



SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2026
ELEVENTH 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 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

GREETING AND GATHERING PRAYER

Reverend Patrick Collins

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In the beginning, God looked upon creation and called it very good.

All: **We come to receive again the goodness of God.**

One: Before humanity began its work, God gave us a day of rest.

All: **We come to breathe deeply, to wonder, and to delight.**

One: The animals still teach, the birds still sing, and the waters still speak.

All: **The wisdom of God is alive all around us.**

One: Creation is God's gift, our teacher, and our shared home.

All: **Let us enjoy its beauty, listen for its wisdom, and care for it with love.**

HYMN

Morning Has Broken

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black-bird has
2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the
spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet-ness of the wet
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion; praise ev - ery
morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 1:31 – 2:3

New Revised Standard Version

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

ANTHEM

Day By Day

Martin How (1931-2022)

The Summer Choir

SECOND LESSON

Job 12:7-12
New Revised Standard Version

“But ask the animals, and they will teach you,
the birds of the air, and they will tell you;
ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you,
and the fish of the sea will declare to you.
Who among all these does not know
that the hand of the Lord has done this?
In his hand is the life of every living thing
and the breath of every human being.
Does not the ear test words
as the palate tastes food?
Is wisdom with the aged
and understanding in length of days?

MESSAGE

Your First Day Was A Day Off

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

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.



1 There is now a new cre - a - tion through the grace of Je - sus Christ,
 2 Call the lost and found to - geth - er; tell the news to ev - ery - one:
 3 Wrap the prod - i - gal in wel - come; run to greet the way - ward child.
 4 Come and join the cel - e - bra - tion; come and join this hap - py feast;
 5 There is now a new cre - a - tion through the grace of Je - sus Christ.

peace and rec - on - cil - i - a - tion with the God of end - less life.
 now the past is gone for - ev - er and a new life has be - gun.
 All is fin - ished and for - giv - en; let us now be rec - on - ciled.
 Je - sus makes an in - vi - ta - tion to the great - est and the least.
 Sing, with thanks and ad - o - ra - tion, to the God of end - less life!

BENEDICTION

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Please stay for Community Hour following worship where you can greet one another, have a cup of coffee, and a light snack.

**COMMUNITY
HOUR**

COMMUNITY HOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Please join us in making community hour a warm and welcoming gathering after 10 am worship each Sunday. Scan the QR code below to sign up and bring a snack or to help with simple clean up.

You can drop off your food to the upstairs kitchen before the service and the sextons will take it from there. You may also drop off your food during the week - just label it for community hour.



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

ALL-CHURCH BEACH SERVICE

August 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!



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



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)

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 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

