



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2025  
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
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.*

*Audio Hearing Aids are available for your use during the service. See an usher to request a device.*

### PRELUDE

*Down By The Riverside*

Arr. Marianne Kim (b. 1972)

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

### CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

### MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

Mariann Ekernas

Giving Trees

### MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

Julie Lewis

Founder & Head Of School

Adam J. Lewis Academy, Bridgeport

### CALL TO ANNUAL GIVING

### †CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Each day we choose:

All: **purposely seek good, or just coast along the way things are.**

One: Each day we have opportunities:

All: **to do justice and to build on love.**

One: Each day we can live the truth:

All: **our gracious God is with us.**

### †CHORAL INTROIT

### †HYMN

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

525 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

### †PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

**You call, O God, and when we do not listen you roar, demanding our attention, your voice rushing through creation and cutting through our excuses. You call, O God, and we pray for the courage to heed your instruction. Amen.**

*\*Moment of silence for personal reflection \**

†Please rise in body or in spirit

## †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.

## †RESPONSE (remain standing)

*Halle, Hallelujah*



## ANTHEM

*Over My Head I Hear Music In The Air* (spiritual)

The Celebration Singers

Grayson A., solo

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

*The Summer Day*

Mary Oliver

Bonnie Kelley-Young

Who made the world?

Who made the swan, and the black bear?

Who made the grasshopper?

This grasshopper, I mean—

the one who has flung herself out of the grass,

the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,

who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down—

who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.

Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.

Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.

†Please rise in body or in spirit

I don't know exactly what a prayer is.  
I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down  
into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,  
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,  
which is what I have been doing all day.  
Tell me, what else should I have done?  
Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?  
Tell me, what is it you plan to do  
with your one wild and precious life?

## SOLO

*Ride On, King Jesus*  
Hall Johnson (1888-1970)  
Linnea Conley, mezzo soprano

## SECOND LESSON

*Amos 1 & 5 (selected verses)*  
New Revised Standard Version

The words of Amos, who was among the shepherds of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of King Uzziah of Judah and in the days of King Jeroboam son of Joash of Israel, two years before the earthquake.

And he said:

The Lord roars from Zion  
and utters his voice from Jerusalem;  
the pastures of the shepherds wither,  
and the top of Carmel dries up.  
Seek the Lord and live,  
or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire,  
and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.  
Ah, you who turn justice to wormwood  
and bring righteousness to the ground!  
They hate the one who reproves in the gate,  
and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.  
Therefore because you trample on the poor  
and take from them levies of grain,  
you have built houses of hewn stone,  
but you shall not live in them;  
you have planted pleasant vineyards,  
but you shall not drink their wine.  
For I know how many are your transgressions  
and how great are your sins—  
you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe  
and push aside the needy in the gate.  
Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time,  
for it is an evil time.  
I hate, I despise your festivals,  
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,  
I will not accept them,  
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals  
I will not look upon.  
Take away from me the noise of your songs;  
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.  
But let justice roll down like water  
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

## MESSAGE

*Let It Roll*  
Reverend Patrick Collins

## †HYMN

*I Want Jesus To Walk With Me*  
775 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

Bill DeHaven

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



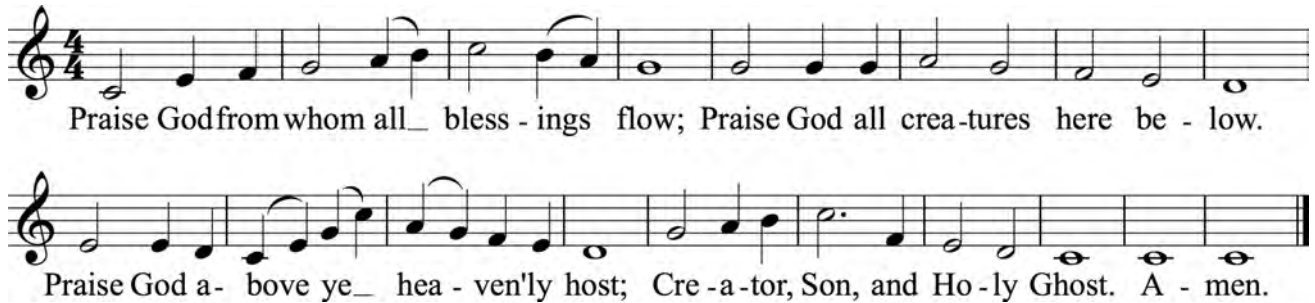
## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Let Justice Roll Like A River*  
Marty Haugen (b. 1950)  
The Chancel Choir

†Please rise in body or in spirit

## †DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*



## †PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## †HYMN

*Somebody's Knocking At Your Door*  
728 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

## †BENEDICTION

## †CHORAL RESPONSE

## †POSTLUDE

*I'm Gonna Sing When The Spirit Says Sing*  
Anthony Giamanco (b. 1958)

†Please rise in body or in spirit

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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 November are members of the Deacon Committee.

