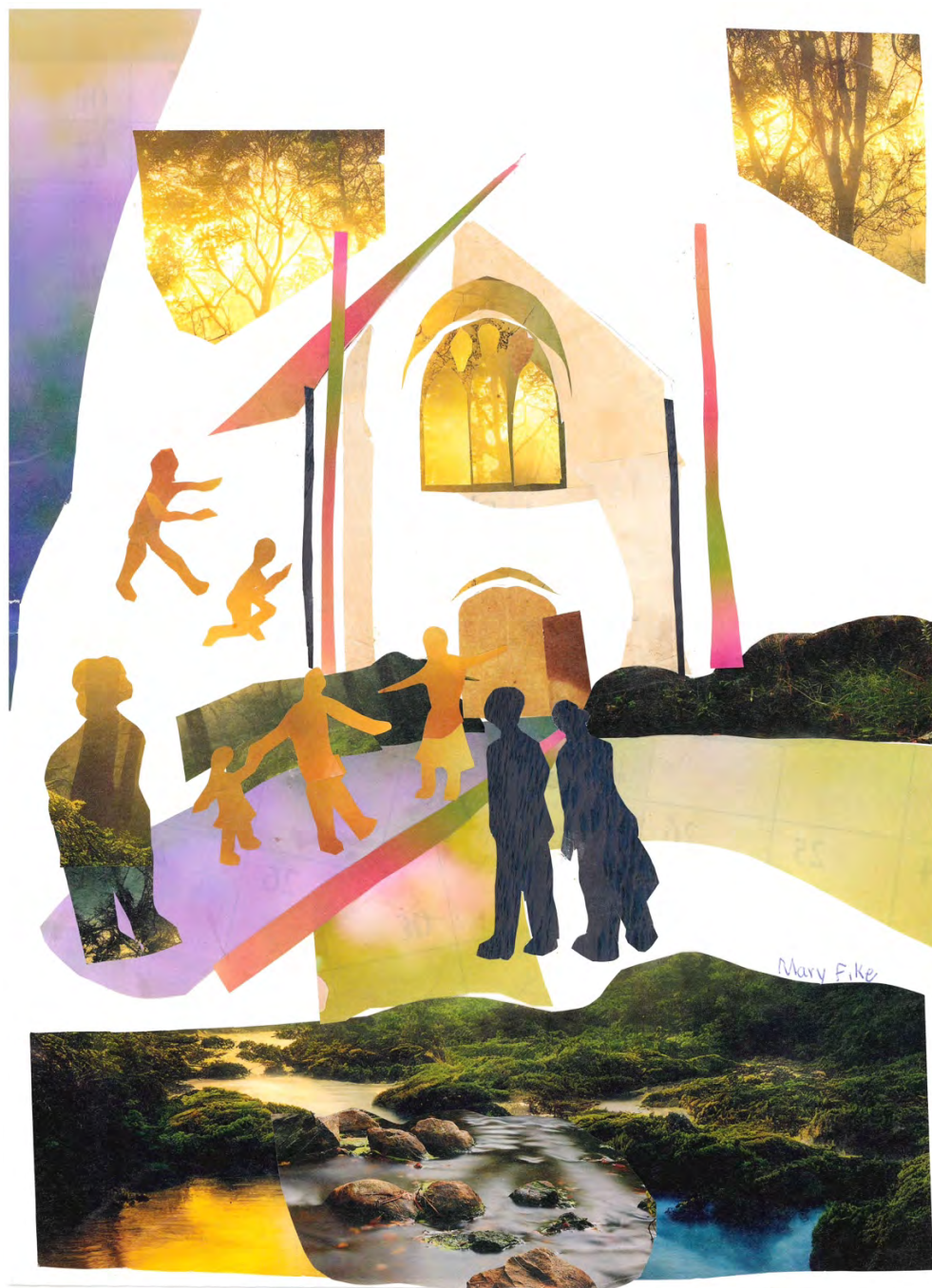


SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
LAITY SUNDAY
TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING



Artwork by Mary Fike

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.*

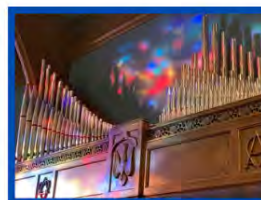
The PrayGround. In the Chapel space, guiding kids in worship.

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. Ask Ushers for help with bluetooth enabling or use of physical devices.

