



SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026  
SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER  
MUSIC 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 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

*Let Freedom Ring*  
Jonathan Vaughn  
The Palmer Handbell Choir  
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, director

## CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Patrick Collins

## CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

*All Things Bright And Beautiful*  
The Cherub Choir  
Carol Woodman, director  
Lynn Hawxhurst, ukulele  
Carolyn Paulus, piano

## †CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

**All: Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.**

One: Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his;

**All: we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

One: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

**All: Give thanks to him, bless his name.**

One: For the Lord is good;

**All: his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.**

## †HYMN

*When In Our Music God Is Glorified*  
641 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

## †PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

O God, you call us to sing your song anew, yet we confess that sometimes we don't feel much like singing. Sometimes we just want to sing of the past. Other times we ignore the witness of your people singing out through the ages. Forgive us when we trap your good news in our preferred language, when we insist that your grace must be known through our approved tunes, when we limit your story to the good old days. Forgive us when our lips are sealed in protest or in fear. Forgive us when we keep our voices low and our feet firmly planted, refusing to join you in the song and dance of holy life. Open our lips, O God, that we may proclaim your praise. Amen.

*Rev. Teri Peterson, Presbyterian Church of Palatine, IL*

*\*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: May the peace of Christ be with all of you.

All: And also with you.

## †RESPONSE (remain standing)

*Halle, Hallelujah*

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal-le - lu-jah! Hal-le - lu - jah!

## ANTHEM

*For The Beauty Of The Earth*  
Kenton Coe (1931-2021)  
The Celebration Singers  
Vance Briceland, piano

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*(During the response, the children will depart for Church School [in the lounge] or 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

*Philippians 4:4-9*  
Common English Bible  
Charles Stuckey

Be glad in the Lord always! Again I say, be glad! Let your gentleness show in your treatment of all people. The Lord is near. Don't be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.

From now on, brothers and sisters, if anything is excellent and if anything is admirable, focus your thoughts on these things: all that is true, all that is holy, all that is just, all that is pure, all that is lovely, and all that is worthy of praise. Practice these things: whatever you learned, received, heard, or saw in us. The God of peace will be with you.

†Please rise in body or in spirit

## 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.*

Karen Yancey



### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Go Ye Into All The World*  
Eugene Butler (1935-2024)  
The Genesis Choir  
Daniel Young, director  
Hanna Golodinskii, piano

### †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

### SECOND LESSON

*John 14:15-27*  
Common English Bible

“If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be<sup>cl</sup> in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.”

Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, “But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?” Jesus replied, “Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.

“All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

### MESSAGE

*The God Of Peace Will Be With You*  
Dr. Craig Scott Symons

†Please rise in body or in spirit

## ANTHEM

*Rejoice In The Lamb*  
Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)  
The Chancel Choir  
Hanna Golodinskii, soprano  
Linnea Conley, mezzo soprano  
Daniel Young, tenor  
Thomas Woodman, bass  
Dr. Stephen Rapp, organist

## †HYMN

*We Are Marching In The Light Of God*  
853 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

## †BENEDICTION

## †POSTLUDE

*Antiphonal Praise*  
Michael Bedford (b. 1949)

## †Please rise in body or in spirit

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## REJOICE IN THE LAMB TEXT

### CHORUS

Rejoice in God, O ye Tongues;  
Give the glory to the Lord,  
And the Lamb.  
Nations, and languages,  
And every Creature  
In which is the breath of Life.  
Let man and beast appear before him,  
And magnify his name together.

Let Nimrod, the mighty hunter,  
Bind a leopard to the altar  
And consecrate his spear to the Lord.

Let Ishmail dedicate a tyger,  
And give praise for the liberty  
In which the Lord has let him at large.

Let Balaam appear with an ass,  
And bless the Lord his people  
And his creatures for a reward eternal.

Let Daniel come forth with a lion,  
And praise God with all his might  
Through faith in Christ Jesus.

Let Ithamar minister with a chamois,  
And bless the name of Him  
That clotheth the naked.

Let Jakim with the satyr  
Bless God in the dance,  
Dance, dance, dance.

Let David bless with the bear  
The beginning of victory to the Lord,  
To the Lord the perfection of excellence.

Hallelujah, hallelujah,  
Hallelujah from the heart of God,  
And from the hand of the artist inimitable,  
And from the echo of the heavenly harp  
In sweetness magnificent and mighty.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

## SOLO

For I will consider my cat Jeoffry.  
For he is the servant of the living God.  
Duly and daily serving him.

For at the first glance  
Of the glory of God in the East  
He worships in his way.  
For this is done by wreathing his body  
Seven times round with elegant quickness.  
For he knows that God is his saviour.  
For God has bless'd him  
In the variety of his movements.  
For there is nothing sweeter  
Than his peace when at rest.

