

# SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2024 NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING



The First Congregational Church of Greenwich declares itself to be open and affirming; 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.



# CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

God puts the wiggle in children and calls it good... and so do we!

At First Church, we believe the way we welcome children in worship directly affects the way they respond to God, to the church, and to one another.

To welcome children as they are in worship, we have our **PrayGround**, located in the front right side of the Meetinghouse, where children and

others of all ages can engage in worship through movement, sensory

materials, and prayerful play. The presence of all God's children is a gift to the church, which offers hope for all. Scan the QR code for FAQ and tips about our PrayGround.





# GET THE FAMILY MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

Using your smartphone camera, scan the QR code here to sign up for our weekly Family Ministry newsletter. You can read about Church School, Regional Youth Ministry, and more!

# SUPPORTING FIRST CHURCH

Using your smartphone messaging app, text FCCOG Donate to 73256 or click <u>HERE</u> to access the online giving webpage, or scan this QR code to donate.



First Church is a mask-friendly community of faith.

Anyone who prefers to wear a mask at church should feel comfortable doing so.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

**PRELUDE** 

Andante (from Sonata in D BWV 1028)
Johann Sebastian Bach (1653-1706)
Dr. Tod Hedrick, viola da gamba
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, harpsichord

# 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 worshiping 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.

## MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

# **†CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: In every age, God has spoken.

All: Today, we seek to hear God's call to us.

One: In music, in spoken word, in the work of the spirit that speaks to our hearts.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, fill this time and space with your love.

# **†CHORAL INTROIT**

†HYMN

Let Us With A Gladsome Mind 70 Pilgrim Hymnal (red)

# **†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)**

Merciful God, You delivered Your people from slavery and led them to freedom, yet we confess that we often forget Your saving power in our lives. We allow fear and doubt to keep us captive, neglecting to fully trust in Your guidance and offer ourselves to Your will. Forgive us for our lack of faith and for failing to honor the blessings You have given. Renew our hearts, that we may follow Your path of grace and live as a people set apart for You. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

\*Moment of silence for personal reflection\*

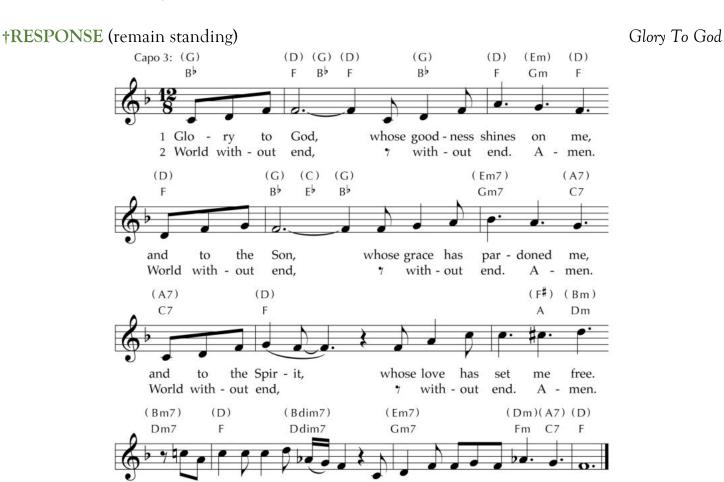
# †ASSURANCE OF GRACE

# †PASSING OF THE PEACE

God makes peace within us. Let us claim it. God makes peace between us. Let us share it.

One: God has received us, pardoned us, and loved us; let us forgive each other in love and share the peace of Christ with a hand to hand, eye to eye, and heart to heart greeting. May the peace of Christ be with all of you.

All: And also with you.

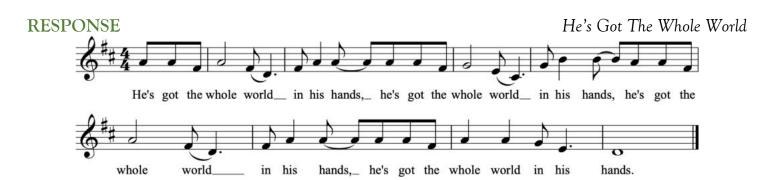


## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(During the response, the children will depart for Church School or return to their seats.)

is now and ev-er shall be. A - men.

As it was in the be-gin-ning,



The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, "This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn with fire. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand, and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the Lord. I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

**SOLO** 

Prelude In D (from Pièces de Viole, book 4) Marin Marais (1656-1728) Dr. Tod Hedrick, viola da gamba

SECOND LESSON

Exodus 13:1-8 New Revised Standard Version

The Lord said to Moses, "Consecrate to me all the firstborn; whatever is the first to open the womb among the Israelites, of human beings and animals, is mine."