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

Allegro Vivace

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Paul Ghaffari, violin

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, piano

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Juliet Primo Lee, Senior Deacon

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

Making Room: It Starts With Us

Charles Stuckey – Annual Giving Committee

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Steve Weigner

One: Come, all who are gathered here. God has made room for every one of us.

All: We come as we are, glad to be welcomed.

One: Each of us has received a gift from God,

All: not for us alone, but to serve one another.

One: Above all, let us love one another deeply,

All: for love makes room for one another's failings.

One: So let us open our doors, our hearts, and our hands.

All: Let us worship God together!

†CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

There Is Room In God's Great Welcome

1. There is room in God's great wel - come; See! The doors are o - pen wide!
2. There is room in our good na - tion if we stand on jus - tice-ground.
3. There is room for un - der - stand - ing, for the out - cast and the poor;
4. There is room in faith - ful church-es for the wound-ed and op - pressed:

5
Here on earth as in God's heav - en, hear the call to come in - side!
God has made a good cre - a - tion; col - ors, cul - tures all a - bound.
For the Chris - tian, Jew and Mus - lim, there is room for these and more.
9 Wom - en who've been told they're worth-less, ref - u - gees who feel dis - tressed,

There is so much room for dif - ference— men and wom - en, gay and straight.
Wel - come, sis - ter! Wel - come, broth - er! All those yearn - ing to breathe free!
For the peo - ple on the fring - es, for the ones with long ca - reer,
13 Im - mi - grants who fear the fu - ture, peo - ple scorned and pushed and shoved.

In God's love, the rooms are count - less, but there is no room for hate.
There is room for one an - oth - er— but no room for big - o - t - ry.
There is room for build - ing bridg - es, but there is no room for fear.
God, may we seek what you treas - ure: may we all make room for love.

Tune: *Holy Manna*, from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835.

Text: Copyright © 2016 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

†Please rise in body or in spirit

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

Carol Woodman

Generous God, you have made room for us in your house, yet we have not always made room for one another. We have kept our gifts to ourselves, thinking them too small to matter or too precious to share. We have welcomed some and overlooked others. We have offered hospitality with a grudging heart. Forgive us. Open our hearts to love more deeply, our doors to welcome more widely, and our hands to serve more freely, so that in all things you may be glorified, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Moment of silence for personal reflection

†ASSURANCE OF GRACE

One: Hear the good news: God's love is greater than all our failings. Each of us has been given a share of God's grace, to use in serving others. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

†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



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Lynn Hawxhurst

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

RESPONSE

God's Got The Whole World In Their Hands



†Please rise in body or in spirit

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Peter 4:8-11
The Message
Jenny Gartner

Everything in the world is about to be wrapped up, so take nothing for granted. Stay wide-awake in prayer. Most of all, love each other as if your life depended on it. Love makes up for practically anything. Be quick to give a meal to the hungry, a bed to the homeless—cheerfully. Be generous with the different things God gave you, passing them around so all get in on it: if words, let it be God's words; if help, let it be God's hearty help. That way, God's bright presence will be evident in everything through Jesus, and *he'll* get all the credit as the One mighty in everything—encores to the end of time. Oh, yes!

MESSAGE

Juliet Primo Lee

ANTHEM

O Clap Your Hands
John Rutter (b. 1945)
The Chancel Choir

MESSAGE

Pat Mendelsohn

†HYMN

Take My Life, And Let It Be
697 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)
Verses 1-4

MESSAGE

Bill DeHaven

CALL TO OFFERING

Karen Yancey



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

OFFERTORY SOLO

How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings
Samuel Liddle (1867-1951)
Carol Woodman, soprano

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†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.

†HYMN

Come! Live In The Light!
749 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†Please rise in body or in spirit

†BENEDICTION

One: Go now as good stewards of God's grace. Love one another deeply, welcome one another gladly, and use the gifts you have been given to serve. And may the God who makes room for us all go with you, today and always.

All: Amen!

†CHORAL RESPONSE

†POSTLUDE

Allegro Molto
Franz Schubert
Paul Ghaffari, violin

†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 Auditorium where you can greet one another, have a cup of coffee, and a light snack. Please sign up to help bring treats and clean up each week. Scan the QR code to volunteer!

**COMMUNITY
HOUR**

Annual Giving 2027



Our Making Room Annual Giving campaign is getting underway! Watch your mailbox in the coming week for materials highlighting how your generosity makes room for worship, connection, service, and care at First Church.

