



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025  
FIFTH 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

Melody

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912)

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 told us who you are, Lord Jesus Christ.

All: **You embody the prophet's promise, you bring to life the ancient stories,**

One: you reveal God's ongoing care in your words and actions.

All: **Your life among us is love in the flesh.**

One: Make us more like you today, unafraid to be who you made us to be:

All: **your body doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with you.**

## CHORAL INTROIT

## †HYMN

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

1 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

## †PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

You are good, O God, and your mercy is from generation to generation. You call us to love our neighbor, and we confess that we are happy to love them in the abstract. In the moment, though, we feel compassion but rarely act on it.

Forgive us, O God, for all the times we have talked ourselves out of our impulse to compassion. Open our hearts and hands to extend your love, not only in our thoughts and words and prayers but our deeds as well, to all whom you call our neighbor. 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, Halle, Halle*



## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*(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 7:1-10*

New Revised Standard Version

Lynn Hawxhurst

After Jesus had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. A centurion there had a slave whom he valued highly and who was ill and close to death. When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to him, asking him to come and heal his slave. When they came to Jesus, they appealed to him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy to have you do this for him, for he loves our people, and it is he who built our synagogue for us." And Jesus went with them, but when he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to say to him, "Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; therefore I did not presume to come to you. But only speak the word, and let my servant be healed. For I also am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me, and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and the slave does it." When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and, turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith." When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.

## ANTHEM

*O Ye That Love The Lord*  
Samuel Coleridge-Taylor  
The Chancel Choir

*O ye that love the Lord, see that ye hate the thing which is evil.*  
*The Lord preserveth the souls of his saints; he shall deliver them from the hand of the ungodly. Amen.*

† Please rise in body or in spirit

## SECOND LESSON

Luke 7:11-17  
New Revised Standard Version

Soon afterward he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him. As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow, and with her was a large crowd from the town. When the Lord saw her, he was moved with compassion for her and said to her, "Do not cry." Then he came forward and touched the bier, and the bearers stopped. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, rise!" The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized all of them, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen among us!" and "God has visited his people!" This word about him spread throughout the whole of Judea and all the surrounding region.

## MESSAGE

*Practice What You Preach*  
Reverend Patrick Collins

## †HYMN

*How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord*  
432 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

Karen Yancey

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 SOLO

*The Lord Is Exalted*  
Clara Edwards (1880-1974)  
Carol Woodman, soprano

† Please rise in body or in spirit

## †DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The lyrics are: 'Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with block chords in the bass line.

## †PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## †HYMN

*Guide My Feet*  
741 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

## †BENEDICTION

## †CHORAL RESPONSE

## †POSTLUDE

*Honor, Honor!*  
Arr. Calvin Taylor (b. 1949)

† Please rise in body or in spirit

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## 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 February are members of the Budget 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  
February 9  
February 16  
(One-Room Schoolhouse)  
February 23

### 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!

March 2

April 13 – Palm Sunday



### THE 2025 “SOUPER BOWL” SUNDAY SOUP & CHILI SALE

The sale is **TODAY** Sunday, February 9, 2025, following worship. Quarts of homemade soup and chili will be sold for \$10 each. You may pay with cash or check. There is a varied selection of items guaranteed to delight your palate!



### 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.

### 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.



### 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.

### 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 member classes on Sunday, March 2 at 11:00 a.m. & Wednesday, March 26 at 7:00 p.m.



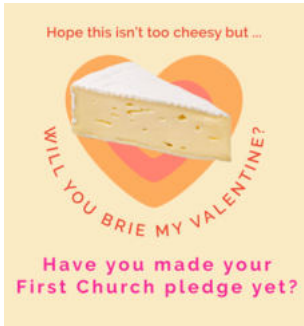
### COMMUNITY HOUR VOLUNTEERS STARTING IN MARCH



Please join us in making community hour a warm and welcoming gathering after the 10 a.m. service each Sunday supplementing food/help with a committee already assigned to that particular month. You can drop off your food to the upstairs kitchen before the service and the sextons will take it from there. You may also drop off your food during the week - just label it for community hour. Scan the QR code to head to Signup Genius.



## THE 2025 ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN



As of February 5, we have received 196 pledges (89% of potential giving units) for over \$643,488 (almost 99%) 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 RESULTS ARE IN!

The results for the Christmas Tree and Wreath sale are in! Our net profit was \$58,650 (7.5% over 2023). **We have the honor of presenting our gifts to our charity partners on February 16 during the 10 a.m. worship service.** Michelle Fanwick of Pacific House will also offer brief remarks on the Young Adult Program.

Please help us welcome representatives from:

**The Greenwich Alliance for Education**

**Kids in Crisis**

**Mothers for Others**

**New Covenant Center**

**Pacific House Young Adults Program**

**The Undies Project**

**The United Way Youth Mental Health Initiative**

**The YWCA Harmony Project**

Thank you again to everyone who volunteered their time, effort and expertise! You sold 528 trees, 300 wreaths and 28 spools of roping. Without your help, making these gifts to local charities would not be possible!

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- 1: Are some people more worthy of healing, forgiveness and love?
- 2: Has anyone's faith inspired you?
- 3: Have you ever been moved out of compassion to offer help to someone?
- 4: Where do you find faith in times of distress?



# FEBRUARY FRIENDSGIVING

**FEB 7 | Friday 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.**

Coffee - Juliet Primo with co-host Betsy Kreuter

**FEB 13 | Thursday 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

Brunch - Colette Rogers with co-host Debra Silverthorn

**FEB 15 | Saturday - 6:00 p.m.**

Dinner party - Mary-Ann and Gordon Assing

**FEB 16 | Sunday 12:00 p.m.**

Lunch - Ginny & Don Breismeister

**FEB 20 | Thursday 12:00 p.m.**

Lunch - Edgehill. Host: Prill Meyer  
co-hosts, Persis Alden & Bobbie Hopkins

**FEB 27 | Thursday 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

Tea & Art Viewing - Candace & Ernest Garthwaite

There are a limited amount of spaces per event.  
Please sign up soon so you're not disappointed and  
to help the hosts can plan their get-together.

You can sign up at Community Hour,  
on Signup Genius, or call

**Betsy (203) 832-8113 or**

**Cynthia (203) 918-1523**



Scan this QR code and sign up to attend a gathering!





**LUNCHEON TO CELEBRATE  
INTERNATIONAL  
WOMEN'S  
DAY**

**SATURDAY  
12:00 P.M.**

**8  
MAR**

**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

**Calling all the men of the church!  
We need you to help prep, host and serve a luncheon  
for all the women of First Church  
Please see Pastor Patrick to volunteer or sign up online.**

Scan this QR code and sign up to volunteer!



 **SERVICE**

**MAY 30 -  
JUNE 1, 2025**

 **LEARNING TRIP**

 (mini mission-trip-like weekend!)

**\$100** 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!

**6TH -  
12TH  
GR.**

**FRI  
30**

**LEAVE FOR NEW  
HAVEN & ARRIVAL**

Spring Glen United Church of Christ in Hamden

**SERVICE WORK & FUN  
IN THE COMMUNITY**

Working with the Incredible Days organization!

**SAT  
31**

**JUNE  
1**

**CLOSING CIRCLE &  
HEAD HOME**

Pick-up and Drop-off at FCC Greenwich

REGIONAL YOUTH MINISTRY



**MORE INFO:**

**[KHALEIGHL@FCCOG.ORG](mailto:KHALEIGHL@FCCOG.ORG)**

## 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

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

Jose Jolon

Beth Genovese

Melanie Garnett

Reverend Sally Colegrove



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OF CHRIST  
a just world for all