



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

Christians, We Have Met To Worship
Arr. Douglas E. Wagner (b. 1952)
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come and hear the story again:

All: Christ is alive!

One: Come and see his hands and side, victorious over death:

All: Christ is alive!

One: Come and hear his words of peace:

All: Christ is alive!

One: Come and know his breath, breathing in us:

All: Hallelujah, Christ is risen indeed!

†CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

The Strife Is O'er
236 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

God of resurrection power, you are alive in the world, bearing love that overcomes and breathing peace into every place of fear. When we close ourselves off and cling to what we know, you still find us, meet us where we are, and gently set us free. We give you thanks that again and again you stand among us and breathe peace into our lives. Send us now from our hiding places to live as your people, carrying your love into the world. 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

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!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major and 2/4 time. The first staff has lyrics: 'Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - jah!'. The second staff has lyrics: 'Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal-le - lu-jah! Hal-le - lu - jah!'. The melody is simple and repetitive, suitable for a church response.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(During the response, the children will 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

The Journey
David Whyte
Carol Woodman

Above the mountains
the geese turn into
the light again

painting their
black silhouettes
on an open sky.

Sometimes everything
has to be
enscribed across
the heavens

so you can find
the one line
already written
inside you.

Sometimes it takes
a great sky
to find that

†Please rise in body or in spirit

first, bright
and indescribable
wedge of freedom
in your own heart.

Sometimes with
the bones of the black
sticks left when the fire
has gone out

someone has written
something new
in the ashes
of your life.

You are not leaving
you are arriving.

ANTHEM

O Savior Of The World
John Goss (1800-1880)
The Chancel Choir

SECOND LESSON

John 20:19-31
New Revised Standard Version

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

MESSAGE

A Better Name
Reverend Patrick Collins

†HYMN

That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright
254 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

Receiving the Bread and Cup

In the tradition of our church, let us partake of the bread (gluten-free) and the cup together, remembering our individual uniqueness in the eyes of God and our diversity and unity within the Body of Christ.

Those receiving communion are asked to come forward by the center aisle, receive the bread and cup, then return to their seats by the side aisle.

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

Meg Dempsey

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Christ Is Risen, Alleluia
Healey Willan (1880-1968)
The Chancel Choir

†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

†HYMN

The Day Of Resurrection
233 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL RESPONSE

†POSTLUDE

Easter Hymn
Noel Rawsthorne (1929-2019)

†Please rise in body or in spirit

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 April are members of the Faith Formation & Education Committees.



RISE AGAINST HUNGER MEAL PACKING EVENT - NEXT SUNDAY APRIL 19 AT 10 A.M.



During our morning worship time, we will pack 20,000 meals to support Rise Against Hunger's vision of a world without hunger, which distributes meals in 38 countries to schools, health clinics and communities hit by disaster. The meals help keep children in school and aid communities in the short term as they develop long term food security. Please register ahead of time

- scan the blue QR code on the right to take part in this exciting time together! Everyone must register and sign the waiver required by Rise Against Hunger.



The cost of underwriting The Rise Against Hunger meal packing and the meal packing event will be our 2026 Lenten Offering and Lenten Project. Scan the green QR code to donate and support this project. Please join us for a fun, energized, music-filled morning when we will experience the joy of working together to help the least among us! Bring friends to show them First Church in action!

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP QUILT RAFFLE & ANNUAL MEETING/LUNCHEON



It's April and that means the annual quilt raffle to benefit The Women's Fellowship is just around the corner. Tickets will be sold at community hour, the church front office, and The Rummage Room. Tickets are \$5 and the drawing will be held on Saturday, May 16 at noon.



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** from your desktop for Women's Fellowship activity updates

For questions, email **Sara Stuckey** (sdstuckey@gmail.com)



Scan here with your smartphone camera!

April

Monday, 4/6 @ 12pm
Walk at Tod's Point**

Friday, 4/17 @ 9:30am
NY Botanical Garden
See eblast for details

Tuesday, 4/21 @ 5pm
Happy Hour at Bosco's
(148 Sound Beach Ave, Old Greenwich)

Sunday, 4/26 @ 11-1
All Ages Bingo
Open to all members
FCCOG Auditorium

Wednesday, 4/29 @ 10am
Coffee for Good
(48 Maple Ave, Greenwich)

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

**Greenwich residency not required



Women's Fellowship
members and friends

New York Botanical Garden

Orchid Show

Friday, April 17th

Meet at FCCOG

We will depart promptly at 9:30

Wear comfortable clothing and shoes for walking.
Hat and water recommended

Tickets at nybg.org

\$35 adults
\$32 seniors (65+)
Free for members



Scan here to
RSVP!



Contacts:

Sara Stuckey (sdstuckey@gmail.com) and
Meg Dempsey (megdempseyconsulting@gmail.com)

Σ SERVICE

**2026:
MAY 29 - 31**

Y LEARNING TRIP

R (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!

**6TH -
12TH
GR.**

**FRI
29**

LEAVE FOR NEW HAVEN & ARRIVAL

Spring Glen United Church of Christ in Hamden

SERVICE WORK & FUN IN THE COMMUNITY

Working with the Incredible Days Group!

**SAT
30**

**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



EVENT CALENDAR

SPRING 2026

4/19



Rise Against Hunger

This is a family friendly event - 10 a.m.
see bulletin for full details

4/26



First Church Round Hill

Sharing Sacred Spaces Tour 2-4:30 p.m.

5/5



First Church Greenwich

Sharing Sacred Spaces Tour 6-8:30 p.m.

5/17



Music Sunday

Celebrate the conclusion of another
season of our music ensembles -
fruit, croissants, and
whipped cream after worship

5/29-31



RYM Service Learning Trip

Youth travel to New Haven to work with
Incredible Days and their ministry in
the community

6/7



Confirmation Sunday

Join us as our youth are welcomed into
full membership of the church



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