Moses said to the people, "Remember this day on which you came out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, because the Lord brought you out from there by strength of hand; no leavened bread shall be eaten. Today, in the month of Abib, you are going out. When the Lord brings you into the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, which he swore to your ancestors to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey, you shall keep this observance in this month. Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a festival to the Lord. Unleavened bread shall be eaten for seven days; no leavened bread shall be seen in your possession, and no leaven shall be seen among you in all your territory. You shall tell your child on that day, 'It is because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt.'

The Sign Reverend Patrick Collins

†HYMN

When Israel Was In Egypt's Land 428 Pilgrim Hymnal (red)

# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

# THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

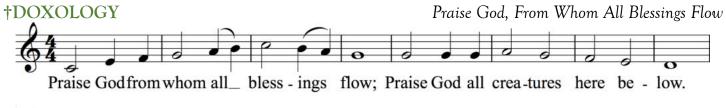
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

**CALL TO OFFERING** 

Mariann Ekernas

**ANTHEM** 

Lauda Anima Mark Andrews (1875-1939) The Chancel Choir





## **†PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

†HYMN

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah 93 Pilgrim Hymnal (red)

**†BENEDICTION** 

**†CHORAL RESPONSE** 

**†POSTLUDE** 

Scherzando (from Sonata in D TWV 41) Georg Philipp Telemann (1681-1767)

† Please rise in body or in spirit



# CHURCH SCHOOL

**Sept 29 –** The children will be making an altar cloth during church school for use on World Communion Sunday (October 6)

Oct 6 - World Communion Sunday - all-ages worship

# CELEBRATING DIVERSE WORSHIP EXPERIENCES: INTRODUCING THE SENSORY SANCTUARY

At FCCOG, we welcome that everyone worships in unique ways, and honor the diverse needs of our community. For many, sensory items can both greatly enhance their worship experience and also provide belonging and acceptance in the worship space. That's where the Sensory Sanctuary comes in: a dedicated resource library designed to support sensory worship needs, located at the back of the Meetinghouse.

The Sensory Sanctuary Resource Library offers a variety of items to help create a more inclusive worship environment, including: Noise-Canceling Headphones: To help reduce overwhelming sounds and create a more focused experience. Fidgets: A range of tactile items such as crochet hooks and yarn, finger labyrinths, thera-putty, and more, allowing individuals to engage their hands while they worship. Focusing Visual Aids: Tools that assist in maintaining attention and grounding oneself during worship. An Alternative Seating Option: Rocking chairs, catering to individual preferences and needs.

The Sensory Sanctuary is part of our ongoing commitment to providing the tools and resources that everyone deserves to make the Meetinghouse accessible and welcoming for all. We already do this through offerings like auditory aids and closed captioning, ramps and the Liftovator, and now, also through sensory implementations. We invite you to explore these resources and enrich your worship experience in a space that values and embraces diversity. No matter who you are, where you are on life's journey, or your sensory requirements, you are welcome at First Church.

# HEALTH SCREENINGS/BLOOD PRESSURE



Sue Asselin, Parish Nurse is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service. If community hour is outside, look for her there. If inside, 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.

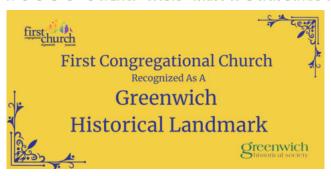
# WIRED WORD BIBLE STUDY IS BACK!

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 <a href="thewiredword.com">thewiredword.com</a>.
BYO lunch optional.

# FCCOG GRANTED HISTORICAL LANDMARK STATUS



We are thrilled to announce that on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, the Greenwich Historical Society awarded FCCOG prestigious Historical Landmark Status and have presented us a plaque in commemoration of that recognition. Our official celebration will be on Saturday, November 2 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Meetinghouse and Memory Garden, with details to follow.

Congratulations to FCCOG for this important recognition, and to Debbie Silverthorn and Pat Larrabee for their 17 months of tireless work helping us to achieve this. Here is a QR code that links to the video created by the Greenwich Historical Society on the history of First Church.



# 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 on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month at 7pm in Rick's Room of First Church. We can supply the needles and yarn. Contact Angela Stevens for more information. <a href="mailto:angelamessinastevens@gmail.com">angelamessinastevens@gmail.com</a> Hope to see you soon!

# WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP ALLOCATIONS TO SEND GRANT APPLICATIONS

As we enter the fall season, it is now time to launch our Allocations cycle, by inviting local nonprofit organizations to apply for a grant from the proceeds of the Rummage Room for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

This past May, we distributed \$141,750 across 46 organizations. If there is an organization that you would like the Allocations Committee to invite to apply, please email <a href="mailto:sheilabennettms@gmail.com">sheilabennettms@gmail.com</a>. Applications will be sent out at the end of the month.



