

*Old Greenwich,
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

*United Church
of Christ*

Founded in 1665

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

27 June 2010

10 o'clock in the morning



Welcome to this service of worship at First Congregational Church on this final Sunday of June and on the final day of John Stansell's distinguished service as our Director of Music. Today we celebrate the gifts and contributions John has offered through the music ministry of our church. As he begins a new chapter in life with his retirement we wish him God's blessing and offer deepest gratitude.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

*All who are able please stand

‡Seating of latecomers

PRELUDE

Sonata I in F

John Stansell, organ

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy

*Allegro moderato e serioso – Adagio – Andante recitativo –
Allegro assai vivace*

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Please sign and pass the red book.

Rev. Mark Montgomery

PRAISING GOD

CHORAL INTROIT

Cantate!

Cantate Domino, alleluia!

Come, let us sing! Sing to the Lord! A new song, sing a new song.

Sing to the Lord all the earth, sing a new song! Sing praise, sing

praise to the Lord. Give thanks, give thanks to the Lord and

declare his great glory.

The Children's Choir

Mary Lynn Lightfoot

CALL TO WORSHIP

***‡OPENING HYMN AND PROCESSION**

Come Down, O Love Divine

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 239

OPENING PRAYER (In Unison)

O God in whom we live and move and have our being,

We have gathered in your presence

To sing your praise.

Gather up the prayer of each heart
Into harmony of worship and service,
That we might truly be one body in Christ.

Accept the words of our mouths
And the thoughts of our hearts,
For we are yours in Christ Jesus. Amen.

CONFESSING TO GOD

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we hear you calling.
You have shown us hope and love
and you offer us courage.
We come to you as people who long to walk
your pathways of grace and love.
But many times, God, we get discouraged
by our living. We are afraid of difficult experiences.

We despair at challenges that are given to us.
The roads we walk find us weary sometimes,
and we let hopelessness get the best of us.
Help us to know that your love is always there,
Sustaining us and surrounding us with care.
Take our road-weary lives and transform us
to be your new people,
shining in the darkness and giving you
glory and honor even as we pray together...

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

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Olivia Hartwell

Psalm 145:1-13a

I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name for ever and ever.
Every day I will bless you,
and praise your name for ever and ever.
Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall laud your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.
On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.
The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed,
and I will declare your greatness.
They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

The Lord is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
The Lord is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has made.

All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,
and all your faithful shall bless you.
They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom,
and tell of your power,
to make known to all people your mighty deeds,
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

The Lord is faithful in all his words,
and gracious in all his deeds.

SCRIPTURE ANTHEM
Jesus Loves Me

Combined Choirs
choral setting by Joel Raney

SECOND LESSON

Pat Larrabee
Ephesians 3:14-21

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever.
Amen.

As the hymn begins, the children will go with Rosemary Lamie to the Undercroft for Summer Church School.

*‡HYMN

By Gracious Powers

New Century (black) Hymnal 413

SERMON

For Thine Is the Kingdom

Rev. *David D. Young*

RESPONDING TO GOD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

One: Let us pray, "O God, hallowed be your name."

Many: And let us honor the name of God with works as well as with words.

One: Let us pray, "Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" -

Many: And let us shake the foundations of earth in the name of heaven, that what is unshakable might remain.

One: Let us pray, "Give us this day our daily bread" -

Many: And let us daily break our loaves, and bless them, and share them with the crowds.

One: *Let us pray, "Forgive us our debts, for we forgive everyone who sins against us" -*

Many: And let us love greatly, for those who love little forgive little.

One: *Let us pray, "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil" -*

Many: And let us never place a stumbling block in the way of our neighbor.

One: *Let us pray all these things, that our manner of life might become worthy of the gospel,*

Many: That we might stand firm in one spirit and strive together with one mind, all for the sake of one great love

All: For yours, O God, is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, amen!

Phyllis Cole / Everett Tilson

***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.

PASTORAL PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Summer Choir

For This One Day

Daniel Gawthrop

Lord, give us this day our daily bread; Manna, life, for this one day; Life enough for work and wonder, laughter, joy, and time for play. Love enough to lift the weary, feed the hungry, light the way, And when we thirst, grant Living Water pure and clear, Thy peace assure us. And when we fear, O Lord, do not leave us.