**COMMUNITY  
HOUR**

## 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.

SECOND HOUR  
PRESENTATION - **TODAY**  
FOLLOWING WORSHIP

LOCAL AUTHOR TALK

# EXTRAORDINARY REVELATIONS TO ORDINARY PEOPLE



2<sup>nd</sup> Hour  
Nov 9, 2025  
11:00 AM  
LOUNGE

**LOCAL AUTHOR LEE PAINE**  
Moments of revelation happen all the time. What do they mean for us? Join Lee Paine for a discussion on her book that seeks to demystify and destigmatize these faith moments.

## GREENWICH HIGH SCHOOL - FOLSOM CARE CLOSET

Students in our community, who receive free/reduced price meals at school during the week, are going without food and basic essentials each weekend. GHS teachers are addressing this need through creation of the Folsom House Care Closet, open on Friday afternoons at dismissal, where they're working to provide provisions weekly for around 45 students. Please consider donating non-perishable food and hygiene items in the bin at the back of the Meetinghouse. **This will be an ongoing drive.** Suggested items include dried 1lb bags of white rice, dried 1lb bags of red or black beans, canned tuna, pasta, tomato sauce, granola bars, shampoo, and soap/body wash.

Larger orders can be shipped directly to Folsom House Care Closet at Greenwich High School at 10 Hillside Rd, Greenwich, CT 06830. Financial donations can also be made to the GHS PTA - Folsom Care Closet Donations by clicking on the QR code with your smartphone.



Questions or if you would like to help with drop-off, please reach out to Pam Speer [pspeer22@gmail.com](mailto:pspeer22@gmail.com) or Kristin Toretta [ktoretta@gmail.com](mailto:ktoretta@gmail.com) . Thank you!

## CPR TRAINING – SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15



### CPR Training November 15

Choose one session:  
10:00 am to 12:30 pm  
or 1:00 to 3:30pm



- American Heart CPR course offered at a reduced cost to individuals who frequently attend First Church programs.
- Class is appropriate for beginners or repeat attendees.
- Class meets in the Lounge at First Church.
- Participants are asked to contribute \$25 toward the cost of the class.
- To inquire or register, contact Sue Asselin, Parish Nurse.  
[Susana@fccog.org](mailto:Susana@fccog.org)

## GIVING TREE FOR H.O.M.E. and PILGRIM TOWERS

The Giving Tree for H.O.M.E. and Pilgrim Towers is underway. In the back of the Meetinghouse, the trees will displayed with Christmas gift tags on Sunday November 9 and 17. You may also make your selections online via SignUp Genius by scanning the QR code below. It will be available and live at 11 a.m. on November 9.

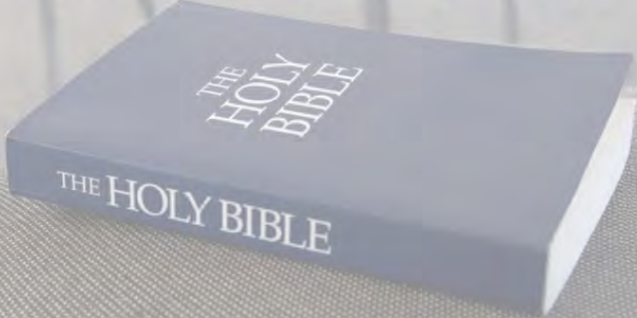


All gifts should be returned to the stage in the auditorium before or after the 10am services on Sunday November 16, 23<sup>rd</sup> or to the Harvest Sunday drive-by drop off on Sunday November 23<sup>rd</sup> between 11.30am - 12.30pm. they can also be dropped off at the Church office hours during the week or in the big bin by the office entrance

Thank you in advance for making a holiday wish come true for a client of H.O.M.E. in Orland, ME or a resident of Pilgrim Towers in Stamford, CT.

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

**First Look Bible Study**



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

Each Sunday morning, 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 LECTIONARY 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).



## ROYALTIES FOR SPIRITUALS



First Church is proud to launch Royalties for Spirituals, an initiative to honor the legacy of Black spirituals and invest in the future of Black musicians. Rooted in our commitment to racial justice and the power of sacred music, this effort will provide ongoing financial support to organizations that educate and empower Black students in music.



The initiative was unanimously approved by our Church Council and emerges from thoughtful conversations held earlier this year. As a congregation that regularly sings and celebrates music from the Black church tradition, we recognize that these songs—many born from the suffering and resilience of enslaved people—were never compensated. It's time to pay that debt forward.