# VISIONING DATES

## The Great Unveiling with Convergence, WEBINAR

Sunday, Sept 29, 11am to 12.30pm - Auditorium or Tuesday, Oct 1, 7-8.30pm - Lounge or Wednesday, Oct 2, 9.30-11am - Lounge

# **Visioning Discussion with Pastor Patrick**

Sunday, Oct 13, 11am to 12pm - Lounge

#### **Creative Churches: A Virtual Tour with Convergence**

Sunday, Oct 20, 11am to 12.30pm - Auditorium or Tuesday, Oct 22, 7-8pm - Lounge or Wednesday, Oct 23, 9.30-11am - Lounge

#### **Creative Vision Worship with Pastor Patrick**

Sunday, Oct 27, 10-11am - Meetinghouse

#### **Futures Lab with Convergence**

Saturday, Nov 16, 10am to 2pm - Auditorium







# Upcoming Dates 2024

Sept. 29, 11-12:30 pm Visioning Webinar One Oct. 1, 7 - 8 pm Visioning Web One Repeat Oct. 2, 9:30 am Visioning Web One Repeat Oct. 5, 12-2 pm **Blessing of the Animals** Oct. 6, 11-12 pm **Quarterly Cong Mtg** Oct. 13, 11-12 pm Visioning Webinar Recap Oct. 20, 11-12:30 pm Visioning Webinar Two Oct. 22, 7 - 8 pm Visioning Web Two Repeat Oct. 23, 9:30 am Visioning Web Two Repeat Oct. 26, 6-8pm **Trunk or Treat** Oct. 27, 11-12 pm **Soothing Second Hour 1** Nov. 2, 5-7pm **Celebratory Event** Nov. 3, 11-12 pm Soothing Second Hour 2 Nov. 10, 11-12 pm **Soothing Second Hour 3** Nov. 16, 10 - 2 pm **Futures Lab** Nov. 17, 11-12 pm Soothing Second Hour 4 Nov. 24, 10 am Harvest Sunday, H.O.M.E. Dec. 1, 11-12 pm **Advent Craft Fair** Dec. 8, 5 -7:30 pm **Christmas Party** Dec. 14, 4 -5:30 pm Messiah Dec. 24, 10 am, **Christmas Eve Worship** 3 pm, 6 pm, 9 pm

# M is going to BOUNDLESS ADVENTURES!

for any **Sheeth** graders

10/3 @ 4 pm

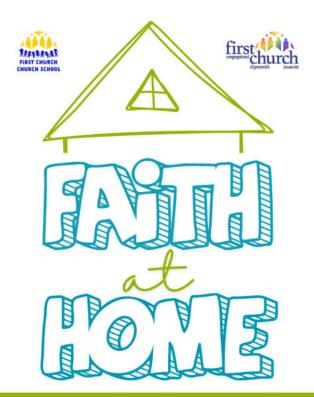
735 Anderson Hill Rd, Purchase, NY

Van Pickup Schedulci United Norwalk @ 2:30 United Memorial @ 3:00

FCCOG @ 3:30



khaleighl@fccog.org | myrym.org | @myrym.lfc



A new 1/4ly Faith Formation offering, specially designed for young families!

Musical Morning Routines

Come learn some of your favorite Church School songs and how to incorporate these songs into your families daily faith!

**October 17th, 2024** 

5:00pm Dinner

5:30 - 6:30 Program **108 Sound Beach Ave** 

# THE CHAMBER PLAYERS OF THE GREENWICH SYMPHONY

First Church is proud to be the new home of one of two concerts each series the coming season. On Sunday, October 6 at 3 p.m., a woodwind concert will be held in the Meetinghouse, featuring works by Elizabeth Brown Pentalogue for Woodwind Quintet,

Ludwig van Beethoven Sextet in E flat major Op. 71, Carl Nielsen Quintet for Winds Op. 43.

Tickets are Adult Season: \$100 - Student Season: \$15

Adult Admission (per concert):\$35 Student Admission (per concert) \$5

For full information, visit www.chamberplayersofthegso.org



# 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

Reverend Patrick Collins **Senior Pastor Associate Pastor** Reverend Cydney Van Dyke Minister of Music Dr. Craig Scott Symons Director of FCCOG Church School/Regional Youth Ministry Khaleigh Laicher Parish Nurse Susan Asselin, RN Church Office Coordinator Wendy Spezzano Financial Administrator Greg Girolamo Administrative and Communications Colleague Carolyn Samuel Livestream Director Daniel Lepoutre Audio Technician **Bob Small** Sue Wilder Database Administrative Assistant Amalia Samuel PrayGround Supervisor Iulio Yika **Facility Manager Senior Sexton** Curtis Gay **Junior Sexton** Brandon Speight Gay First Church Preschool Director Beth Genovese First Church Preschool Assistant Director Kayla Vozzella First Church Preschool Administrative Assistant Melanie Garnett Pastor Emerita Reverend Sally Colegrove

