



SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 2025
TENTH 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 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.*

PRELUDE

Souvenir

Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come and walk in the light of the Lord!

All: **The gates are always open and God's home is here among us.**

One: Come to the river of life,

All: **to celebrate, to heal, to see the promise of what can be, what will be.**

†CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

O God, Who Gives Us Life
53 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

You are our God and we are your people, and in your kingdom every place is holy. We pray for hearts open to see your face reflected all around us, not only here. Even now, already, your glory shines, and you bid us taste and see that you are good. Give us a glimpse, even a moment, that we may be strengthened for the living of these days.

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, Hallehujah



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 21:1-7
New Revised Standard Version
Pat Larrabee

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them and be their God;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God, and they will be my children.

† Please rise in body or in spirit

ANTHEM

For The Beauty Of The Earth
Kenton Coe (1930-2021)
The Summer Choir

SECOND LESSON

Revelation 21: 22-27; 22: 1-5
New Revised Standard Version

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

MESSAGE

Revelation and Resistance: God Among Us
Reverend Patrick Collins

†HYMN

Source And Sovereign, Rock And Cloud
11 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

Juliet Primo-Lee

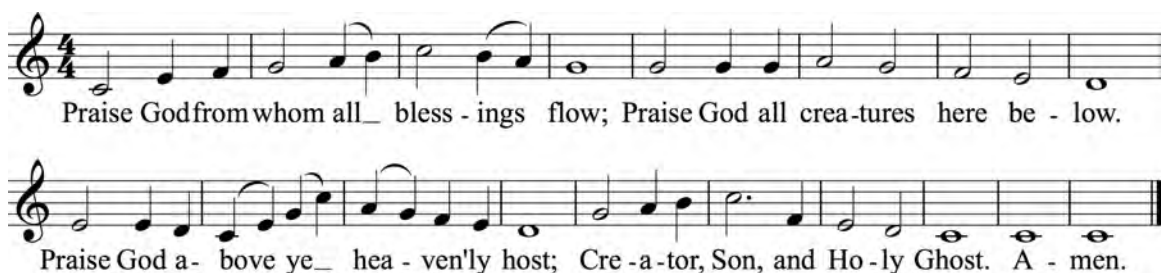
OFFERTORY ANTHEM

When Morning Gilds The Skies
Rachel Aarons (b. 1984)
The Summer Choir

†Please rise in body or in spirit

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow



†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†HYMN

We Wait The Peaceful Kingdom
378 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL RESPONSE

†POSTLUDE

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

†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 August are members of the Church Council.

COMMUNITY
hour
HOUR



CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE SUNDAYS: AUGUST 24 AND 31

What do you want to hear a sermon about? On these two special Sundays, Patrick and Cydney are inviting you to help shape the message. Submit a topic, theme, or scripture you would love to hear explored in worship.

Whether it's a burning question, a favorite passage, or something you've always wondered about, send in your idea. It just might be selected for one of these interactive Sundays. Please email your suggestions to patrickc@fccog.org or cydneyv@fccog.org by August 17.

We'll also have "shout out your favorite hymn" on those Sundays. Jot down your favorite hymn number and come prepared for a great morning of new adventures!

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.

FINAL WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP SUMMER SOCIAL

Our final Women's Fellowship Summer Social is Monday, August 25 (rain date following evening) 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.

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





first
congregational
of greenwich
founded 1665

HOMEcoming

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Say Hello to Fall

FRIENDS & FAMILY FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

108 Sound Beach Avenue Old Greenwich CT 06870

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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/ Regional Youth Ministry
Parish Nurse
Director of Operations
Director of Finance & Administration
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



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

