

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENWICH



Fourth Sunday After Epiphany
February 2, 2025
10:00 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*“All spoke well of him and were amazed
at the gracious words that came out of his mouth.”*

Luke 4:22

PRELUDE

Cantiliana organ sonata no. 11, op. 148
Jesse Pieper, organ

Josef Rheinberger
(1839-1901)

Alleluia
Clarion Ringers
Heather Antonissen, soprano
Jesse Pieper, piano

W. A. Mozart
(1756-1791)

OPENING BELLS

WELCOME

The Rev. Dr. Lindley G. DeGarmo

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Thank you, God, for gathering us.
Remind us again of your love.

**All: The good news of the gospel is this:
the God of all creation came to dwell among us,
but we crucified this revelation of sacrificial love.**

One: God went to the depths of hell to gather us all.
In Christ's resurrection we are drawn again to the presence of God.

All: This is good news for all who hear.

One: Let us worship God!

*HYMN 722

Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak

CANONBURY

*CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Andre Castillo

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Generous God, when we set our tables, we imagine who belongs. We are satisfied to welcome those who we call our own. Our boundaries are drawn for our own family, our own congregation, our own neighborhood. We limit the seating to those who make us comfortable and lay out the welcome mat for those who we choose to welcome. But your kingdom has no boundary. Before our birth you have known, loved, and claimed each and every one. Soften our hearts to those we rage against. Restore us to your vision of who belongs at the table. Renew us with your abundant mercy and love, which know no end.

*MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: Jesus Christ satisfies each of our shortcomings. It is in God we are given the full vision of love, peace, and justice. This good news is for you: God claims you, Christ welcomes you, and the Spirit draws up your seat at the welcome table. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and restored.

All Thanks be to God!

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

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.*

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Evangeline Maasbach

All: God of all days holy, as a groundhog emerges from its winter dwelling and assesses the light, may your Spirit emerge through our hearts to assess these readings. In hearing these words, regardless of the accuracy of our interpretation or the length of winter's frozen clutch, may we be transformed by your loving presence and reminded that we are your people. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 1:4-10

p. 698 OT

ANTHEM

"The Greatest of These"

Tina English

Chancel Choir

(b. 1954)

Helen Ji, cello

Jesse Pieper, piano

SECOND LESSON

Luke 4:21-30

pp. 61-62 NT

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"No Hometown Advantage"

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

The Lord Bless You and Keep You
Tèa Licon, mezzo-soprano/guitar

Kari Jobe
(b.1981) and
Cody Carnes
(b. 1989)

*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 and praise, O God, that you have fed us with your mercy and poured out your Spirit in this place. Continue to nourish and fill us each day, that we may live as your beloved people; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN 441

Hear the Good News of Salvation

NETTLETON

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

Hal Hopson
(b. 1933)

POSTLUDE

Bell Symphony
Jesse Pieper, organ

Henry Purcell
(1659-1695)

*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; Heather Antonissen, Director of Bell Choirs/soprano; Jesse Pieper, organ/piano; Chancel Choir; Helen Ji, cello; Tèa Licon, mezzo-soprano/guitar; Evangeline Maasbach, reader.

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

Cover Art: *Brow of the Hill Near Nazareth*, James Tissot (1836-1902)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The people of Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Russia, Haiti and Sudan; St. Marc School in Haiti; those affected by the Los Angeles wildfires, including former associate pastor Matt Colwell and his family, who have lost their home; Martha Awdziejewicz, Barbara Freeman, Adrienne & Don Perry, Elly Schafer (mother of Renée Lux), Barbara Jost, the family of John & Sally Kuck.

TODAY – NEW YEAR FELLOWSHIP HOUR

The Lunar New Year is celebrated by over 2 billion people around the world. Join us TODAY for a special fellowship hour after service on Sunday, February 2 to ring in the Year of the Snake and enjoy Asian treats.

MISSION ENGAGEMENT

CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES: The tragic devastation visited on the people of Southern California has been brought home to us by the loss of their home suffered by FPCG's former associate pastor (1996-2003), the Rev. Dr. Matthew Colwell and his family. Eight other families in Matt's church, Knox Presbyterian Church of Pasadena, have also lost their homes. Members who wish to stand in solidarity with Matt and the people of Knox Presbyterian are encouraged to make a gift directly to that church's "Deacon's Fund Fire Assistance." Instructions for giving: <https://knoxpasadena.org/give/#>.

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. Focus text this week: Luke 5:1-11. Meeting ID: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82203791684> Passcode: 408515.

ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF COMPETITION!

Do you have the tastiest, spiciest, Super Bowl-ready CHILI?!? If so, let the good people of First Presbyterian Church of Greenwich be the judge. Our annual chili cookoff competition happens on Super Bowl Sunday, February 9! Email Nancy Yao at nancy.yao@yale.edu to enter your chili into the competition. Dropoff your chili before service on Sunday, February 9. Tasting and voting takes place after service during Fellowship Hour. Cornbread, chips, and fixins' will be provided!

