

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF GREENWICH



Second Sunday of Christmas
January 5, 2025
10:00 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

“And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.”

John 1:14

PRELUDE

Der Tag, ist der so freudenreich BWV 719
Jesse Pieper, organ

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

OPENING BELLS/INTROIT

Sing a Joyful Song
Jubilate Choir, Summit Sounds, Steeple Band,
and Chancel Choir

Timothy G. Bushong
(b. 1960)

WELCOME

The Rev. Dr. Lindley G. DeGarmo

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Praise the Lord, O you people.

All: We joyfully proclaim Christ is here!

One: The God of all creation animates our bodies with the breath of the Spirit.

All: The Lord, the giver of life, has come to dwell among us.

One: Let us worship God!

*HYMN 143

Angels from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

*CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Andre Castillo

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Gather us, your children who run and hide, ashamed, afraid, apathetic. We trade your goodness for ashes. We trade your peace for control. We trade your promise for certainty. Gather us to you and return us to your abundant mercy; may it flow over us, renewing our weary souls.

*MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: The light of all life and the breath of all creation claims you, calling you “good” from the very beginning, very good. Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Tara Church

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Delano Copprue

All: We wait for you, Lord, our souls wait for you, and in your Word we hope. Open our hearts and minds to hear your Word read and proclaimed, that we may have hope and believe in the good news. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 31:7-14

p. 734 OT

ANTHEM

Go Tell it on the Mountain

Philip Kern

Chancel Choir

(b. 1970)

Jesse Pieper, piano

SECOND LESSON

John 1:1-18

p. 91-92 NT

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“No One Has Seen God”

Dr. DeGarmo

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

Ritual of Friendship: *Please sign the red fellowship pad in your pew and pass it to your neighbor.*

ANTHEM

Mariä Wiegenlied

Max Reger

Margaret Mack, soprano

(1873-1916)

Caroline Worra, piano

***DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Communion

We give you thanks, O God, for the gifts of this table—precious, prayerful, and poignant—like gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Lead us forth by your light to share the gifts of your grace with all people everywhere, giving glory, honor, and praise to Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

***HYMN 110**

Love Has Come

BRING A TORCH

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

CHORAL RESPONSE

Psalm 150

G. S. Talbot

Chancel Choir

(1875-1918)

POSTLUDE

Toccata on Von Hummel Hoch

Garth Edmunson

Jesse Pieper, organ

(1882-1791)

*Please stand as you are able

WELCOME!

We are delighted you are joining us in worship! Founded on Easter Sunday in 1881, First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich embraces our mission to nurture and empower people in all stages of life to be Christ's disciples and to actively serve those in need. All children may join the *Time for Young Disciples* during the service and then be dismissed together for Sunday School. Nursery care is available in Room 220 for children under three.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

The Rev. Dr. Lindley G. DeGarmo; The Rev. Andre Castillo; Dr. Caroline Worra, Music Minister; Tara Church, Director of Children's Ministries; Jesse Pieper, organ/piano; Margaret Mack, soprano; Chancel Choir; Steeple Band; Summit Sounds; Jubilate Choir; Delano Copprue, reader.

Usher Team 1: Hearst Zhang (Captain), Diane Brown, Carol Barber, Peter McWhorter, Kate Minchin, Heidi Novak, Scott Sternberg.

Cover Art: *The Holy Family*, Rembrandt van Rijn, c. 1645

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The people of Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Russia, Haiti and Sudan; St. Marc School in Haiti; Martha Awdziejewicz, Barbara Freeman, Adrienne & Don Perry, Elly Schafer (mother of Renée Lux)

THIS WEEK

All are invited to join interim pastor Lindley DeGarmo for a virtual Bible study of the sermon text for the upcoming Sunday on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. beginning January 6. Meeting ID: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82203791684> Passcode: 408515

FLOWER DONATIONS

Donations of flowers to honor a loved one or commemorate a special occasion are always welcome and help to beautify the Sanctuary. On Mondays, the deacons distribute the flowers to members and friends who might need cheering or a simple thank you. If you want to make a dedication one Sunday, please get in touch with Erin Moore in the business office (erin@fpcg.org or (203) 869-8686). You may also sign up for a donation online [Flower Dedications](#) or by scanning the QR code.

MISSION ENGAGEMENT

PACIFIC HOUSE COOKS: Join the FPCG team to cook and serve meals for men and young male residents of Pacific House on the second Thursday of every month. Cook in the FPCG kitchen from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. or serve at Pacific House from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Contact Carol Barber: cbarber@cyburban.com; (914) 490-6621.

DRIVERS NEEDED FOR CALL-A-RIDE: Have a few hours a week to assist elderly members of our community? Drivers are needed! Email or call Terry Lohmeyer: terryhl@aol.com, (203) 249-9412.

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

All are invited to join interim pastor Lindley DeGarmo for a virtual Bible study of the sermon text for the upcoming Sunday on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. beginning January 6. Meeting ID: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82203791684> Passcode: 408515

ACADEMY

A Conversation with Hagar Chemali Sunday, January 12, 11:30 a.m.

Join the Reverend Dr. Lindley DeGarmo in Fellowship Hall for a follow-up conversation with Hagar Chemali, a year later, on the Israel-Gaza conflict, expanding instability across the Middle East, and prospects for peace in 2025. A life-long resident of Greenwich, born of Lebanese parents from Beirut, Hagar is a widely-known political satirist, foreign policy expert, and host and creator of an award-winning world news show on YouTube called "Oh My World!" She worked in the U.S. government for 12 years in a range of senior national security and public affairs positions. She is also an adjunct associate professor at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs, where she witnessed firsthand the recent struggles the university faced.