When we fail, Lord, do not despair of us.

When we see our might, make us count the stars.

And when we tremble, Lord, Give us for this one day

Thy grace, Thy peace, our daily bread.

(text by Jane Griner)

***Doxology**

New Century (black) Hymnal 776

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures here below; Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter; One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

***CLOSING HYMN AND PROCESSION**

Now Thank We All Our God

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 29

***CLOSING SENTENCES**

Leader: Do not malign a single thing.

People: for God not only is its Maker, but also its design.

Leader: To reflect God in all that is both now and here,

People: My heart must be a mirror, empty, bright, and clear.

Angelus Silesius

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE

Carolyn Diamond, organ

Marche Triomphal on "Now Thank We All Our God"

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

The flowers in the Meetinghouse are given in memory of Charles Boudreau by his wife and daughters.

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. A bulletin can be found there as well as a link to the live broadcast. Previous sermons may also be found there.

Calendar

TODAY

Gala Reception

Please join us after the service for a reception to honor John Stansell, who is retiring as Director of Music after 23 years with us. The Music Committee will provide sandwiches, fruits and a celebratory cake and best wishes from several friends. Expect tears and laughter to be in abundance.

Still have a turntable?

John Stansell has copies of an LP that he made back in 1985. He is offering them as FREE souvenirs at the reception.

Have you enjoyed the Mendelssohn Organ Sonatas?

The CD recording of all six of the Sonatas that he recorded in Frankfurt, Germany, in 1994 will also be available for the close-out price of \$ 10.00 each. You can even get an autograph!

Church School

Summer Church School, a multiage one room classroom of 4 through 10 year olds, continues today. Younger children are welcome in Child Care and older children are invited to come as helpers. We continue through the end of July except 4th of July weekend.

Parish Nurse

Sue Asselin, RN, is available in Room 203 after the Worship Service. Stop in to have your blood pressure checked or discuss any health concerns.

NEWS AND NOTICES

Call to Special Congregational Meeting

A special meeting of the congregation is hereby called for Sunday, July 18 following the 10 am Worship Service. The meeting will be held in the Meetinghouse:

- to hear and act upon the recommendation of the Associate Pastor Search Committee to call a new Associate Pastor of Christian Education
- and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Phoebe Griffith,
Church Clerk

Join the Summer Choir

There's no weeknight rehearsal during the summer. Rather the choir meets Sunday mornings for a 9:00 am warm-up and rehearsal in the Meetinghouse. Adults and youth are welcome. It's a great time to see if choir is right for you. You can even come just to the rehearsal, if you feel you're not quite "ready for prime time." As much as is possible during this time of music-staff transition, scores for the next week's anthems will be found on the cabinet outside the Choir Room on the third floor, and learning files to help singers with their parts will be found on the website, www.fccog.org under Music/Choir Learning Files.

Bible Study

Plan to stay after church on July 11th and 25th for a screening of the Bruce Metzger DVD on the book of Revelation even if you came to the classes and especially if you didn't. There will be four sessions shown on each day with time for discussion and questions. This is a great way to grasp the message of this most important Biblical chapter.

Women's Fellowship Summer Tai Chi Classes

Just a reminder that Tai Chi with Luis Duarte will be held on Thursdays (only) at 8:30 a.m. in July and August. The July session is \$35 for five classes--(only \$7 a class) – payable at the first session on July 1st. There are wonderful varieties of exercises. Come join this special group and bring along friends. You do not have to be a member of the church to join in. See you on Thursday!

Church Office Summer Hours

First Church weekday office hours from June 1 to September 7 will be 9am to 3pm. Volunteer receptionists will be on duty during those hours. Of course, you can leave a voice mail message at any time of day or night.

Summer Beach Services

These services begin at 8 am at Tod's Point every Sunday of the summer except August 1st. See our website, www.fccog.org, for more information.

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

108 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich, Connecticut, 06870

203-637-1791

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

Interim Director of Music: Mark Swicegood

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