

*Old Greenwich,  
Connecticut*

**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH OF GREENWICH**

*United Church  
of Christ*

*Founded in 1665*

## **The Third Sunday in Lent**

**7 March 2010**

10 o'clock in the morning



W elcome to this day as the family of God. Rejoice that you are loved, accepted and free. Give thanks that your burdens will be shared. Praise God that new life is possible. And, continue your journey with Christ trusting that the living water he gives will bring you abundant life!

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### PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

\*All who are able please stand

‡Seating of latecomers

#### PRELUDE

Sonata III in A

*John Stansell, organ*

*Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy*

*Con moto maestoso – Andante tranquillo*

#### CALL TO COMMUNITY

*Please sign and pass the red book.*

*Rev. Mark D. Montgomery*

### PRAISING GOD

#### CHORAL INTROIT

*The Youth Choir; Carolyn Paulus, director;*

Wade In the Water

*Arranged by Alice Parker*

*(refrain)* Wade in the water, children, Wade in the water,

God's a-gonna trouble the water.

Oh, if you don't believe I been redeemed,

Follow me down to Jordan's stream. *(refrain)*

Oh who that yonder dressed in white,

Mus' be the children of the Israelite. *(refrain)*

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

#### \*‡OPENING HYMN AND PROCESSION

Jesus the Christ Says

*New Century (black) Hymnal 48*

*The opening hymn is our current Featured Hymn, chosen to complement the sermon series. Featured Hymns may be familiar ones that we want to make sure our children learn, or new ones that we all want to learn.*

#### OPENING PRAYER

O God, we come to You as a thirsty land  
crying out for the rain.

We come to You as a candle  
seeking the light that kindles.

We come to You as a drop of water  
in quest of the sea.

We come to You as a voice in the night  
calling for help and love.

So we enter this time that our spirits  
may come close to You. Amen.

## CONFESSING TO GOD

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, merciful and mighty, Giver of life and  
Fountain of strength, heal the hurts of our hearts  
and minds by the power of your cleansing and renewing  
grace.

If we have allowed our spirits to give in  
to worry, fear, or despair; if we have forgotten  
You, our Divine Physician, grant us Your forgiveness.  
Help us to find in Your love our health of  
mind and our joy of spirit.

Here we confess these sins - -

that our ideas have grown gray with the  
dust of care,

that we need to renew our vows of love  
and service,

that we have been indifferent and lacked  
compassion and

that we have forgotten that inasmuch as we have  
not ministered unto the least of these,  
we have not ministered unto you.

Forgive our weakness. Make us strong to do Your will  
in ministering to Your children throughout the earth –  
and hear us as we pray...

### 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 ASSURANCE

### ‡Congregational Response

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind but now I see.*

*As the response begins, the Church School children and teachers will leave for their classrooms. Children in second grade and older will leave independently. Children in kindergarten and first graders will meet their teachers at the back of the Meetinghouse (Narthex) and will go to their classrooms as a group.*

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### FIRST LESSON

Revelation 7:13-17

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,  
and worship him day and night within his temple,  
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;  
the sun will not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat;

for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,  
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,  
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

## SCRIPTURE ANTHEM

*Hanna Golodinskii, Sarah Bleasdale,  
Terry Beaurline and Vasil Golodinskii*

O Come, Every One that Thirsteth (from *Elijah*)

*Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy*

O come, every one that thirsteth, O come to the waters, O come unto  
Him, O hear, and your souls shall live forever.

## SECOND LESSON

*Nancy McConnell*

John 4:1-26

**N**ow when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, “Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John”— although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized— he left Judea and started back to Galilee. But he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink”. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink’, you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” The woman said to him, “Sir, I see

that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

\*‡HYMN

When, like the Woman at the Well

*New Century (black) Hymnal 196*

SERMON    ***“I Am the Living Water”***    *Rev. Dr. David D. Young*

**RESPONDING TO GOD**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, the Creator Spirit, who moved upon the face of the deep at the beginning of creation, who created all that is, and who spoke through the prophets of old.

