



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2025  
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY  
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 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.*

### PRELUDE

*Improvisation*  
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, piano

### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

### CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

### MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

Tree Sale Committee

### CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

*Do Lord!*  
The Cherub Choir  
Carol Woodman, director  
Carolyn Paulus, piano  
Lynn Hawxhurst, ukulele

### †CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In the big flashy moments and in the everyday little things,  
All: **God provides.**  
One: Whether we have done more than enough or next to nothing,  
All: **God provides, and God calls.**  
One: When we're looking back longingly, lamenting what we've lost, or looking around us now,  
All: **God provides, God calls, and God teaches us to trust.**  
One: We come to worship the One who shows us a new way.

### †HYMN

*In Christ There Is No East Or West*  
317 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

### †PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

God of the miraculous and the mundane, we praise you for your care in daily bread and in liberation from all that harms. You are the God who delivers us. You are the God who provides. You are the God who knows us better than we know ourselves. Turn us toward your presence today, that we might in turn be fully present to you. 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, Hallelujah*



## ANTHEM

*God Of Great And God Of Small*  
Natalie Sleeth (1930-1992)  
The Celebration Singers  
Vance Briceland, piano

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### RESPONSE

*Jesus Loves Me*

*(During the response, the children will return to their seats.)*

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

*Matthew 6:25-34*  
New Revised Standard Version  
Carol Woodman

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

“So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

## †Please rise in body or in spirit

## ANTHEM

*City Called Heaven*  
Josephine Poelinitz (b. 1944)  
The Chancel Choir  
Daniel Young, tenor

## SECOND LESSON

*Exodus 2:23-25, 3:1-14a*  
New Revised Standard Version

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and ate our fill of bread, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites: ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat. This is what the Lord has commanded: Gather as much of it as each of you needs, an omer per person according to the number of persons, all providing for those in their own tents.” The Israelites did so, some gathering more, some less. But when they measured it with an omer, those who gathered much had nothing over, and those who gathered little had no shortage; they gathered as much as each of them needed.

## MESSAGE

*That’s It?*  
Reverend Patrick Collins

## †HYMN

*Rain Down*  
48 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)  
(The choir will sing a verse between each refrain)

†Please rise in body or in spirit

## 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

Pat Mendelssohn

Using your smartphone messaging app, text FCCOG Donate to 73256  
or scan this QR code to donate.

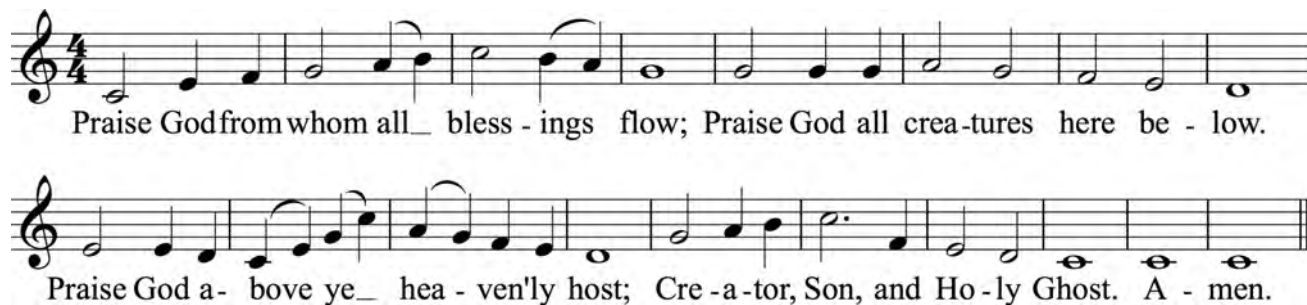


### ORGAN OFFERTORY

*A Little More Faith In Jesus*  
Arr. John W. Work III (1901-1967)

### †DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*



### †PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### †HYMN

*Let Us Break Bread Together*  
525 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

### THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*Please visit all of the Communion tables around the Meetinghouse with breads from around the world.*  
*Traditional (gluten-free) bread and cup (grape juice) will be offered at the front Communion table.*

### †Please rise in body or in spirit

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

Join us for Community Hour in the back of the Meetinghouse where you can greet one another, have a cup of coffee, and a light snack.

**COMMUNITY**  
*Hour*  
**HOURLY**

## BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING



Your Parish Nurse, Sue Asselin, RN is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service, in her office to the right of the Auditorium stage. During the week, she is available by appointment. Email [susana@fccog.org](mailto:susana@fccog.org) or call 203-637-1791 extension 821.

## FIRST CHURCH, YOUR CHURCH - EXTENDED THROUGH OCT 31!



In September, we sent out a brief member survey with opportunities to connect, serve, and grow—both in faith and in friendship. From music to caring ministries, teaching children to welcoming newcomers, community outreach and more, there's a place here for everyone to belong. Click on the QR code to complete the survey.



## ROYALTIES FOR SPIRITUALS



If you received the email this week from the church, you were able to read the exciting news of our collaboration with the Adam J. Lewis Academy in Bridgeport. They will be the recipients of the monies collected online and during Sunday worship when spirituals are presented in worship, either by the congregation or from any of our First Church musicians. To donate this morning, use the QR code with your smartphone and log into MyFirstChurch, or drop a check off during the week in the church office. If you're not on the church email list, let Craig know and we will add your email address.



## ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

### DINNER & BOOK STUDY


Join us Thursdays for a special faith formation opportunity with our friends at St. Paul's Riverside!

