



SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2026
SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING

freedom

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.

Please silence all electronic devices.

PRELUDE

Berceuse (from Dolly)

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, Vance Briceland, piano

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather as people created in God's image,

All: **Called to live in freedom, not fear.**

One: We gather seeking voices that unite rather than divide,

All: **Justice that lifts every person, and love that binds us together.**

One: Come, let us worship the One who calls all people holy.

All: **Let us worship God.**

†CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

God Of The Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

331 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

Too often we mistake power for wisdom and control for strength. We long for freedom, yet we confess that we sometimes use our freedom to serve ourselves rather than our neighbors. Open our hearts to your Spirit, that we may seek not simply our own voice, but the good of the whole community. Shape us into people who live with humility, courage, and love. 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.

†RESPONSE (remain standing)

Halle, Hallelujah



†Please rise in body or in spirit

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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

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.

FIRST LESSON

Otherwise
Jane Kenyon
Mario Lotufo

I got out of bed
on two strong legs.
It might have been
otherwise. I ate
cereal, sweet
milk, ripe, flawless
peach. It might
have been otherwise.
I took the dog uphill
to the birch wood.
All morning I did
the work I love.
At noon I lay down
with my mate. It might
have been otherwise.
We ate dinner together
at a table with silver
candlesticks. It might
have been otherwise.
I slept in a bed
in a room with paintings
on the walls, and
planned another day
just like this day.
But one day, I know,
it will be otherwise.

ANTHEM

Most Glorious Lord Of Life
William Harris (1883-1973)
The Summer Choir

†Please rise in body or in spirit

SECOND LESSON

Numbers 15: 32-36, 16: 1-4
New Revised Standard Version

When the Israelites were in the wilderness, they found a man gathering sticks on the Sabbath day. Those who found him gathering sticks brought him to Moses, Aaron, and the whole congregation. They put him in custody because it was not clear what should be done to him. Then the Lord said to Moses, "The man shall be put to death; all the congregation shall stone him outside the camp." The whole congregation brought him outside the camp and stoned him to death, just as the Lord had commanded Moses.

Now Korah son of Izhar son of Kohath son of Levi, along with Dathan and Abiram sons of Eliab, and On son of Peleth son of Reuben, took two hundred fifty Israelite men, leaders of the congregation, chosen from the assembly, well-known men, and they confronted Moses. They assembled against Moses and against Aaron and said to them, "You have gone too far! All the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the Lord is among them. So why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the Lord?" When Moses heard it, he fell on his face.

MESSAGE

The Freedom We Choose
Reverend Patrick Collins

†HYMN

My Country 'Tis Of Thee
337 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

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

Fred Laffan



ORGAN OFFERTORY

Let Us Break Bread Together
Arr. Douglas Wagner (b. 1952)

†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.
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†HYMN

Mine Eyes Have Seen The Glory
354 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL RESPONSE

†POSTLUDE

Stars And Stripes Forever
John Philip Sousa (1854-1932)

†Please rise in body or in spirit

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Join us for Community Hour in the Memory Garden (weather permitting) 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**



Caregivers Support Group – Weekly, Wednesday 1:30 - 2:30 pm, 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.



**FOUNDERS' DAY & HERITAGE SUNDAY
JULY 19 AT 10 A.M.**

On this Sunday we honor members who have been a part of the church for 50 years or more. The same day, the Founders' Day service is held on the Sunday closest to Founders' Day in Greenwich which is July 18, the day when the church was chartered in 1665. It is a service of celebration of the rich history of our church and the community.

Beach Services – Summer 2026

July 12, 19, 26

August 2, 23, 30

**All-Church Beach Services are
August 9 & 16
(No Meetinghouse Service)**

8 A.M. AT GREENWICH POINT PARK

ALL ARE WELCOME - SIMPLY SAY YOU'RE THERE FOR FIRST CHURCH SERVICE
BRING YOUR BEACH CHAIR OR BLANKET



Discover community activities in 2026

All women of the church are welcome!

Scan the QR code for the **GroupMe** app or visit **www.GroupMe.com** from your desktop for Women's Fellowship activity updates

For questions, email
Sara Stuckey
(sdstuckey@gmail.com)



Scan here
with your
smartphone
camera!



SUMMER BEACH OUTINGS

Mondays @ 5:30

July 27 & August 24,

rain dates the next day, respectively

We plan 3 monthly beach outings this summer!
All women in our Church and your guests
are invited to bring your own picnic and beverage.

For those who live outside Greenwich, we will meet to carpool in the Church parking lot at 5:15pm in the car of a Greenwich resident with a beach pass.

****IF YOU NEED TO CARPOOL****
please let Pat Larrabee know. Her email is
patlarrabee@hotmail.com

**Location: The Sue H. Baker Pavilion at The Old
Barn at Greenwich Point**

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

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Ministers - All Members Of The First Congregational Church Of Greenwich

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Buildings and Grounds Supervisor
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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
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Joe Vartuli
Curtis Gay
Beth Genovese
Melanie Garnett
Reverend Sally Colegrove



UNITED CHURCH
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See more about the stories of our
Stained Glass Windows



See the Tour of our Main Cemetery -
People of Note