We believe in Jesus Christ, into whom God’s Spirit was poured in fullness and power, that the whole creation might be restored and unified; and who promised that the Spirit would come and fill the faithful with power to witness to the mighty love of God.

We wait on that Spirit today with longing hearts, seeking to be empowered to witness to God’s love in Christ, with fresh words and courageous actions of love and hope.

Glory be to God – Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit – now and always. Amen.

**\*Gloria**

*New Century (black) Hymnal 754*

*Glory to God the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Amen.*

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*The Chancel Choir*

At the River

*Adapted by Aaron Copland and  
Arranged by R. Wilding White*

Shall we gather by the river,  
Where bright angel's feet have trod,  
With its crystal tide forever  
Flowing by the throne of God.

*(refrain)* Yes we'll gather by the river,  
the beautiful, the beautiful river,  
Gather with the saints by the river  
That flows by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river,  
Soon our pilgrimage will cease,  
Soon our happy hearts will quiver  
With the melody of peace. *(refrain)*

**\*Doxology**

*Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 514 with the following text:*

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

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER** *(seated)*

**Prayer of Consecration**

**Serving of the Bread and Cup**

*In the tradition of our church, let us partake of the bread as it is served, remembering our individual uniqueness in the eyes of God and our diversity within the Body of Christ. Let us hold the cup until all have been served, remembering our oneness with God and our unity in the Body of Christ.*

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of you Son, Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

## GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

### \*CLOSING HYMN AND PROCESSION

Crashing Waters at Creation

*New Century (black) Hymnal 326, to the tune of 325*

### \*CLOSING SENTENCES

*Leader: Then he showed me the river of the water of life...  
also, on either side of the river, the tree of life...  
and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of nations.*

People: They need no light of lamp or sun,  
for the Lord God shall be their light.

*Leader: The one who testifies to these things says,  
"Surely I am coming soon."  
Amen. Come Lord Jesus!*

People: The Grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

*(Revelation 22:1, 2, 5, 20-22)*

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

### POSTLUDE

Genitori, genitoque (from *Pange Lingua*)

*Naji Hakim*

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The flowers in the Meetinghouse are given in loving memory of Arnold and Sally Anderson by their daughter, Sandra Anderson Boles, and family.

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich declares itself to be open and affirming; 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 have **child care for babies and toddlers** every Sunday in the Preschool area. Your children are always welcome for the entire service or for a respite time if needed. Please see an usher if you need directions.

The 10:00 am Service is broadcast live each week on WGCH 1490 AM Radio. In addition, the service is available through the church's website, [www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org). A bulletin can be found there as well as a link to the live broadcast. Previous sermons may also be found there.

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## *Calendar*

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### **TODAY**

#### **Church School**

The Third Grade Families Bible Breakfast was held this morning. Thank you to the Task Force for a wonderful meal. Today Church School classes will be held as usual. Don't miss out on our Church School family Lenten projects. Please be sure to pick up the materials either in the classroom or in the center of the Undercroft. The projects are designed to help families live through a meaningful and spiritual Lenten season. Our offerings are due on or before April 3.

#### **Bible Study**

If you had to pick just two chapters in the whole Bible to take with you to Mars or Tuscaloosa (remember the old Groucho line about elephants... that there is a place in Alabama where the Tuscaloosa? Sorry.) those two chapters would probably be Romans 7 and 8. They are remarkable for what they tell us about the human condition and also what they have to say about hope and courage. So if you've been hanging back waiting for the optimal moment to show up at Bible study, brothers and sisters, this is the week – 11:15 am *in the Meetinghouse*. You will never be quite the same.

#### **Wellness Lecture on Acupuncture**

Today after Coffee Hour, learn of the many uses of acupuncture from our guest speaker, Dr. Janet Freedman, who is an acupuncturist and a physiatrist with Greenwich Hospital's Physical Medicine Department. Please gather in the Lounge as Coffee Hour winds down.