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:

February 21--The Message, by Ta-Nehisi Coates
March 21 --The Safekeep, by Yael van der Wouden

ACADEMY

Susan Hellauer

The Peekskill Riots of 1949: Music, Politics and Violence in the Hudson Valley

Sunday, February 16 at 11:30 a.m. in the Edna Anderson Chapel

In recognition of Black History Month, our Academy lecturer is musician and music professor Susan Hellauer, who will share her research on the Peekskill Riots. In August of 1949, popular African-American bass-baritone Paul Robeson—known for his vocal support of labor union and socialist causes—was engaged to sing at a civil-rights fundraiser in Cortlandt Manor. This northern Westchester town was then home to both the declining iron mining and manufacturing city of Peekskill, as well as summer-cottage colonies of left-leaning families from New York City. Robeson was a magnet for the intense anti-communist sentiment of those postwar years, and this volatile combination of socialist singing star, conservative blue-collar townfolk, and left-wing activist summer people, flamed into a violent, bloody confrontation that made national news. When the rescheduled concert finally took place with the participation of other musicians—including Pete Seeger and Woody Guthrie—violence broke out as the crowd of 20,000 concertgoers dispersed. A nation that had recently united to defeat fascism now came apart again as “patriots” fought “communists” in headlines coast-to-coast.

Susan Hellauer majored in trumpet as an undergraduate and earned Master’s Degrees in musicology from Queens College (City University of New York) and Columbia University. Susan is a founding member and performed for 29 years with the renowned vocal quartet Anonymous 4. She is now an adjunct Assistant Professor of Music at Queens College, CUNY, teaching courses in Medieval, Renaissance and American Popular Music, and is a regular Visiting Lecturer in plainchant at the Yale Institute of Sacred Music.

Photo credit: Diana Yusti

COMMUNITY NIGHT – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Join us EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT for dinner from 6:00-7:15 in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is also invited to participate in children’s programming and music rehearsals throughout the evening.

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.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

This time of year it's a challenge to keep the U.S. blood supply stable! Please make & keep your next blood donation appointment when the Red Cross will be at First Presbyterian Church on Friday, February 14 (11:30-4:15). Scan the QR code now, or online at <https://rcblood.org/4gLIElq> using the code FPCG, or you can call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). All blood types are needed to help ensure medical care for patients isn't threatened.

STEWARDSHIP

As we reflect on the blessings God has entrusted to us, we are reminded that all we have belongs to Him. Our stewardship campaign is an opportunity to give back to God with grateful hearts, supporting the ministries that make a difference in our church and community.

To date, we have received 79 pledges totaling \$542,105, 45% towards our \$1,200,000 goal.

If you haven't yet made your pledge, we invite you to prayerfully consider how you can respond. Pledge cards are available in the narthex, or you can give online through our church website. Let's join together in giving generously, knowing that every gift helps further God's work among us.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH UPDATES

Mark your calendars for August 4–8, 9:00 AM–12:30 PM (lunch included!) because Jesus Jamboree is back, and it's better than ever! This year, we're diving into the stories of the ultimate Old Testament influencers—Ruth, Esther, Jonah, David, and Moses. These legends knew how to stay faithful, fearless, and full of faith no matter what life threw at them.

RSVP now by scanning the QR code to save your spot, because this is THE event of the summer.

Any questions? Email Tara@fpcg.org

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members presented during last Sunday's worship service:

Dr. Judith Riggs: Judith joins FPCG via reaffirmation of faith. She was born in New York City and was drawn to the Presbyterian church as her ancestors were Presbyterian. She is a professor in NYC currently teaching MBA graduate level courses in Global Management and Leadership and Organizational Behavior and Leadership. In addition to her national and global humanitarian efforts, Judith serves as Treasurer of the Purchase College Foundation Board of Trustees and serves on the board's Presidential search committee, nominating and governance, finance, and investment committees. She's a sustaining member of the Junior League.

Courtney and Richard Offut: Courtney and Richard join FPCG by reaffirmation of faith. Courtney was born in San Diego, CA and Richard in Charlotte, NC. Courtney is a product manager at Danaher and Richard is a Director at Strategic Value Partners. They moved to the area recently from NYC and reside in Greenwich. The Offutts enjoy spending their free time golfing and playing tennis together. Richard grew up attending Myers Park Presbyterian Church in Charlotte. They were married at The Village Community Presbyterian Church in Rancho Santa Fe, where Courtney grew up attending.

Jillian Woodring and Dillon Mitchell: Jillian and Dillon are joining FPCG by reaffirmation of faith. Jillian was raised in Watertown, CT and Dillon in Bronxville, NY. Jillian was an involved member in pilgrim fellowship growing up and was a part of mission outreach trips through college. She is a nurse at Stamford Hospital and Dillon works in real estate, managing construction projects throughout the country. They will be married at FPCG later this year.

Janina Casey: Janina is joining FPCG by reaffirmation of faith. She currently serves as Volunteer Program Lead at the YMCA and enjoys spending time in Greenwich as well as Florida. We're grateful Janina's friend, Diane Brown, introduced her to FPCG!

LEADERSHIP

Session

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

Wayne Atwell
Linda Cha
Lilian Eng
Lee Ganshaw
Layne Grindal

Jim Joyella
Ryan Kim
Debra Mecky
Kate Minchin
Mary M. Paretto

Brian Pennington
Elizabeth Peyton
Stephanie Schnabel
Sue Sproule
Emily Sternberg
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
Diane Brown
Carolyn Cleveland

Margaret Copprue
Bob Giambo
Carolyn Hahn-Re
Liz Harden
Annabelle Kim (Youth)

Barbie McKelvey
Griffin Olson (Youth)
Catherine Stahl
Chris Zadik

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENWICH

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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
Tara Church, Director, Children's Ministries	tara@fpcg.org	Ext. 118
Heather Antonissen, Director, Bell Choirs	heather.antonissen@fpcg.org	
Jestin Pieper, Organ Associate	jestin.pieper@gmail.com	
Erin Moore, Business Manager	erin@fpcg.org	Ext. 123
Randy Ante, Facilities Manager	randy.ante@fpcg.org	Ext. 114
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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.