For I am possessed of a cat,  
Surpassing in beauty,  
From whom I take occasion  
To bless Almighty God.

## SOLO

For the Mouse is a creature  
Of great personal valour.  
For this is a true case-  
Cat takes female mouse,  
Male mouse will not depart,  
but stands threat'ning and daring.  
If you will let her go,  
I will engage you,  
As prodigious a creature as you are.

For the Mouse is a creature  
Of great personal valour.  
For the Mouse is of  
An hospitable disposition.

## SOLO

For the flowers are great blessings.  
For the flowers are great blessings.  
For the flowers have their angels,  
Even the words of God's creation.  
For the flower glorifies God  
And the root parries the adversary.  
For there is a language of flowers.  
For the flowers are peculiarly  
The poetry of Christ.

## CHORUS

For I am under the same accusation  
With my Savior,  
For they said,  
He is besides himself.  
For the officers of the peace  
Are at variance with me,  
And the watchman smites me  
With his staff.  
For the silly fellow, silly fellow,  
Is against me,  
And belongeth neither to me  
Nor to my family.  
For I am in twelve hardships,  
But he that was born of a virgin  
Shall deliver me out of all,  
Shall deliver me out of all.

## SOLO

For H is a spirit  
And therefore he is God.  
For K is king  
And therefore he is God.  
For L is love  
And therefore he is God.  
For M is musick  
And therefore he is God.  
And therefore he is God.

## CHORUS

For the instruments are by their rhimes,  
For the shawm rhimes are lawn fawn and the like.  
For the shawm rhimes are moon boon and the like.  
For the harp rhimes are sing ring and the like.  
For the harp rhimes are ring string and the like.  
For the cymbal rhimes are bell well and the like.  
For the cymbal rhimes are toll soul and the like.  
For the flute rhimes are tooth youth and the like.  
For the flute rhimes are suit mute and the like.  
For the bassoon rhimes are pass class and the like.  
For the dulcimer rhimes are grace place and the like.  
For the clarinet rhimes are clean seen and the like.  
For the trumpet rhimes are sound bound and the like.


For the trumpet of God is a blessed intelligence  
And so are all the instruments in Heav'n.  
For God the Father Almighty plays upon the harp  
Of stupendous magnitude and melody.  
For at that time malignity ceases  
And the devils themselves are at peace.  
For this time is perceptible to man  
By a remarkable stillness and serenity of soul.

Hallelujah, hallelujah,  
Hallelujah from the heart of God,  
And from the hand of the artist inimitable,  
And from the echo of the heavenly harp  
In sweetness magnificent and mighty.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

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Join us for Community Hour in the Memory Garden (weather permitting) where you can greet one another, enjoy a cup of coffee, enjoy berries, croissants, whipped cream. Hosts for today are members of the First Church Music Ministry and members of the Asset Management Committee.

**COMMUNITY**  
*oooooooo*  
**HOUR**



### Caregivers Support Group - First meeting May 6

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.

Weekly meetings will begin on Wednesday May 6, 1:30-2:30 pm, in the Lounge at First Church.

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.



**JOIN US TO PACK SHOWER KITS  
FOR CLIENTS OF  
NEW COVENANT CENTER ON TODAY  
AT COMMUNITY HOUR**

**NEW COVENANT CENTER RUNS A SHOWER PROGRAM USED BY CLIENTS WHO ARE UNHOUSED OR DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO HOT WATER. ABOUT 35 CLIENTS USE THE PROGRAM EACH WEEK AND IT IS OFTEN AN INTRODUCTION TO OTHER HELPFUL SERVICES AND BROADER SUPPORT.**

**THE KITS WILL INCLUDE A WASHCLOTH, BAR OF SOAP, TOOTHBRUSH, TOOTHPASTE, RAZOR, SHAVING CREAM AND DEODORANT ALL PACKED IN A ZIPLC BAG. WE WILL ALSO ENCLOSE A HAND WRITTEN NOTE IN EACH BAG.**

**NO NEED TO SIGN UP!  
SIMPLY BRING YOUR PACKING SKILLS OR ARTISTIC SKILLS TO COMMUNITY HOUR.  
PACKERS AND CARD MAKERS OF ALL AGES WELCOME.**

**FAITH IS A JOURNEY WE STEP INTO.  
MEMBERSHIP IS SIMPLY ONE WAY  
OF SAYING:**

**"I WANT TO KEEP WALKING THIS  
ROAD TOGETHER."**

**IF YOU HAVE BEEN WORSHIPING,  
WONDERING, GROWING, SERVING,  
OR SEARCHING ALONGSIDE US,  
PERHAPS THIS IS YOUR NEXT STEP.**

**AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH OF GREENWICH,  
BECOMING A MEMBER IS SIMPLE:**

**HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH ONE  
OF OUR PASTORS ABOUT YOUR  
FAITH JOURNEY AND DESIRE TO BE  
PART OF THIS COMMUNITY.**



**JOIN THE JOURNEY**

**TAKE THE NEXT STEP  
AND BECOME A MEMBER  
OF FIRST CHURCH**



Join the conversation  
about  
*Women's Health*  
through all stages of life

Sunday, May 31st  
11-1 in the Auditorium  
*light snacks provided*



Please RSVP or scan

[Click HERE!](#)



Contacts:

Sara Stuckey [sdstuckey@gmail.com](mailto:sdstuckey@gmail.com)  
Meg Dempsey [megdempseyconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:megdempseyconsulting@gmail.com)



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](http://www.GroupMe.com) from your desktop for Women's Fellowship activity updates

For questions, email  
**Sara Stuckey**  
([sdstuckey@gmail.com](mailto:sdstuckey@gmail.com))



Scan here with your smartphone camera!



First Congregational Church of Greenwich

**We Need Volunteers!**

Be a leader in worship as a reader, usher, or greeter

**Worship Reading**

read scripture on Sunday mornings

**Call to Offering**

share your inspiration to introduce the offering

**Ushering**

pass out bulletins and help pass offering plates

**Greeters**

be a welcoming presence as people arrive for worship



scan to sign up

**May**

**Friday, 5/8 @ 11am**  
OG Village Walk  
(meet at FCCOG)

**Saturday, 5/16 @ 11-1**  
Women's Fellowship  
Annual Luncheon  
FCCOG Auditorium

**Wednesday, 5/20 @ 5pm**  
Happy Hour at Bosco's  
(148 Sound Beach Ave,  
Old Greenwich)

**Thursday, 5/28 @ 10am**  
Coffee for Good  
(48 Maple Ave, Greenwich)

**Sunday, 5/31 @ 11am**  
Women's Health Day  
FCCOG Auditorium

**Summer**

**beach outings**

**Mondays @ 5:30**  
**June 22, 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 in the Friday email blast.

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



# 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE COMMUNION

**A FCCOG CHURCH SCHOOL TRADITION: THE YEAR WE FOCUS ON THE EUCHARIST**

9 am **Prep Classes: April 26, May 3, 10 & 24**  
DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH SCHOOL UNDERCROFT  
**Celebration Sunday: June 14**

KHALEIGH @FCCOG.ORG



# 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE BiBLE

**A FCCOG CHURCH SCHOOL TRADITION: THE YEAR WE FOCUS ON THE BiBLE**

**All Preparatory Classes: April 26, May 3, 10, & 24**  
DOWNSTAIRS IN THE CHURCH SCHOOL UNDERCROFT  
**Celebration Sunday: June 14**

**Both at 9:00 am**

**FAMILIES: PLEASE TRY TO ATTEND 3 CLASSES!**

## Σ SERVICE LEARNING TRIP

**2026: MAY 29 - 31**  
 (mission-trip-like weekend!) **\$200** WITH MANY SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!

**WHERE ARE WE GOING & WHAT ARE WE DOING?**  
 Youth are invited to 48 hours in New Haven, CT learning about our local unhoused neighbors & will put our faith in action by serving others!

**6<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> GR.**


**FRI 29 LEAVE FOR NEW HAVEN & ARRIVAL**  
 Spring Glen United Church of Christ in Hamden

**SAT 30 SERVICE WORK & FUN IN THE COMMUNITY**  
 Working with the Incredible Days Group!

**SUN 31 CLOSING CIRCLE & HEAD HOME**  
 Pick-up/Drop-off: 2CC Greenwich, 139 E. Putnam Ave

**REGIONAL YOUTH MINISTRY**

REGISTER! **MORE INFO: DIRECTOR@MYRYM.ORG**


### NARRATIVE LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY

Each Thursday at 12 noon in the First Church Lounge, Pastor Patrick leads a group in a new adult education opportunity. We'll dive into the Narrative Lectionary daily readings, opening space for honest conversation, fresh insights, and shared discovery.

For the past 2-3 years, First Church has been using the Narrative Lectionary as our primary scripture focus in Sunday worship.

Whether you are brand new to Bible study or a seasoned reader, you'll find a welcoming circle to explore how God's story connects with our own.

Come as you are, bring your questions, curiosity, an open heart, and your lunch (optional).



# MEMORIAL DAY parade DAY

**MAY 25 / 10 AM**

Sound Beach Ave - ending at First Church/Binney Park  
 Treats given out on our front lawn

[www.kinsleylyons.site.com](http://www.kinsleylyons.site.com)

## 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

See more about the stories of our  
Stained Glass Windows



See the Tour of our Main Cemetery -  
People of Note

