman said, "No! The living one is my son; the dead one is yours." But the first one insisted, "No! The dead one is yours; the living one is mine." And so they argued before the king.

The king said, "This one says, 'My son is alive and your son is dead,' while that one says, 'No! Your son is dead and mine is alive.'" Then the king said, "Bring me a sword." So they brought a sword for the king. He then gave an order: "Cut the living child in two and give half to one and half to the other."

The woman whose son was alive was deeply moved out of love for her son and said to the king, "Please, my lord, give her the living baby! Don't kill him!" But the other said, "Neither I nor you shall have him. Cut him in two!"

Then the king gave his ruling: "Give the living baby to the first woman. Do not kill him; she is his mother." When all Israel heard the verdict the king had given, they held the king in awe, because they saw that he had wisdom from God to administer justice.

MESSAGE

Which Way?
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

†HYMN

Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers
407 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

*Using your smartphone messaging app,
text FCCOG Donate to 73256 or scan the QR code to donate.*



ORGAN OFFERTORY

Voluntary
Benjamin Cross (1786-1857)

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†Please rise in body or in spirit

†HYMN

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

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL RESPONSE

†POSTLUDE

Voluntary
William Selby (1738-1798)

†Please rise in body or in spirit

All music used with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726454. All rights reserved.

Join us for Community Hour in the Memory Garden (weather permitting) 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.

COMMUNITY
hour
HOUR

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING - TODAY



Your Parish Nurse, Sue Asselin, is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service, in her office to the right of the Auditorium stage, or in the Memory Garden weather permitting. During the week, Sue is available by appointment. Email susana@fccog.org or call 203-637-1791 extension 821.



Caregivers Support Group – Weekly, Wednesday 1:30 - 2:30 pm, Lounge

This group is designed for those who find themselves the primary caregivers to aging parents, ailing spouses, or have otherwise had their lives impacted by the care needs of others.

The group is facilitated by Dedee Rigg, an experienced pastoral counselor and long-time caregiver to her husband Jerry. Dedee graduated from Union Theological Seminary and was ordained to pastoral counseling ministry here at First Church in 1981. After clinical training, she practiced psychotherapy & pastoral counseling in Greenwich for 40 years. Dedee initially worked with adults and couples suffering from both individual and marital issues and later, after the loss of a son, she specialized in grief counseling. For 19 years she was the primary caretaker for her husband Jerry who died of Alzheimer's disease. She offers her experience as a therapist and a caretaker in this support group.

To learn more, contact Pastors Cydney or Patrick, or Parish Nurse Sue Asselin.

Beach Services – Summer 2026

July 19, 26

August 2, 23, 30

**All-Church Beach Services are
August 9 & 16
(No Meetinghouse Service)**

8 A.M. AT GREENWICH POINT PARK

ALL ARE WELCOME - SIMPLY SAY YOU'RE THERE FOR FIRST CHURCH SERVICE
BRING YOUR BEACH CHAIR OR BLANKET

FOUNDERS' DAY & HERITAGE SUNDAY JULY 19 AT 10 A.M.



On this Sunday we honor members who have been a part of the church for 50 years or more. The same day, the Founders' Day service is held on the Sunday closest to Founders' Day in Greenwich which is July 18, the day when the church was chartered in 1665. It is a service of celebration of the rich history of our church and the community.

Discover community activities in 2026

All women of the church are welcome!

Scan the QR code for the **GroupMe** app or visit **www.GroupMe.com** from your desktop for Women's Fellowship activity updates

For questions, email **Sara Stuckey** (sdstuckey@gmail.com)

Scan here with your smartphone camera!

SUMMER BEACH OUTINGS

Mondays @ 5:30
July 27 & August 24,
 rain dates the next day, respectively

We plan 3 monthly beach outings this summer!
 All women in our Church and your guests are invited to bring your own picnic and beverage.

For those who live outside Greenwich, we will meet to carpool in the Church parking lot at 5:15pm in the car of a Greenwich resident with a beach pass.

****IF YOU NEED TO CARPOOL****
 please let Pat Larrabee know. Her email is **patlarrabee@hotmail.com**

Location: The Sue H. Baker Pavilion at The Old Barn at Greenwich Point

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
 Associate Pastor
 Minister of Music
 Director of Church School/Regional Youth Ministry
 Parish Nurse
 Director of Operations
 Director of Finance & Administration
 Livestream Director
 Audio Technician
 Database Administrative Assistant
 Buildings and Grounds Supervisor
 Facility Supervisor and Sunday Sexton
 Sexton
 Sexton
 First Church Preschool Director
 First Church Preschool Assistant Director
 Pastor Emerita

Reverend Patrick Collins
 Reverend Cydney Van Dyke
 Dr. Craig Scott Symons
 Khaleigh Laicher
 Susan Asselin, RN
 Wendy Spezzano
 Greg Girolamo
 Daniel Lepoutre
 Bob Small
 Sue Wilder
 Johnny Ramos
 Julio Yika
 Joe Vartuli
 Curtis Gay
 Beth Genovese
 Melanie Garnett
 Reverend Sally Colegrove



UNITED CHURCH
 OF CHRIST
 a just world for all