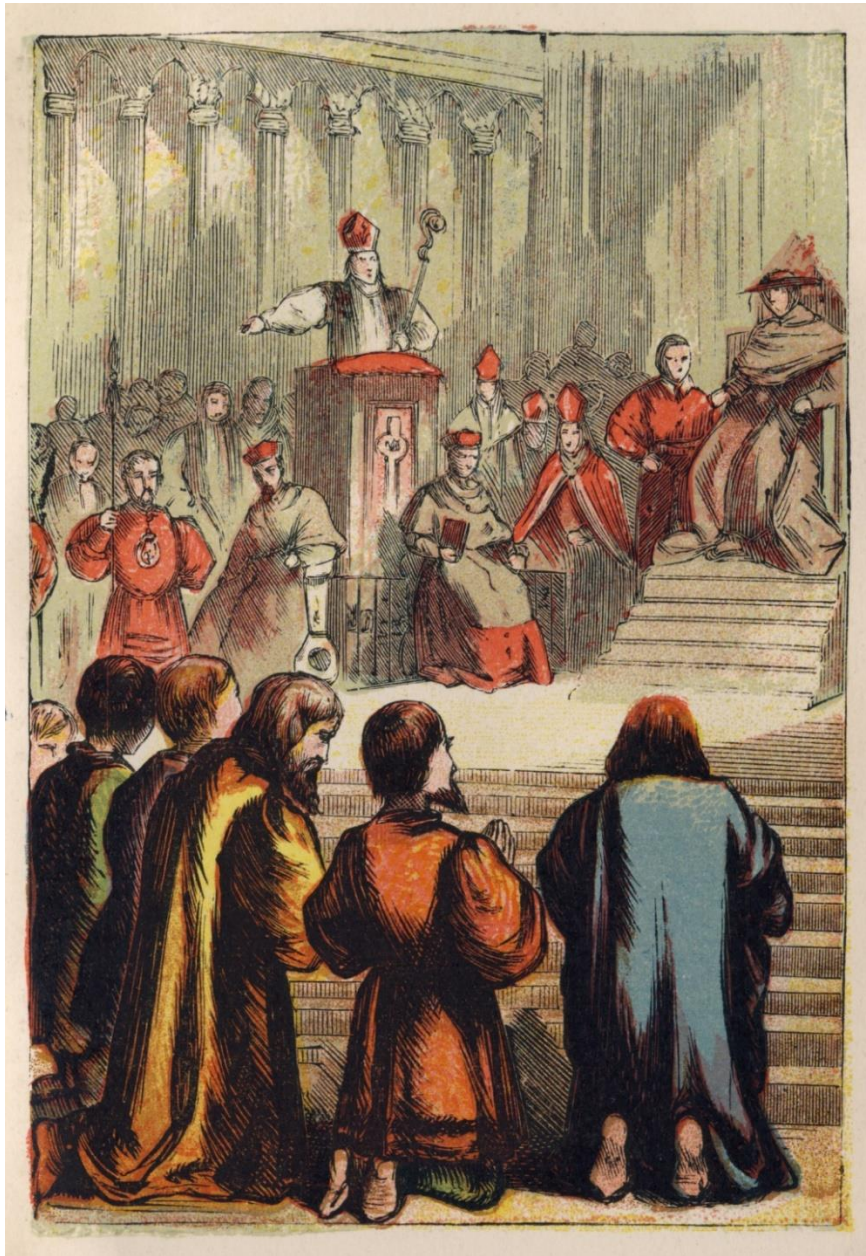


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENWICH



Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 17, 2023
10:00 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Please sign the red fellowship pads in the pews and pass it to your neighbor,
so that we may connect with one another and the church.*

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*I trust in no good work that ever I did, but only in the death of Christ.
I do not doubt but through him to inherit the kingdom of heaven.*

– Rev. Dr. Robert Barnes

PRELUDE

Slane Prelude for Organ
Jestin Pieper, organ

Healey Willan
(1880-1968)

OPENING BELLS

Jubilate Choir and Summit Sounds

WELCOME

Rev. Andre Castillo

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Exodus 15)

One: We will sing to the Lord, for God has triumphed gloriously!

All: The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

One: God alone is our leader, and we gather to praise God's name.

All: God is a warrior; our protector in every time of trouble.

One: Who is like the Lord among all other gods?

