



**Easter Sunday Sunrise Service
April 8, 2007
6:00 am at Tod's Point**

Worship Service by
The Young People of
The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Old Greenwich, Connecticut

PRELUDE

Mark Swicegood, piano

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Phillip Thalheim

EASTER PROCLAMATION

Catie Mahoney

Leader: Praise the Lord! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Leader: Christ has been raised from death to new life.

All: He is risen to proclaim God's power. Risen to
show God's love.

*HYMN Day of Resurrection

Pilgrim Hymnal # 192

The day of resurrection, earth, tell it out abroad;
The Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,
Our Christ hath brought us over with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light.
And, listening to his accents, may hear so calm and plain
His own "All Hail" and hearing, may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful, Let earth her song begin,
The round world keep high triumph, and all that is therein.
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend
For Christ the Lord is risen, our joy that hath no end. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Alex Pugliese

Leader: Oh sing to God a new song.

People: For God has done marvelous things.

Leader: All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

People: For now is Christ risen from the dead.

Leader: Make a joyful noise unto God, all the earth.

People: Break forth into joyous songs and praises.

Leader: Christ is present among us today.

All: For God will rule the earth with righteousness. Nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Jesus our risen Christ. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

David Fraser

God of new life, we gather this morning to experience your triumph from the darkness of death. We celebrate your glorious resurrection in this world. Just like the sun spreads its light, brightening the night sky, it is our hope that your word of hope of new life will spread across this world. Be with us now as we join together our voices and prayers to celebrate your resurrection among us. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Juliana Pugliese

God of all the worlds and all time, we gather together voicing thanks for the resurrection of Jesus Christ. May our worship be as an Easter tide. Wash over us and seep into us to refresh and cleanse. Dissolve the prejudices that cling to us like barnacles, the jealousies that lodge in crevices of memory. Move toward us with power and might when we are rock-rigid in our views and when we are unforgiving as granite. Let us hear the thunderous

sound of good news as it breaks upon our hardness of heart. And bid us, loving God, to dare to be journeyers upon the sea of the Spirit. May the waves of an Easter tide buoy us up and beckon us to the adventure of resurrection living. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

1. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
2. He is risen. Alleluia. He is risen. Alleluia
He is risen. Alleluia. He is risen. Alleluia
Repeat first verse.

STORY

Sam Crihfield, Ted Davis, Donald Haviland

The Tale of Three Trees

Retold by Angela Elwell Hunt

ANTHEM

*The Youth Choir and Alumnae
Carolyn Paulus, director*

The Whole Bright World Rejoices Now

The whole bright world rejoices now, Hilariter. Alleluia, Alleluia. Then shout beneath the racing skies, Hilariter, Hilariter! To him who rose that we might rise, Alleluia, Alleluia. Let all you living things make praise, hilariter, hilariter. He guideth you, he guideth you on all your ways. Alleluia! To Father, Son, and Holy Chost – Hilariter. Our God most high – our joy and boast – Alleluia!

“Hilariter” means “joyfully”

John 20: 11-18

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

SERMON HYMN Pass It On
Words and music by Kurt Kaiser

MEDITATION
The Dawning of Faith

Rev. Susan M. Craig

PASTORAL PRAYER

Katie Anderson

LORD'S PRAYER

Christian Thalheim

ANTHEM
Salaam

DEDICATION OF THE LENTEN OFFERING

Josh Ziac

HYMN

Sam Cribfield, trumpet

BENEDICTION

Sarah Vandermeer

POSTLUDE
"Finale" of Godspell

Stephen Schwartz

Special thanks to the members of the Senior Pilgrim Fellowship of First Congregational Church of Greenwich, their Advisors and Task Force, Laura Pugliese, Chairman of Religious Education, the Youth Choir, and pianist Mark Swicegood for helping to make this service possible.

The Sunrise Service is sponsored and supported by The First Congregational Church of Greenwich, United Church of Christ, and has been a project of the Senior Pilgrim Fellowship of this church for over 60 years.

The offering that will be received this morning at our coffee table is dedicated to our Lenten Offering. This will be allocated locally to hunger relief and to our neighbors in Maine at H.O.M.E. Co-op for food, shelter and daycare. (See News and Notices in this bulletin.)

TODAY, APRIL 8

Child Care for babies and toddlers is available in the Undercroft.

Church School is on vacation and will resume April 15 for a Big Event. Church School classes resume April 22.

The Confirmation Class will resume on April 10 with their mentors.

Junior Pilgrim Fellowship (JPF -- Middle School) and Senior Pilgrim Fellowship (SPF – High School) resume on April 22.

NEWS AND NOTICES

Church School Teachers Wanted. Many thanks to the first several people who have volunteered to teach Church School next year. Please prayerfully consider this important ministry to our children. Teaching is conducted by teams of adults and high school students with the support of the Church School Task Force. No experience is necessary. Returns are “priceless.” Please talk to Susie Craig or Rosemary Lamie about this unique opportunity.

Women's Fellowship Looks to the Future - This ministry has been blessed every year with wonderful leadership and in the coming year we continue to be. Barbara Norrgard and Lori White have agreed to continue as Co-Presidents. There are other board positions open: Vice President, Secretary and Nominating. If you would like to join with 20 or so other Board members who meet every other month to coordinate activities, please contact one of the Nominating Committee members: Rosemary Lamie (637-1791, extension 20) or Susan Tedford (637-8251).

The Lenten Project 2007 will conclude this week, and we are getting nearer and nearer our goals! As of April 2, we had received \$47,760 from the very generous contributions of about 33% of our church families. Our goals are \$60,000 and 100% participation. Contributions may be made by using the special envelopes in the pew racks, or simply by noting “Lenten Project” on your check. All proceeds go to meet the basic human needs of food and shelter, both in our local community and at H.O.M.E. Co-op in rural Maine. If you haven't already done so, please make it a priority to JOIN US TODAY in sharing this Easter worship experience!

Rummage Room Wish List: Full set of golf clubs, breadmaker, high chair, child's bed, portacrib, pack 'n play, stroller, jogging stroller, a child's bike.

The Women's Fellowship Allocations Committee has completed their deliberations and is ready to present the list of allocations for approval. All women of the congregation are asked to meet immediately following the worship service on Sunday, April 22, 2007 in the chapel to discuss and vote on the Committee's recommendations.

First Congregational Church of Greenwich www.fccog.org
108 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich, Connecticut, 203.637.1791
Ministers: The Members of The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Senior Pastor: David D. Young
Senior Associate Pastor: Susan M. Craig
Minister of Pastoral Care and Adult Ed: Ronald E. Halvorsen
Director of Music/Senior Organist: John Stansell
Church School Coordinator: Rosemary Lamie
Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin
Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister
Pastors Emeriti: Thomas L. Stiers and Sally Colgrove