



SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2025  
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY  
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.



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.*

## PRELUDE

*Andante Con Moto*  
Eric Thiman (1900-1975)  
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

## 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 worshipping 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.*

## †CALL TO WORSHIP

One: You who are poor, why have you come?

**All: To hear good news.**

One: You who are brokenhearted, why have you come?

**All: To heal our hearts.**

One: You who are captive, why have you come?

**All: To hear words of freedom.**

One: You who are prisoners, why have you come?

**All: To be released from what binds us.**

One: You who mourn, why have you come?

**All: To receive comfort.**

One: Then you are welcome here in this place where Jesus offers blessing for all.

**All: Amen.**

## †CHORAL INTROIT

## †HYMN

*God Of Grace And God Of Glory*  
366 Pilgrim Hymnal (red)

## †PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

Lord God, no one has ever seen you, but you have shown yourself to us in your beloved Son Jesus Christ. Help us to recognize his face in the poor and the humble. Do not allow us to overlook him in the brokenhearted and the weak. Let the Holy Spirit give us the courage to bring his good news of hope and joy to all who wait for him and need him, whether they know it or not. We pray this through Christ our Lord. 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: May the peace of Christ be with all of you.

All: And also with you.

## †RESPONSE (remain standing)

*Halle, Halle, Halle*



## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

*(During the response, the children will depart for Church School 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

*Luke 4:14-22*

New Revised Standard Version

Betsy Kreuter

Then Jesus, in the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because he has anointed me

to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

and recovery of sight to the blind,

to set free those who are oppressed,

to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is this not Joseph’s son?”

† Please rise in body or in spirit

## ANTHEM

*There's A Wideness In God's Mercy*  
Lee Dengler (b. 1949)  
The Chancel Choir

## SECOND LESSON

*Luke 4:23-30*  
New Revised Standard Version

He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.' " And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in his hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months and there was a severe famine over all the land, yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many with a skin disease in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

## MESSAGE

*Well, That Escalated Quickly*  
Reverend Patrick Collins

## †HYMN

*Who Trusts In God, A Strong Abode*  
355 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

Juliet Primo

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.



## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*I Dream A World*  
André Thomas (b. 1952)  
The Chancel Choir

† Please rise in body or in spirit

## †DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures  
here be-low; praise him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise  
Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

## †PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## †HYMN

*In Christ There Is No East Or West*  
415 Pilgrim Hymnal (red)

## †BENEDICTION

## †CHORAL RESPONSE

## †POSTLUDE

*Postlude In F Major*  
Eric Thiman

† Please rise in body or in spirit

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

## COMMUNITY HOUR

Join us for Community Hour in the Auditorium where you can greet one another, have a cup of coffee, and a light snack.  
Hosts for January are members of the Caring Ministries Committee.

## OFFERING ENVELOPES

Be sure to pick up your offering envelopes in Community Hour in the Auditorium following worship today.



## CHURCH SCHOOL

Regular Church School

January 19  
January 26

## ALL AGES WORSHIP (AAW)

AAW is a Sunday morning experience for the whole family of faith to sing, pray, hear stories and partake in communion together!



February 2 - March 2 - April 13 - Palm Sunday

## BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS



Sue Asselin, Parish Nurse, is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service. 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



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](http://thewiredword.com). BYO lunch optional.

## THE RUMMAGE ROOM

Shopping hours are Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m., with the same hours for donation drop off.



## CHOIR REHEARSALS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY

As we begin a new year, this is the great time to join a choir! Even if you can only be part of the group for a few months, this is your chance to explore what it means to share your voice with a wonderful group of friends. Check us out today!!

**Cherub:** K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade - Carol Woodman, director - Silver Door (Preschool level) 11:15-11:45

**Celebration Singers:** 3-6<sup>th</sup> grade - Craig Symons, director - 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Music Room 11:15-12:00

**Genesis Choir:** 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade - Danny Young, director - 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Choir Room 11:15-12:15

## SAVE THE DATE - QUARTERLY MEETING SUNDAY, FEB 2

Plan to attend the quarterly meeting following the worship service to hear important updates in the life of First Church from your Church Council.



## NEW MEMBER CLASS

If you are interested in learning more about First Church and joining as a full member, please save the date for our upcoming new membership classes on Sunday, March 2 at 11:00 a.m. & Wednesday, March 26 at 7:00 p.m.







## THE 2025 ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

As of January 15, we have received 176 pledges (80% of potential giving units) for over \$600,386 (92%) toward our goal of \$650,000 for 2025. Click on the QR code on the right for instructions on how to pledge online.



You can schedule your giving for 2025 in weekly, monthly, or other ways, because First Church has the capability of auto-payments from your bank account or credit card! Please use the QR code on the right to access the church's ACS system and enter the necessary information. If you set up, changed, or plan to continue your automatic monthly online through MyFirstChurch.com for 2025, please know that **you still need to submit a pledge form.**



Pledges can be submitted through the digital pledge form at [www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org) or by returning a paper pledge card to the office. If you have any questions, please contact Greg Girolamo at the church office or Philip Wentworth at 203-992-9500.

## THE 2025 "SOUPER BOWL" SUNDAY SOUP & CHILI SALE

Calling all cooks! It's time to show off your soup-making skills once again by volunteering to make and donate a quart (or quarts) of soup or chili to benefit the First Church Women's Fellowship!