All: No other is so majestic and holy. Let us worship the Lord!

*HYMN

Come Sing, O Church in Joy!
Hymn 305

John Darwall
(1731-1789)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Leslie Dobbs-Allsopp

All: Great and merciful God, we confess that we have taken for granted the mercy you have freely given to us. Not only have we continued to sin, but we have withheld your forgiveness from our neighbor, whom you have called us to love. Give us eyes to see your will for our remaining days; that we may have a fresh start and extend your loving kindness to a world in need. In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we pray.

One: Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: Friends, hear the Good News: by the sacrifice of God in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and liberated from the power of sin and death, both now and forevermore.

All: Praise be to God! Amen!

*GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Leslie Dobbs-Allsopp

ANTHEM

If I Were a Butterfly

Debbie Kerner

Jubilate Choir, Steeple Band, Summit Sounds

(b. 1966)

***DOXOLOGY**

*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**

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Tara Church

HYMN

Jesus Loves Me!

William Batchelder Bradbury

Hymn 188

(1816-1868)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 114:1-8

Matthew 18:21-35

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Stubbornness of God

Rev. Andre Castillo

ANTHEM

God Be in My Head

John Rutter

Chancel Choir

(b. 1945)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

***HYMN**

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

Sicilian Melody

Hymn 546

***BENEDICTION**

After the benediction, please be seated to hear the postlude in preparation for the Congregational Meeting immediately following the service.

POSTLUDE

Concerto in G major, Presto BWV 592

Jestin Pieper, organ

J.S. Bach

(1685-1750)

All are invited to remain in the Sanctuary for the postlude.

**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. We kindly note our brothers and sisters choosing to worship in the balcony are encouraged to wear a face mask, though it is no longer required. 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.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – TODAY

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich calls a meeting of the congregation to take place September 17th, 2023, immediately following the worship service, for the purpose of electing Ruling Elders and Deacons to fill unexpired terms.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Rev. Leslie Dobbs-Allsopp; Rev. Andre Castillo; Dr. Caroline Worra, Music Director; Tara Church, Director, Children's Ministry; Jestin Pieper, Organ Associate; Chancel Choir; Jubilate Choir, Summit Sounds, Steeple Band.

Usher Team IV: Matthew Lorig (Captain), Helen Ji, Hagar Chemali, Jonathan Larken, Julie Lorig, Eleanor Lorig, Timmy & Brian Lorig, and Judy Soto.

Cover: *Barnes and his Fellow Prisoners Seeking Forgiveness* by Joseph Martin Kronheim (1810-1896).

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Our global sisters and brothers impacted by gun violence and war; Ukraine; Haiti; Sudan, Morocco, Libya; those affected by Hurricane Idalia; Jeff (Barbara McKelvey); Shelly Jones (Carolyn Hahn-Re); Elly Shafer (Renee Lux); Alonso Martinez (Hal Ritch); Yvonne (Mary Lebowski); Carola Cammann; family and friends of Paul Dickey, Jr; Jennifer and Jonathan Cohen and family upon the death of their beloved son, Samuel; Sarah Knott and family upon the death of her father, William Knott; Lesley Craigie and family upon the death of her mother-in-law, Renata Scotto.

Our love and prayers are with those mourning and recovering from the wildfire that tore through Lahaina, Hawaii earlier this month. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has a firm presence in this and every national emergency. For information about how you can come alongside those in need, visit <https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/hawaii-wildfires/>.

INTERIM PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE (IPNC)

The following people have been appointed by Session as members of the Interim Nominating Committee, to be dissolved after the Session votes to approve the Interim Minister and the offer is accepted:

David DeWahl, Terry Lohmeyer, Hamish Allan, Lilian Eng, Susie Haung, and Laura Geffs.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The 2023 Nominating Committee is seeking your help to identify those among our congregation whose interests and areas of expertise could be shared in service to our church family. We invite you to please recommend someone you think would be a great fit in the role of a Deacon or Elder position. Send questions or recommendations to: Lilian Eng, Elder for Nominating at fpcg.nominating@gmail.com.

2023 STEWARDSHIP

Every gift helps as we continue to serve our community and beyond in Christ's name. We are very thankful for your support of this congregation's ministry! Our 2023 campaign stands at \$ \$966,515 pledged against a \$1.1 million goal. So if you are still thinking about your 2023 support, we would be happy to hear from you! Visit <https://www.fpcg.org/give>, or reach out to Business Manager, Erin Moore (erin@fpcg.org) or Acting Stewardship Chair, Tolman Geffs (stewardship@fpcg.org, 203-273-2001).

