



SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2025
SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
FOUNDERS' DAY & HERITAGE SUNDAY
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 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.



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.*

This morning's flowers are given in loving memory of George and Dorothy Fisk by their family.

PRELUDE

Preamble

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, saints of God —

All: to sing to the One who is worthy of all praise!

One: Come, join with the whole host of heaven —

All: giving glory and honor and blessing to the One whose power of life prevails!

One: Come, join with all creation —

All: to worship the One who is, and who was, and who is to come.

†CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

Come, Great God Of All The Ages
309 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

Let our prayers rise before you like incense, O God, coming into your presence from the passion of our hearts. We long to see the fullness of your kingdom come, to behold your face and hear your voice. Gather us around your throne and open to us the mystery of your grace that we may faithfully take our place among your saints even here and now. 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

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.

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

FIRST LESSON

Revelation 5: 1-5
New Revised Standard Version
Karen Yancey

Then I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals, and I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it. And I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals."

ANTHEM

How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place
Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
The Summer Choir

SECOND LESSON

Revelation 5: 6-14
New Revised Standard Version

Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, with seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne. When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. They sing a new song:

"You are worthy to take the scroll
and to break its seals,
for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God
saints from every tribe and language and people and nation;
you have made them a kingdom and priests serving our God,
and they will reign on earth."

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might
and honor and glory and blessing!"

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea and all that is in them, singing,

"To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might
forever and ever!"

And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

MESSAGE

Revelation and Resistance: Worthy is the Lamb
Reverend Patrick Collins

†HYMN

O Christ, The Great Foundation
361 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.

FOUNDERS DAY PROCLAMATION

Fred Camillo, First Selectman of Greenwich

Founders Day is July 18th every year since July 18th, 1640 when the settlers acquired the land that is now Old Greenwich from the local indigenous people. Because the law in those days was that you could not have a town without a church first being established, 1665 is the date our church uses as its founding date. It took 25 years to have enough people in town to be able to afford the salary of a minister. The town of Greenwich uses the 1640 date for its founding.

CALL TO OFFERING

ORGAN OFFERTORY

Fantasia In C Major
J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below: Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HERITAGE SUNDAY DEDICATION

†HYMN

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee
611 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL RESPONSE

†POSTLUDE

Toccata
Gordon Young (1919-1998)

†Please rise in body or in spirit

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Join us for Community Hour in the Memory Garden (or Auditorium in case of rain) 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
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HOURL



WIRED WORD BIBLE STUDY

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

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING



Parish Nurse Sue Asselin, RN will be available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following Sunday's worship service. If Community Hour is held outside, Sue will be in the Memory Garden. If held inside, Sue will be in her office, to the right of the Auditorium stage.

During the week, she is available by appointment, which can be made by calling extension 821 or emailing susana@fccog.org.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP SUMMER SOCIALS

Our next Women's Fellowship Summer Social is Monday, July 28 from 5:30 pm on at the Sue Baker Pavilion at Greenwich Point. The rain date is the following evening. We bring our own food/drinks and meet for an informal gathering. Feel free to bring a friend/neighbor. If you don't have a current Greenwich beach pass, we can arrange a ride from the church parking lot if you let Car Westbrook know. (The final Summer Social is scheduled for Monday, August 25th with a rain date the following evening.)



Questions? Contact Car Westbrook at carwestbrook@optimum.net.



**Join us at Greenwich Point on
Sunday, August 3 at 8 a.m.
for an All-Church Beach Service
No passes required - bring your chairs/blankets**

(In case of bad weather, worship will be at 10 a.m. in the Meetinghouse)



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

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Ministers - All Members Of The First Congregational Church Of Greenwich

Senior Pastor
Associate Pastor
Minister of Music
Director of Church School/RYM
Parish Nurse
Church Office Coordinator
Financial Administrator
Livestream Director
Audio Technician
Database Administrative Assistant
Facility Manager
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
Julio Yika
Curtis Gay
Beth Genovese
Melanie Garnett
Reverend Sally Colegrove



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OF CHRIST
a just world for all