**The sale will take place in the auditorium on Sunday, February 9, 2025 following worship. Quarts of homemade soup and chili will be sold for \$10 each.**



Please sign up to donate after church in the auditorium today, and for the next several Sundays. Or you may scan the QR code on the left. Restaurant-style food containers will be available when you sign up. This annual event has proven to be easy, inexpensive and popular for both those who love to cook and those who love to eat! This is the only Women's Fellowship fundraiser for the year. Please contact Sue Wilder for more information [swilder102@gmail.com](mailto:swilder102@gmail.com)

## 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 again on Wednesday January 22 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](mailto:angelamessinastevens@gmail.com)  
Hope to see you soon!





# **February Friendsgiving**

**Do you have a home you would like to open up for a  
February Friendsgiving event, or are you willing to  
co-host with someone who is?**

**We'd love to have a number of hosts, each hosting as many  
people as you'd like - from 6 to 20 - for an occasion of your choice  
to create a number of intergenerational, casual events where  
First Church members can get to know each other better.**

**Suggested ideas:**

**Pizza dinner  
Morning coffee  
Beer or wine tasting  
Cocktail party  
Brunch  
Tea  
Dinner  
Dessert party**

**To sign up as a host or co-host, please contact  
Cynthia De Riemer at 203-918-1523  
or  
Betsy Kreuter at 203-832-8113.**



*We must make our hearts  
instruments of peace and nonviolence  
because when the heart is right,  
the mind and the body will follow.*

CORETTA SCOTT KING (Aug. 23, 2003).

## A Vital Conversation: Women's Health Equity Forum

The Coretta Scott King and  
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.  
Annual Conversation

January 23, 2025  
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

YWCA Greenwich  
259 East Putnam Ave.  
Greenwich

Event is **FREE** and  
open to the public  
To register, please go to  
[ywcagreenwich.org](http://ywcagreenwich.org) or  
scan below

For more information, contact Simone  
Quartey at 203-869-6501 x. 104  
or [s.quartey@ywcagreenwich.org](mailto:s.quartey@ywcagreenwich.org)

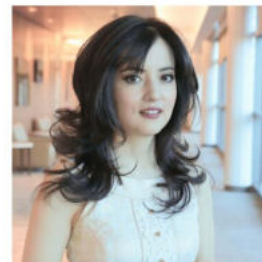


eliminating racism  
empowering women  
**ywca**  
greenwich

### PANELISTS



**Dr. Juliet Mushi**  
Harlem Hospital  
Obstetrician-Gynecologist



**Dr. Mia Kazanjian**  
Stamford Health  
Diagnostic Radiologist



**Fatmata Williams**  
State of Connecticut, Division  
of Health Services  
Director of  
Medical Administration



**Dr. Romelle Maloney**  
Greenwich Hospital  
Obstetrician-Gynecologist

#### EVENT DESCRIPTION:

Join YWCA Greenwich's Center for Equity & Justice to learn more about the data that illustrates chronic disparities in our community and in the region. Experts in medical fields will discuss how these inequities and barriers impact the lives of people based on gender, race and other dimensions of identity. Our panel will offer solutions to these important issues to ensure that the arc continues to bend toward justice for all. In addition, we will engage in an interactive data gathering session to gauge how health inequity impacts all.



## GET INVOLVED WITH OUR MUSIC MINISTRY THIS YEAR!

### Choir Opportunities For Young People!

**The Cherub Choir** is for children in kindergarten through second grade.  
Carol Woodman, director  
Meets on Sundays  
11:15-11:45



**The Celebration Singers** is for youth in grades 3 to 6.  
Craig Symons, director  
Meets on Sundays 11:15-12:00

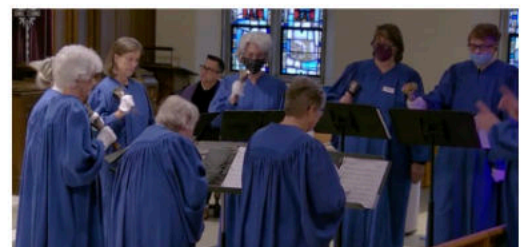
**The Genesis Choir** is for youth in grades 7 through 12 and early college ages.  
Danny Young, director  
Meets on Sundays 11:15-12:15



### OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS

**The Chancel Choir** meets in the choir room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> level on Thursdays from 7:30-9:00 p.m. for ages 18 and up. They sing each Sunday morning for the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

**The Palmer Handbell and Silverthorn Handchime Choirs**, for ages 18 and up, generally meets on Thursdays in the Meetinghouse from 6:30-7:20 p.m. or as scheduled. Music is chosen for a larger group or for a quartet of ringers.





## THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

108 Sound Beach Avenue Old Greenwich CT 06870

203-637-1791 • [www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org)

### Ministers - All Members Of The First Congregational Church Of Greenwich

Senior Pastor  
Associate Pastor  
Minister of Music  
Director of FCCOG Church School/Regional Youth Ministry  
Parish Nurse  
Church Office Coordinator  
Financial Administrator  
Livestream Director  
Audio Technician  
Database Administrative Assistant  
Facility Manager  
PrayGround Supervisor  
Sexton  
Junior Sexton  
Junior Sexton  
First Church Preschool Director  
First Church Preschool Administrative Assistant  
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  
Amalia Samuel  
Curtis Gay  
Joseph Cicchelli  
Jose Jolon  
Beth Genovese  
Melanie Garnett  
Reverend Sally Colegrove



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OF CHRIST  
a just world for all