



SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 2025
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
EIGHT 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

PRELUDE

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, piano

GREETING AND GATHERING PRAYER

Reverend Patrick Collins

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, people of God, step into the beauty of creation and lift your hearts to the One who made it all.

All: The heavens declare God's glory, the sea sings God's praise.

One: In a world that crowns power and pride, we gather to proclaim a deeper truth.

All: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, worthy of all glory, honor, and praise!

One: Let all creation join the song, waves, wind, and voices together.

All: We worship the One who was, and is, and is to come, our Creator, our center, our joy!

HYMN

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

Capo 3: (D) F (Bm) Dm (G) B $\flat$

1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and
2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of
3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your

(D) F (Bm) Dm

end - less store, na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly
Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es
grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to

(G) B $\flat$ (D) F (A) C

cross, grave's shat - tered door: gift - ed by you, we turn
joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly
spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in

(Bm) Dm (F#m) Am (Bm) Dm (G) B $\flat$ (A) C (D) F

to you, of - fer - ing up our - selves in praise; thank - ful song shall
la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents,
shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,

(Bm) Dm (G) B $\flat$ (D) F

rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

FIRST LESSON

Revelation 4:1 - 6a
New Revised Standard Version

After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this." At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! And the one seated there looks like jasper and carnelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God, and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal.

ANTHEM

The Lord Is A Mighty God
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
The Summer Choir

SECOND LESSON

Revelation 4:6b - 11
New Revised Standard Version

"Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and back: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing,

"Holy, holy, holy,
the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come."

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives forever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing,

"You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

MESSAGE

Revelation and Resistance: Worthy is the Creator
Reverend Patrick Collins

COMMUNION

We practice open Communion – all who wish to know the presence of Christ and to participate in the community of God's people are welcome to receive Communion, including children of all ages, and regardless of church membership or denominational affiliation. All are welcome to the table of God.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

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

They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

Capo 1: (Em) Fm (Bm) Cm (Em) Fm



1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;
2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand;
3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;
4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,

(Am) Bbm (Em) Fm



we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,
we will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand,
we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,
and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,

(Am) Bbm (Em) Fm



and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored;
and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land;
and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride;
and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:

Refrain (C) Dbm (Em) Fm



And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our

(Am) Bbm (Em) Fm (Am) Bbm (Em) Cm (Em) Fm (Am/E) (Em) Fm



love; yes, they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love.

BENEDICTION

Join us for Community Hour following worship 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



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 Join Pastor Patrick for lunch on Thursdays at noon in the lounge. BYO lunch optional.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP SUMMER SOCIALS

Our next Women's Fellowship Summer Social is Monday, August 25 (rain date following evening) from 5:30 pm on at the Sue Baker Pavilion at Greenwich Point. The rain date is the following evening. We bring our own food/drinks and meet for an informal gathering. Feel free to bring a friend/neighbor.

If you don't have a current Greenwich beach pass, we can arrange a ride from the church parking lot if you let Car Westbrook know.

Questions? Contact Car Westbrook at carwestbrook@optimum.net.



CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE SUNDAYS: AUGUST 24 AND 31

What do *you* want to hear a sermon about? On these two special Sundays, Patrick and Cydney are inviting you to help shape the message. Submit a topic, theme, or scripture you would love to hear explored in worship. Whether it's a burning question, a favorite passage, or something you've always wondered about, send in your idea. It just might be selected for one of these interactive Sundays. Please email your suggestions to patrickc@fccog.org or cydneyv@fccog.org by August 17.





HOMEcoming

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Say Hello to Fall

FRIENDS & FAMILY FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

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Ministers - All Members Of The First Congregational Church Of Greenwich

Senior Pastor
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Parish Nurse
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Livestream Director
Audio Technician
Database Administrative Assistant
Facility Manager
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
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