To donate to Royalties for Spirituals, click on the QR code and donate online, or go to [www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org) and scroll to the bottom of the website and click the blue button.



We have secured an organization which matches our goals and dreams for partnering with our initiative. **The Adam J. Lewis Academy (AJLA)** in Bridgeport, CT is the perfect school that educates underserved children in the eastern end of Fairfield County.

Adam J. Lewis Academy was established in 2011 as Adam J. Lewis Preschool, a not-for-profit early childhood center in the West End of Bridgeport. The Preschool's founders, longtime educators Patty Lewis and Julie Mombello, recognized both the profound life impact of a high-quality preschool experience and the staggering disparities in access and opportunity across Fairfield County. They were determined to build a more hopeful, equitable future.

- Weekly Choral classes for all students in Elementary and Middle School
- Creation of the Select Girls Choir at AJLA in partnership with The United Girls' Choir of New Haven. This elite choir program rehearses right at AJLA and admission will be by invitation or audition only and is open to all girls attending Elementary and Middle School at AJLA as well as girls in the Bridgeport community.
- In the early childhood program (PreK-K), music occurs twice a week and builds musical literacy through nursery rhymes, fine and gross motor practice, and simple melodies.

Today, Patty Lewis from Adam J. Lewis Academy is here to receive their first check from our Royalties For Spirituals initiative. She will speak a bit about the educational work of the academy and will be around during Community Hour to answer your questions and give you an opportunity to connect with the membership of First Church.

You can always contribute to this initiative by using the QR code on the graphic or through the church website, selecting "Royalties For Spirituals" in the pulldown menu.

| UPCOMING EVENTS          |                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SUN<br>NOV 9             | <b>GIVING TREES WILL BE READY</b><br>Help those in need by giving a gift to brighten their holidays                                                  |
| SUN<br>NOV 9             | <b>ROYALTIES FOR SPIRITUALS SUNDAY</b><br>Patty Lewis from Adam J. Lewis Academy in Bridgeport will receive their first donation from our initiative |
| SAT & SUN<br>NOV 22 & 23 | <b>H.O.M.E. CRAFT FAIR</b><br>Auditorium - Sat 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. & Sunday following worship                                                            |
| SUN<br>NOV 23            | <b>HARVEST SUNDAY WORSHIP</b><br>Our annual celebration of filling the Meetinghouse with food donations for H.O.M.E. & Neighbor to Neighbor          |
| SAT<br>NOV 29            | <b>CHRISTMAS TREE SALE</b><br>Hundreds of trees and wreaths go on sale around 9 a.m.<br>Sale is Sat & Sun 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. through December 7         |
| SUN<br>DEC 7             | <b>ADVENT CRAFT FAIR</b><br>Happening during Community Hour<br>after worship until 12:30 p.m.                                                        |

### SHELF STABLE FOOD FOR NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR AND H.O.M.E.

We will hold our traditional collection of shelf-stable food during the 10 a.m. service on Harvest Sunday, November 23. Shopping bags will be available in the Meetinghouse on Sunday, November 9 and Sunday, November 16. No bag? No problem. Use any paper or reusable bag.

If you prefer, food may also be delivered to the drive by drop-off on Sunday, November 23 from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm in the church parking lot.

#### Suggested food:

Canned Meats, Peanut Butter and Jelly, Pasta and Sauce, Oatmeal, Rice, Beans, Canned Vegetables, Coffee, Tea

### DONATE FRESH FOOD FOR NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

Use the online option to shop for fresh food donations from the comfort of your home. The fresh selections will be delivered to Neighbor to Neighbor as they need so nothing spoils!

Scan the QR to shop online at #GIVEHEALTHY for fresh food donations requested by Neighbor to Neighbor.



# Christmas SERVICE LEARNING TRIP

**DECEMBER  
12-14, 2025**

(mini mission-trip-like weekend for 6th-12th graders!)

## **WHERE ARE WE GOING & WHAT ARE WE DOING?**

Youth are invited to **48 hours** in Providence, RI learning about our local unhoused neighbors & putting our faith in action by serving others!

**6TH-  
12TH  
GR.**

**FRI  
12TH**

## **LEAVE FOR RHODE ISLAND & ARRIVAL**

Seekonk Congregational Church in Seekonk, MA

## **SERVICE WORK & FUN IN PROVIDENCE**

Working with the Incredible Days organization!

**SAT  
13TH**

**SUN  
14TH**

## **CLOSING CIRCLE & HEAD HOME**

Pick-up and Drop-off at 2CC Greenwich

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

**\$200**

WITH MANY  
SCHOLARSHIPS  
AVAILABLE!

**REGIONAL  
YOUTH  
MINISTRY**

## 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  
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  
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

