



SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2026
TENTH 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.

Please silence all electronic devices.

The flowers on the altar are from the Waitt Family
in honor of their daughter Margot Witney Waitt's baptism this afternoon.

PRELUDE

Let Us Break Bread Together

Edwin T. Childs (b. 1945)

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, all who are hungry and thirsty.

All: **The Lord will provide for our needs.**

One: Come this day to the table of the Lord.

All: **Here we will find welcome and sustenance.**

One: Come to this time of gathering and praise.

All: **Lord, we come with open hearts and spirits to receive your gracious gift of love.**

†CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

Praise The Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him

13 Pilgrim Hymnal (red)

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

Holy God, as the crowds followed Jesus, eager to be filled with hope, we come this day seeking nourishment for our souls. We hunger and thirst for the word of hope and truth, even as our lives are battered by anger and hostility. Sit us down, as Jesus seated the multitude. Calm us down, as Jesus reassured the disciples that all would receive care. Lift us up, as Jesus encouraged others to reach out in compassion. Renew our spirits and make us whole again. Give us hearts of confident faith, O Lord, trusting in your ways that provide more than we need.

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

(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

Song Of Myself (section 19)

Walt Whitman

Pat Larrabee

This is the meal equally set, this the meat for natural hunger,
It is for the wicked just the same as the righteous, I make appointments with all,
I will not have a single person slighted or left away,
The kept-woman, sponger, thief, are hereby invited,
The heavy-lipp'd slave is invited, the venerealee is invited;
There shall be no difference between them and the rest.

This is the press of a bashful hand, this the float and odor of hair,
This the touch of my lips to yours, this the murmur of yearning,
This the far-off depth and height reflecting my own face,
This the thoughtful merge of myself, and the outlet again.

Do you guess I have some intricate purpose?
Well I have, for the Fourth-month showers have, and the mica on the side of a rock has.

Do you take it I would astonish?
Does the daylight astonish? does the early redstart twittering through the woods?
Do I astonish more than they?

This hour I tell things in confidence,
I might not tell everybody, but I will tell you.

ANTHEM

Jesu, The Very Thought Of Thee

Simon Lole (1895-1968)

The Summer Choir

†Please rise in body or in spirit

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 14:13-21
Common English Bible

When Jesus heard about John, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. When the crowds learned this, they followed him on foot from the cities. When Jesus arrived and saw a large crowd, he had compassion for them and healed those who were sick. That evening his disciples came and said to him, "This is an isolated place and it's getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

But Jesus said to them, "There's no need to send them away. You give them something to eat."

They replied, "We have nothing here except five loaves of bread and two fish."

He said, "Bring them here to me." He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. He took the five loaves of bread and the two fish, looked up to heaven, blessed them and broke the loaves apart and gave them to his disciples. Then the disciples gave them to the crowds. Everyone ate until they were full, and they filled twelve baskets with the leftovers. About five thousand men plus women and children had eaten.

MESSAGE

5000 Strong
Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

†HYMN

More Love To Thee, O Christ
400 Pilgrim Hymnal (red)

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.

†Please rise in body or in spirit

CALL TO OFFERING

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

Fred Laffan



OFFERTORY SOLO

Great Day!

Arr. Jay Althouse (b. 1951)
Linnea Conley, mezzo 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

†HYMN

He Leadeth Me
370 Pilgrim Hymnal (red)

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL RESPONSE

†POSTLUDE

Thou Crownest The Year
Caleb Simper (1856-1942)

†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 August are members of the Church Council.

COMMUNITY
hour
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.

Beach Services – Summer 2026

August 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

If 8 a.m. is canceled
because of weather, we
WILL meet at 10 a.m. in
the Meetinghouse.

ALL-CHURCH BEACH SERVICES

August 9 & 16

8 a.m.

Greenwich Point - next to Innis Arden Cottage (first building on left) - park just beyond that on your right.

Join together with your First Church family to worship in the beauty of nature. All are welcome – no pass needed to enter Greenwich Point – tell the gatekeeper you're here for First Church worship.
Bring your beach chairs or blankets!



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



Monday, August 24 @ 5:30
rain date August 25th

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

JOIN THE 2026 CHRISTMAS TREE & WREATH SALE TEAM!

JOBS OF ALL SIZES AVAILABLE, REMOTE AND ON-SITE!

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 ahead of sale

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 email us and we will follow up!

(laurenhaffari@gmail.com, pspeer22@gmail.com, collinskt@gmail.com)