



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2026
FIFTEENTH 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.

PRELUDE

When Morning Gilds The Skies

Dale Wood (1934-2003)

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: When our nets are empty and the night has been long, Christ meets us at the water's edge.

All: **The risen Christ calls us to hope again.**

One: When life emerges where we thought all possibility had ended, Christ is among us.

All: **The risen Christ calls us out of every tomb.**

One: Let us open our eyes, our hearts, and our lives to recognize him.

All: **It is the Lord! Let us worship God.**

†CHORAL INTROIT

†HYMN

Come, You Faithful, Raise The Strain

234 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS (in unison)

Risen Christ, meet us in unexpected places and open our eyes to recognize your presence. When hope stirs and new life emerges, give us courage to say, "It is the Lord." Call us from every tomb that confines us and make us witnesses to your life-giving 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, Hallehujah



†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

John 21:4-14

New Revised Standard Version
Pat Larrabee

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

ANTHEM

Praise Him!
Craig Courtney (b. 1954)
The Summer Choir
Vance Briceland, piano

SECOND LESSON

John 21: 15-25
New Revised Standard Version

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?" When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about him?" Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?"

Follow me!" So the rumor spread among the brothers and sisters that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?"

This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true. But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

MESSAGE

The Voice of Resurrection
Reverend Patrick Collins

†HYMN

Come To The Table Of Grace
507 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

Jenny Gartner

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



OFFERTORY SOLO

On Eagle's Wings
Arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)
Hanna Golodinskii, 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

†Please rise in body or in spirit

†HYMN

Standing On The Promises
838 Glory To God Hymnal (purple)

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL RESPONSE

†POSTLUDE

Fugue Sur La Trompette
François Couperin (1668-1739)

†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.

**COMMUNITY
HOUR**

BULLETIN NOTE

As we continue to be good stewards of our resources and the planet, we are reducing the number of bulletins being printed. Since virtually everything is on our monitors in the Meetinghouse, particularly announcements, we are asking that families take just one (1) bulletin per family to help us keep printing costs down. Thank you.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Your Parish Nurse, Sue Asselin, is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service in the Memory Garden weather permitting, or in her office to the right of the Auditorium stage. During the week, Sue is available by appointment. Email susana@fccog.org or call 203-637-1791 extension 821.



**HOMECOMING
SUNDAY**
Sunday, September 13
10 a.m.
Worship in the Meetinghouse

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Luncheon in the Auditorium
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Main course provided!
Please bring a side dish or dessert,
based on your last name:
A-L - Side dish
M-Z - Desserts

first
congregational
church
of greenwich
founded 1685



**First Congregational Church of Greenwich
presents**
**FRIENDS AND FAMILY
FESTIVAL**

Saturday, September 19 4:00 - 6:30 p.m.
108 Sound Beach Avenue Old Greenwich

Popcorn, ice-cream, cotton candy for purchase
Bouncy castle & a bouncy obstacle course
Crafts & play area for toddlers
*Dunk the Pastors
*Face painting
*Balloon Artist
(*for a nominal fee)

Ladies, *we need to talk*

perimenopause • menopause • hormones
Nothing is off limits

Thursday Night
September 10, 7-9pm

Q&A with local experts

Dr Shieva Ghofrany, MD
Board Certified OB/GYN &
Women's Health Specialist

Dr Rosella Menta, PharmD
Clinical Pharmacist &
Bioidentical Hormone
Therapy Specialist

Scan here
to reserve your space



Hosted by the Women's Fellowship
First Congregational
Church of Greenwich
108 Sound Beach Ave
FCCOG.org for more info

**Office Holiday
Closures -
Labor Day
Monday, Sept 7**

**HAPPY
LABOR
DAY!**



**Rosh Hashanah
Friday, Sept. 11**

Music Opportunities For Adults



THE
CHANCEL
CHOIR

Weekly rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings
from 7:30 to 9:00 pm in the Choir Room

THE PALMER
HANDBELL
CHOIR &
SILVERTHORN
HAND CHIME
CHOIR



Weekly rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings
from 6:30 to 7:30 pm in the Meetinghouse

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