6 p.m. Dinner and 6:30-7:30 conversation around the book **Eve Isn't Evil**. Intertwining academic knowledge and candid, personal, and sometimes humorous stories, Julie Faith Parker helps readers engage biblical texts with both mind and heart—to learn the Bible's stories, explore theological ideas, question common assumptions, develop interpretive skills, and grow in their own faith.

Oct 9 @ St. Paul's - read Ch. 6-7

Oct 16 @ FCCOG - read Ch. 8-9. Author Julie Faith Parker to join Oct 16!

Kindly purchase your own copy of the book from your preferred bookseller.




**Eve Isn't Evil**

**DINNER & BOOK STUDY**

Join a joint book study between First Church Greenwich and St. Paul's Riverside on "Eve Isn't Evil" for 4 Thursday evenings this fall 2025. Kindly purchase your own copy.

Sept 25 - ST. PAUL'S RIVERSIDE  
Oct 2 - FCCOG  
Oct 9 - ST. PAUL'S RIVERSIDE  
Oct 16 - FCCOG

**DINNER | 6:00 PM**  
**DISCUSSION | 6:30-7:30 PM**



Author & Yale Divinity School professor, Julie Faith Parker, to visit!



## A New Bible Study



Just Drop-In: A First Look at Sunday's Scripture  
9:00-9:45 a.m. in The Lounge

Starting Sunday, September 14, join Pastor Cydney on Sunday mornings for a drop-in time of conversation around the day's scripture. Together we'll explore the passage, gain context, and notice fresh insights before entering worship.

No need to prepare—just bring yourself. Come for the whole time, or even 15 minutes, and trust that God will give you something good to carry into worship and beyond.

### NARRATIVE LECTONARY BIBLE STUDY

Each Thursday at 12 noon  
in the First Church Lounge,  
Pastor Patrick leads a group in a new  
adult education opportunity.  
We'll dive into the  
Narrative Lectionary  
daily readings, opening space for  
honest conversation,  
fresh insights, and shared discovery.

For the past 2-3 years, First Church has been using the  
Narrative Lectionary as our primary scripture focus in Sunday worship.

Whether you are brand new to Bible study or a seasoned reader, you'll find  
a welcoming circle to explore how God's story connects with our own.

Come as you are, bring your questions, curiosity,  
an open heart, and your lunch (optional).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

PRESENTS

# ¡VIVA LOS ANDES!

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month  
with the Music of the Andes

**Saturday, October 11 | 5pm**  
First Congregational Church of Greenwich  
108 Sound Beach Ave, Old Greenwich, CT

\$10 General Admission  
Free for Kids  
Get tickets at [intempo.org](http://intempo.org)



WE CAN'T TELL YOU EVERYTHING JUST YET,  
BUT TRUST US, YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS  
THE SURPRISE WE HAVE PLANNED!

**JOIN US  
FOR A  
NIGHT  
OF  
MUSIC  
AND  
JOY!**

**OCT  
18  
2025**

FIRST CHURCH  
MEETINGHOUSE  
6:00 - 10:00 PM  
SATURDAY  
OCT 18 2025



**A NIGHT  
TO  
REMEMBER**

OPEN TO ALL  
BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND  
FAMILY FOR AN EVENING  
YOU'LL BE TALKING ABOUT  
LONG AFTER IT'S OVER!

**BE THERE WHEN THE  
SURPRISE UNFOLDS.**

HEAVY HORS D'OEUVRES  
AND DRINKS WILL BE SERVED.

First Congregational Church of Greenwich

# TRUNK OR TREAT

🕒 Saturday, Oct 25  
6 - 7:30 p.m.

📍 First Church Parking Lot  
108 Sound Beach Avenue

**\$20 PER FAMILY**

*All proceeds go to local charities*

CANDY

MUSIC

FOOD  
TRUCKS

FUN





## NEW TREE SALE OPPORTUNITIES ~ JOIN THE TREE SALE TEAM!

This year, we have divided the primary responsibilities for the sale into 12 small, separate jobs. These are jobs that take care of the details and organization and high-level running of the sale. They are in addition to the very valuable “day of” sales and cashier jobs.

Six of these jobs are remote. They can be done in 2 – 6 hours total from your home or anywhere at any hour convenient for you. Six of these jobs are on site for a portion of the sale but are not physical – you will not have to move a tree! Many of the jobs you can do with a partner.

All the jobs will have the support of Kate, Pam or Lauren. You will not be reinventing the wheel!

### REMOTE OPPORTUNITIES

#### Internal Communication

- Eblasts and bulletins

#### External Communication

- Advertising and PR

#### Agency Communication

- With our charity partners

#### Print Communication

- Work with our designer for printing needs

#### Volunteer Organization

- Support volunteer signups

#### Inventory and Ordering

- Order trees, wreaths, stands

### ON SITE OPPORTUNITIES

#### Volunteer Coordinator

- Direct volunteers for half day

#### Loading Manager

- Direct trees from sales to loading for half day

#### Set Up

- Prep on Friday

#### Wreath Decorating

#### Wreath Tagging

- Tag with prices

#### Photographer

- Take pics and video

Come see us at Community Hour and get more details. If you cannot stay, please write your name and contact details below and we will reach out to you to give you any information you may need. Place this sheet in the offering plate.

NAME

PREFERRED CONTACT

## 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 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