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 PM or serve at Pacific House from 5:30 to 6:30 PM. Contact Carol Barber: cbarber@cyburban.com; (914) 490-6621.

DRIVERS NEEDED FOR CALL-A-RIDE - email or call Terry Lohmeyer (terryhl@aol.com); (203)249-9412.

MUSIC



Welcome Jestin Pieper, our new Organ Associate. Jestin Pieper is a New York City based pianist, vocal coach, organist, conductor, and educator. As a performer, Mr. Pieper has appeared in major venues across the country and abroad including guest appearances on the Discovery Channel, WNYC, WNPR and performances at Carnegie Hall, Symphony Space, and The Bruno Walter Auditorium. Jestin is a current and founding member of the award-winning ensemble Luminae Trio, who recently received an Ensemble Forward grant from Chamber Music America in 2023. As an acclaimed educator for over 15 years, Mr. Pieper has extensive experience and a genuine passion in teaching students from beginners to professionals and everything in between. Jestin received his Bachelor of Music, magna cum laude, from Lawrence University, a Master of Music degree from the University of Texas at Austin, and a professional studies certificate from Manhattan School of Music. Jestin is an Associate Adjunct Professor of Music at LIU Brooklyn RocNation School of Music, Sports and Entertainment. You can find more information at his website: jestinpieper.com.

JOIN US ON WEDNESDAYS: Our Wednesdays@FPCG programming includes various choir rehearsals for all ages, with dinner for all (5-7 PM) and childcare (4:30-7:00 PM).

JOIN US ON SUNDAYS: Our pre-service rehearsals help us prepare for the Sunday worship service.

Come whenever you can! And if you can't come regularly, Caroline sends a weekly practice recording so you can sing or play at home.

WEDNESDAY REHEARSALS

5:00-6:00 Clarion Ringers

5:30-6:00 Jubilate & Summit Sounds

6:00-6:30 Summit & Advanced Vocals

6:30-7:00 Steeple Band & Holy Ringers

7:15-8:00 Chancel Choir

8:15-8:45 Chancel Choir extra music

SUNDAY CHOIR & MUSIC REHEARSALS

8:30 AM – Clarion Ringers (monthly)

9:00 AM – Chancel Choir

9:30 AM – Children & Steeple Band

9:55 AM – Bell ringers (all-ages) meet in front row

ALL-AGE RECITAL, SEPTEMBER 30, 4 PM

Save the date! If you'd like to perform, email caroline.worra@fpcg.org

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

This fall our new lectionary-based curriculum, *Whirl* by Sparkhouse, helps children make connections between Sunday school and the church year. We look forward to an exciting new curriculum that is relatable, engaging, and helps children understand how to express their faith in their lives daily.

WEDNESDAYS@FPCG: Children and families are also welcome to our all-inclusive Wednesday evenings from 4:30-5:30 in Fellowship Hall. Children will engage in fellowship, games, crafts, and Bible stories based on the upcoming scripture for Sunday worship. Childcare & self-service dinner for all from 5-7 PM.

SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS: You make a difference! Use the QR code to sign-up or email Tara@fpcg.org to help guide our young disciples on their journey of faith.



YOUTH MINISTRY

CONFIRMATION: All 8th graders are invited to be a part of our yearly Confirmation Class. This class will start in tandem with our evening Chapel service on Sunday, October 1 at 4:00 PM.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY: Join us every Sunday during 10:00 am worship for an awesome time of connecting through active games and Bible study. Meet in the Youth Room. Bring your sweet tooth!

HIGH SCHOOL KICKOFF: Calling all 9th – 12th graders! On Friday, September 29 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm, join us for fun, food and fellowship as we kick off the program year together. To RSVP or for more information, email andre.castillo@fpcg.org.

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

Join us monthly on a Friday morning for fellowship and book discussion in the Library on the 4th Floor.

FAITH AROUND THE BIBLE (FAB): OCTOBER 4: FAB is a weekly, multigenerational women's group for fellowship and conversation. Join us as we explore the lives of women in the Bible and their relevance to us today. With the help of a video series, the group will discuss the stories of well-known women such as Eve and Elizabeth and lesser-known women like Priscilla and Puah. RSVP: (reneelux@gmail.com).