Join us in the Auditorium following worship for a special campaign kickoff reception. We'll celebrate the ministry we share and look ahead to all we can make possible together.



realm

Let's get connected.

First Church is updating our church record keeping solution and online community by moving to a technology solution called Realm®.

- We're updating the administrative tools our staff uses to run the daily operations of our church.
- We're adding more ways to communicate and connect as a church, all while leaving current methods in place.
- You determine how much you want to make this part of your experience with our church, but we encourage you to participate.

In the coming weeks, you will receive an email invitation to create an online account in Realm®. After you create your online account, you can also download the free **Realm Connect – For Our Church** app for iPhone and Android devices. In either the online account through a browser or using the **Realm Connect – For Our Church** app, you can check and update your personal information and how it is shared, make gifts and pledges online, and check your giving history, and connect with other members of our church community.

We will be sending out the invitation emails gradually over the coming weeks, so please be patient if you don't receive yours right away.

NARRATIVE LECTIONARY DISCUSSION GROUP



Thursdays • Noon–1:00 p.m.

The Lounge at First Church

Join us as we explore and discuss
the upcoming passage for Sunday.



Sip on coffee. Make meaningful connections.
Explore life-changing truths.

Every Sunday 9:00 AM

FCCOG Lounge

**GET TO KNOW GOD
THROUGH GOD'S WORD**



Caregivers Support Group

Wednesdays 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

in First Church Lounge

This group is designed for those who find themselves the primary caregivers to aging parents, ailing spouses, or have otherwise had their lives impacted by the care needs of others.

The group is facilitated by Dedee Rigg, an experienced pastoral counselor and long-time caregiver to her husband Jerry. Dedee graduated from Union Theological Seminary and was ordained to pastoral counseling ministry here at First Church in 1981. After clinical training, she practiced psychotherapy & pastoral counseling in Greenwich for 40 years.

Dedee initially worked with adults and couples suffering from both individual and marital issues and later, after the loss of a son, she specialized in grief counseling. For 19 years she was the primary caretaker for her husband Jerry who died of Alzheimer's disease. She offers her experience as a therapist and a caretaker in this

support group.

To learn more, contact Pastors Cydney or Patrick, or Parish Nurse Sue Asselin.



We need your decorated vehicle to make Trunk or Treat a success!! Sign up by scanning the QR code on the left. Last year we had 21 cars/spots – let's hit 30 this year! We have 200+ goblins come through to visit cars and there are some delicious food truck options. This is one of our biggest community connection points that First Church offers. Spread the word and invite your family and friends!

First Congregational Church of Greenwich

TRUNK OR TREAT

🕒 Saturday, Oct 24
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





Come for the coffee.
Stay for the conversation.

Twice a month, join the **Women's Fellowship**
for a relaxed morning of coffee, conversation
& connection

No agenda, no program — just time to catch up,
meet someone new, and enjoy being together

Wednesday, October 7 • 10 AM
Friday, October 23 • 10 AM

Bring a friend or simply bring yourself.
There's always a seat for you.

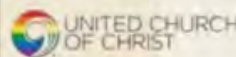
Coffee for Good • Greenwich

48 Maple Avenue, Greenwich 06870



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
RIVERSIDE

200 RIVERSIDE AVE,
RIVERSIDE



108 SOUND BEACH AVE,
OLD GREENWICH

A NEW COLLABORATIVE

**40 MINUTES
@ 4PM**



FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE

Third Sundays @ 4pm:

Oct. 18 @ St. Paul's

Nov. 15 @ First Congregational

Dec. 20 @ St. Paul's

Jan. 17 @ First Congregational

Feb. 21 @ St. Paul's

March 21 @ First Congregational

April 18 @ St. Paul's

May 16 @ First Congregational

**FAMILY-CENTERED
INFORMAL
MUSIC
ALL-AGES
INTERACTIVE
FUN**

**STAY AFTER THE
SERVICE FOR A
SIMPLE, KID-
FRIENDLY MEAL!**



ALL FAMILIES WELCOME!

Medicare Part D

Prescription Drug Insurance



- Open enrollment is Oct 15 to December 7.
- Evaluating every year is advised.
- Counseling, including navigating the Medicare.gov website, is available.
- For an appointment with Parish Nurse Sue Asselin call church ext 821.
- For an appointment with trained Town of Greenwich counselors call the Commission on Aging at 203-862-6707.

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