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

Join us for fellowship and book discussion in the Church Library on the 4th Floor. We gather at 9:15 a.m. for coffee and discussion starts at 9:30 a.m. Contact Colleen Giambo at cgiambo@gmail.com for more details. Here is a list of the future Friday dates and books:

January 17--The Mighty Red, by Louise Erdrich
February 21--The Message, by Ta-Nehisi Coates
March 21 --The Safekeep, by Yael van der Wouden

COMMUNITY NIGHT AND MUSIC REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Community Night and music rehearsals will resume this Wednesday, January 8th.

WINTER NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION AND RECEPTION

Interested in becoming a member of FPCG? Please join us for our winter new member orientation session on Wednesday, January 22 at 6:00 p.m. We'll gather for a light supper in Fellowship Hall at 6 p.m. and begin our orientation at 6:30 p.m. (Childcare is provided.) Those attending orientation will be welcomed by the congregation at a New Member Reception during worship on Sunday, January 26 at 10:00 a.m.

To RSVP for the orientation session, please contact Emily Sternberg at emily@thesternbergs.net.

If you haven't done so already, please scan and complete the interest form found here so we have your contact information.

FELLOWSHIP

BURNS SUPPER FUNDRAISER ON JANUARY 25, 2025

Celebrate the Scottish roots of the Presbyterian church and the birthday of Robert Burns at an FPCG fundraiser in a traditional evening of Scottish music, poetry, dinner, and fellowship. The evening will kick off with a performance by the Greenwich Pipe Band followed by dinner and renditions of Burns' songs by our own choir soloist Leslie Craigie, a Scot who has performed all over the world, and accompanied on the piano by our Music Minister, Dr. Caroline Worra. Best known for writing "Auld Lang Syne," Scottish bard Robert Burns has a lasting legacy, influencing artists as diverse as John Steinbeck and Michael Jackson. All are welcome! Invite your friends to this fun event. There is a nominal member and non-member fee; proceeds benefit FPCG. Sign up here: <https://www.fpcg.org/burns>

MESSAGE FROM THE DEACONS

As Deacons, our ministry is one of compassion, witness, and service. It includes services such as hospital visits, meal deliveries, an altar flower to celebrate a birth, arranging rides to worship and generally being available to hear any concerns or questions you may have. Please don't be shy about reaching out on your own behalf, or perhaps on behalf of another member of our church who may benefit from a meal, a visit, or just a word of encouragement. Contact the church office at (203) 869-8686, x110, contact one of our pastors, or email our

Deacon Co-Moderators, Julie Mather (matherct@msn.com) and Ginger Boldt (gboldt1774@gmail.com) if you hear word of someone in need from among our congregation.



We must make our hearts instruments of peace and nonviolence because when the heart is right, the mind and the body will follow.

CORETTA SCOTT KING (Aug. 23, 2003).

A Vital Conversation: Women's Health Equity Forum

The Coretta Scott King and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Annual Conversation

January 23, 2025
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

YWCA Greenwich
259 East Putnam Ave.
Greenwich

Event is FREE and open to the public
To register, please go to ywcagreenwich.org or scan below

For more information, contact Simone Quartey at 203-869-6501 x. 104 or s.quartey@ywcagreenwich.org



eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
greenwich

PANELISTS



Dr. Juliet Mushi
Harlem Hospital
Obstetrician-Gynecologist



Dr. Mia Kazanjian
Stamford Health
Diagnostic Radiologist



Fatmata Williams
State of Connecticut, Division
of Health Services
Director of
Medical Administration



Dr. Romelle Maloney
Greenwich Hospital
Obstetrician-Gynecologist

LEADERSHIP

Session

Rev. Dr. Lindley G. DeGarmo, Moderator
Rev. Andre Castillo, Associate Pastor
Laura Geffs, Clerk of Session

Wayne Atwell
Linda Cha
Lilian Eng
Layne Grindal
Helen Ji

Ryan Kim
Debra Mecky
Kate Minchin
Mary M. Paretto
Brian Pennington

Elizabeth Peyton
Stephanie Schnabel
Sue Sproule
Emily Sternberg
Steve Waters
Nancy Yao

Session members may be contacted at session@fpcg.org. Messages go to all Session members.

Board of Deacons

Ginger Boldt and Julie Mather, Co-Moderators

Hamish Allan
Olivia Allan
Renie Blair
Carolyn Cleveland

Maria Crowley
Bob Giambo
Carolyn Hahn-Re
Liz Harden

Amie Hogan
Nancilee Holland
Margaret Mack
Chris Zadik

Deacons may be contacted at deacons@fpcg.org. Messages go to all deacons.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS · 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

One West Putnam Avenue · Greenwich, Connecticut 06830
www.fpcg.org · (203) 869-8686

Clergy & Staff Contacts

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Rev. Andre Castillo, Associate Pastor	andre.castillo@fpcg.org	Ext. 119
Dr. Caroline Worra, Minister of Music	caroline.worra@fpcg.org	Ext. 120
Randy Ante, Facilities Manager	randy.ante@fpcg.org	Ext. 114
Tara Church, Director, Children's Ministries	tara@fpcg.org	Ext. 118
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Rommel Espano, Sexton	rommel.espano@fpcg.org	Ext. 112
Jane Parker, Bookkeeper	jane@fpcg.org	Ext. 128
Linda DiMarino, Office Administrator	officeadmin@fpcg.org	Ext. 110
Megan Florentine, Director, Nursery School	megan.florentine@fpcgns.org	(203) 869-7782

Ministers: All members of the congregation.