ADULT EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER 24, OCTOBER 1 & 8 – We will begin a three-part adult education series titled *Being Presbyterian* on Sunday, September 24 with the Rev. Dr. Derrick McQueen. The following two sessions will be led by Revs. Andre and Leslie.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11 - Join us for a light supper in Fellowship Hall, followed by our new member orientation at 6:30. Childcare will be provided. To register for the orientation, complete our Member Interest Form. Contact Emily Sternberg (emily@thesternbergs.net)



COMING UP IN SEPTEMBER

22	Parents' Night Out	6:00 PM
24	Adult Ed: <i>Being Presbyterian</i>	11:30 AM
29	High School Fall Kickoff	6:30 PM
30	All-Age Recital	4:00 PM

WEDNESDAYS FPCG



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY WITH TARA

4:30 – 5:30 PM Bible-based programming with fellowship, creative arts, games and more.
Snacks at 5 PM!

BELL CHOIRS WITH HEATHER

- 5:00 – 6:00 PM • Clarion Ringers (advanced & intermediate)
- 6:30 – 7:00 PM • Holy Ringers (beginner & intermediate)

MUSIC WITH CAROLINE & KREG

- 5:30 – 6:00 PM • Jubilate (Pre-K-Grade 4)
• Summit Sounds (Grades 5-8)
- 6:00 – 6:30 PM • Summit Sounds (Grades 5-8)
• Advanced Vocals (Grades 9-12)
- 6:30 – 7:00 PM • Steeple Band (Grade 5-adult)

CHANCEL CHOIR WITH CAROLINE

- 7:15 – 8:00 PM • Rehearsal for Sunday (Grade 5-adult)
- 8:15 – 8:45 PM • Rehearsal for future Sundays (optional)

4:30-7:00 PM—Childcare in Room 121.

5:00-7:00 PM—Self-serve dinner in Fellowship Hall.
All Are Welcome.

Director of Music: Caroline Worra (caroline.worra@fpcg.org)
Director of Children's Ministry: Tara Church (tara@fpcg.org)

Church Officer Nominations



Nominee: Deacon

Carolyn Hann-Re became a confirmed member of First Pres in 1979. She is a member of the Chancel Choir, Worship Committee and First Presby Quilters. Carolyn previously served as deacon, Sunday school teacher, a member of the junior choir, and has also worked in the church office. She is a Certified Nursing Assistant and enjoys reading and needlecraft. Carolyn is mom to Maxwell (28).



Nominee: Elder for Stewardship

Brian Pennington joined First Pres in 2000 and previously served as Elder for Finance and Stewardship. Brian’s occupation is Risk Manager, and he enjoys golf and reading. He and his wife Amy are parents to Olivia (23), Georgia (21), and Barrett (17).



Nominee: Elder for Buildings & Grounds

Stephanie Schnabel joined First Pres in 1998. She currently serves on the Property Committee and previously on Session, the Worship Committee, and a Sunday school volunteer. Stephanie’s occupation is in Mergers & Acquisitions, and she enjoys tennis, golf, skiing, cooking and photography. Stephanie and her husband Brian are parents to Katie (20) and Kristy (17).

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS • 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM		
One West Putnam Avenue Greenwich, CT 06830 • www.fpcg.org • (203) 869-8686		
Clergy & Staff Contacts		
Rev. Leslie Dobbs-Allsopp, Bridge Pastor	leslie@fpcg.org	Ext. 116
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 of Children’s Ministry	tara@fpcg.org	Ext. 118
Heather Antonissen, Director Bell Choir	heather.antonissen@fpcg.org	
Jestin Pieper, Organ Associate	jestin.pieper@gmail.com	
Rommel Espano, Sexton	rommel.espano@fpcg.org	Ext. 130
Erin Moore, Business Manager	erin@fpcg.org	Ext. 123
Jane Parker, Bookkeeper	jane@fpcg.org	Ext. 128
Lorna O’Hanlon, Office Manager	lorna@fpcg.org	Ext. 110
Megan Florentine, Director Nursery School	megan.florentine@fpcgns.org	(203) 869-7782
Ministers: All members of the congregation.		
We are a Stephen Ministry Church		