**Cherub Choir** rehearses today in Room 104 from 11:15 to 11:45 am.

#### **International Mission Team – Supplies needed today!**

Join the members of the International Mission Team in support of their Guatemala trip with your contributions of: tooth brushes and toothpaste, and these school supplies: black, blue and red pens, pencils, erasers, pencil

sharpeners, glue bottles, 12-pack colored pencils, children's scissors, rulers, watercolor paints, scientific calculators, compasses and protractors. (See the examples on display in Coffee Hour today!) Also, if any of you can provide SPANISH LANGUAGE non-fiction books for all ages, board games, 100 piece puzzles or fiction books for teenagers, those would be welcome as the team sets up a lending library for these. Our travelers will each be carrying suitcases full of your gifts and extending the goodwill of our congregation as they set out to share in the work experience with energy and enthusiasm.

**JPF / Junior Pilgrim Fellowship**, 6-8 grades, meets in Room 103 from 5:00 to 6:00 pm.

**SPF / Senior Pilgrim Fellowship**, 9-12 grades, meets in Room 103 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm.

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## THIS WEEK

### Tai Chi

March classes will be held each Wednesday at 8:00 am and each Thursday at 9:00 am in the Auditorium. The fifth Wednesday in March will be counted in April for fee purposes. March fees are once again \$28.00 for the month. These classes are wonderful for stretching and balance. Questions, call Prill Meyer at 203-637-4214.

The **Children's Choir** rehearses on Wednesday from 5:00 to 6:00 pm in the Choir Room followed by pizza in Room 303.

### Duke University Chorale

On Wednesday evening, March 10, at 8:00 pm, we will present the Duke University Chorale in concert. Join us in the Meetinghouse for what promises to be an entertaining and uplifting musical experience.

**Hats Off!**, our stimulating book discussion group, meets every Thursday morning in the Lounge from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. We are now discussing Tracy Kidder's *Strength in What Remains*, a fascinating story of a young medical student who escaped the civil war and genocide in Burundi to find himself at JFK with \$200 and a dream. Come join us.

The **Palmer Handbells** rehearse on Thursday evening from 6:15 to 7:15 pm in the Meetinghouse.

**Chancel Choir** rehearses on Thursday evening from 7:30 to 9:00 pm in the Choir Room.

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## NEWS AND NOTICES

### **CPR Training including Defibrillator Use**

Saturday, March 20, 9:00 am -12:00 Noon; Saturday, March 20, 1:00 - 4:00 pm; OR Saturday, March 27, 9:00 am - 12:00 Noon. This class is appropriate for first-time participants as well as those in need of recertification. Because of the generosity of GEMS and the church covering the balance of the reduced fees, there is no cost to the participants. The Wellness Committee thanks you for the gift of your time and willingness to help others. To register or get more information, speak to Sue Asselin, Parish Nurse at extension 21.

*Hold the Date!* Our traditional **Egg Saturday** event will be held this year on the day before Easter, April 3, from 10:00 am until 12 Noon. Please join the Church School Task Force for egg coloring, planting signs of new life and learning about the joy of Easter! Sign up during Coffee Hour!

### **Rummage Room News**

The shop is looking like spring with all “new” clothing and items. Please come visit and see for yourself. Wish List: bric-a-brac, men’s suits, men and women’s blazers, men’s ties and belts, jewelry and handbags, pictures and CDs. We welcome and are grateful for all of your donations of clean clothes and saleable items. Be sure to pick up your tax slip.

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**Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 14.  
Please remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour.**

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## *The First Congregational Church of Greenwich*

108 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich, Connecticut, 06870

203-637-1791

[www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org)

Ministers: Members of The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. David D. Young

Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry: Rev. Mark D. Montgomery

Minister of Communication and Adult Education: Rev. Daniel B. England

Minister of Pastoral Care: Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Director of Music/Senior Organist: Dr. John Stansell

Associate Organist/Director: Terence J. Flanagan

Director of Church School: Rosemary Lamie

Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister

Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin, RN

Pastors Emeriti: Rev. Dr. Thomas L. Stiers and Rev. Sally Colegrove