



SUNDAY, JULY 13, 2025  
FIFTH 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 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.





# 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

*Give Me Jesus*  
Arr. Marques Garrett  
Steven Russell, guest organist/director

## THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR

## CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Patrick Collins

## †CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Through the chaos and tumult of the world as it is,  
All: **let anyone with ears to hear listen!**  
One: The powers of the world believe themselves ultimate,  
All: **but who is like our God, the Holy One who brings life out of death?**  
One: In Christ we see the truth,  
All: **and through the gift of faith, we worship God alone.**

## †CHORAL INTROIT

## †HYMN

*My Hope Is Built*  
353 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

## †PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

Holy God, there are so many stories competing for our attention, demanding our allegiance, trying to control. Stories meant to scare us, divide us and monetize us. Stories meant to inspire us, change us and guide us. Tell us your story again today, show us how you see the world, and help us make sense of it all, that we may find ourselves in your book of life abundant. 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*



## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### 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.

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

## FIRST LESSON

*Revelation 13: 1-8*

New Revised Standard Version  
Charles Stuckey

And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, and on its horns were ten diadems, and on its heads were blasphemous names. And the beast that I saw was like a leopard, its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And the dragon gave it his power and his throne and great authority. One of its heads seemed to have received a death blow, but its fatal wound had been healed. In amazement the whole earth followed the beast. They worshiped the dragon, for he had given his authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who can fight against it?"

The beast was given a mouth speaking arrogant and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months. It opened its mouth to speak blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven. Also, it was allowed to wage war on the saints and to conquer them. It was given authority over every tribe and people and language and nation, and all the inhabitants of the earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb that was slaughtered.

## ANTHEM

*Go Not Far From Me, O God*  
Luigi Zingarelli  
The Summer Choir

## SECOND LESSON

*Revelation 13: 9-18*  
New Revised Standard Version

Let anyone who has an ear listen:

If you are to be taken captive,  
into captivity you go;  
if you kill with the sword,  
with the sword you must be killed.

Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.

Then I saw another beast that rose out of the earth; it had two horns like a lamb, and it spoke like a dragon. It exercises all the authority of the first beast on its behalf, and it makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed. It performs great signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in the sight of all, and by the signs that it is allowed to perform on behalf of the beast it deceives the inhabitants of earth, telling them to make an image for the beast that had been wounded by the sword and yet lived, and it was allowed to give breath to the image of the beast so that the image of the beast could even speak and cause those who would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. Also, it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be given a brand on the right hand or the forehead, so that no one can buy or sell who does not have the brand, that is, the name of the beast or the number for its name. This calls for wisdom: let anyone with understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number for a person. Its number is six hundred sixty-six.

## MESSAGE

*Revelation and Resistance: Unmasking the Empire*  
Reverend Patrick Collins

## †HYMN

*O Lord, Our God*  
25 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

Steve Weigner

## ORGAN OFFERTORY

*Meditation On Song To Jesus Christ*  
Mary Beth Bennett

† Please rise in body or in spirit

## †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

*Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing*  
546 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

## †BENEDICTION

## †CHORAL RESPONSE

## †POSTLUDE

*I Am Thine, O Lord*  
Monte Thomas

†Please rise in body or in spirit

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Join us for Community Hour in the Memory Garden (or Auditorium in case of rain) where you can greet one another, have a cup of coffee, and a light snack. Hosts for July are members of the Women's Fellowship.

**COMMUNITY  
HOUR**



## WIRED WORD BIBLE STUDY

Using the Wired Word's 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) Join Pastor Patrick for lunch on Thursdays at noon in the lounge. BYO lunch optional.

## BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING



Parish Nurse Sue Asselin, RN will be available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following Sunday's worship service. If Community Hour is held outside, Sue will be in the Memory Garden. If held inside, Sue will be in her office, to the right of the Auditorium stage.

During the week, she is available by appointment, which can be made by calling extension 821 or emailing [susana@fccog.org](mailto:susana@fccog.org).



## SUNDAY BEACH SERVICES at 8 a.m.

**JULY 13, 20, 27 &  
AUGUST 3, 10, 17**

**8 A.M. AT GREENWICH POINT PARK  
ALL ARE WELCOME - SIMPLY SAY YOU'RE HERE  
FOR FIRST CHURCH SERVICE  
BRING YOUR BEACH CHAIR OR BLANKET**

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH  
WWW.FCCOG.ORG**



**Join us at Greenwich Point on  
Sunday, August 3 at 8 a.m.  
for an All-Church Beach Service  
No passes required - bring your chairs/blankets**

**(in case of bad weather, worship will be at 10 a.m. in the Meetinghouse)**



## Upcoming Events

### Beach Services

Our Summer Beach Services continue at 8 a.m. at Greenwich Point Park. No passes are necessary - simply tell the gatekeeper you're attending First Congregational service. Remaining dates are July 13, 20, 27, August 3, 10, 17.

### Founders Day & Heritage Sunday - July 20

Join us as we celebrate the founding of First Church and the Town of Greenwich. We will also welcome a new class of 50-year members during worship in the Meetinghouse. A special community hour will be held following worship with historic artifacts curated by our historian Pat Larrabee.

### All-Church Beach Service - August 3, 8 a.m.

A special Summer Beach Service will be held on Sunday August 3 at 8 a.m. at Greenwich Point Park. It's a special time to gather together and be in the beauty of God's creation. No passes are necessary - simply tell the gatekeeper you're attending First Congregational service.

See the full Church Calendar for all upcoming events  
[www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org)



# THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

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## Ministers - All Members Of The First Congregational Church Of Greenwich

Senior Pastor  
Associate Pastor  
Minister of Music  
Director of Operations  
Director of Finance & Administration  
Director of FCCOG Church School/Regional Youth Ministry  
Parish Nurse  
Livestream Director  
Audio Technician  
Database Administrative Assistant  
Facility Manager  
Senior Sexton  
First Church Preschool Director  
First Church Preschool Assistant Director  
Pastor Emerita

Reverend Patrick Collins  
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke  
Dr. Craig Scott Symons  
Wendy Spezzano  
Greg Girolamo  
Khaleigh Laicher  
Susan Asselin, RN  
Daniel Lepoutre  
Bob Small  
Sue Wilder  
Julio Yika  
Curtis Gay  
Beth Genovese  
Melanie Garnett  
Reverend Sally Colegrove

