

*Old Greenwich,
Connecticut*

**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF GREENWICH**

*United Church
of Christ*

Founded in 1665

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

15 August 2010

10 o'clock in the morning



We welcome you to this church where we hope you find thoughtful ideas and enlivening people. Today, you are invited to contemplate the "rest" that God incorporated into his creation in anticipation of that ultimate rest for the people of God found in Jesus Christ. If you are visiting, please make yourself known to us and please join us for a few moments of refreshment immediately following the service.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

*All who are able please stand

‡Seating of latecomers

PRELUDE

Fantasia in E Flat

*Mark Swicegood, organ
Camille Saint-Saëns*

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Please sign and pass the red book.

Rev. David D. Young

PRAISING GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

***‡OPENING HYMN AND PROCESSION**

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 195

OPENING PRAYER (In Unison)

O God, whose word and hand sustains us in all the seasons of our lives,

We have come here today with many of the same concerns and realities that confront us the rest of the year.

But the warmth of the days slows us up
and breaks in on our schedules
giving us a chance to be more reflective.
We value these times and ask that you might bless them.
Help us to know that these very seasons of rest are moments
 when you can finally get through the noise of our lives
 and we can hear you clearly.
Come Holy Spirit into our morning
And fill us with your peace.
We ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSING TO GOD

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

It is hard to accept ourselves when we make mistakes;
even harder when we do deliberate wrong.
And so we justify our actions
and tell ourselves that they weren't really so bad after all.
But deep within us are the echos of what we said,
the arrogance behind how we treated someone,
the habitual counting of ourselves better than others.
These we confess now,
not simply to name these patterns, but break them.
It is hard to live with a bad conscience.
And so we offer up our conscience to you now,
asking for repentance, forgiveness and renewal.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to 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

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Peter Schay

Genesis 2:1-3

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

SCRIPTURE ANTHEM

Thy Perfect Love

*The Summer Choir
John Rutter*

Jesu, my love, my joy, my rest,
Thy perfect love close in my breast.
That I thee love and never rest;
And make me love thee all things best,
And wounde my heart in they love free,
That I may reign in joy evermore with thee.

Hebrews 4:1-11

Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest is still open, let us take care that none of you should seem to have failed to reach it. For indeed the good news came to us just as to them; but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened. For we who have believed enter that rest, just as God has said,
 ‘As in my anger I swore,
 “They shall not enter my rest”’,
 though his works were finished at the foundation of the world. For in one place it speaks about the seventh day as follows: ‘And God rested on the seventh day from all his works.’ And again in this place it says, ‘They shall not enter my rest.’ Since therefore it remains open for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience, again he sets a certain day—‘today’—saying through David much later, in the words already quoted,
 ‘Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.’
 For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not speak later about another day. So then, a sabbath rest still remains for the people of God; for those who enter God’s rest also cease from their labours as God did from his. Let us therefore make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one may fall through such disobedience as theirs.

*‡HYMN

Be Still, My Soul

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 77

SERMON

The Rest of the Story

Rev. Daniel B. England

RESPONDING TO GOD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that you, O God, are our creator
and that everything about our lives follows from that.

We know all sin is idolatry, worshiping creatures
and their things rather than God.

But we also believe that we can be made free by hearing again
your voice in our hearts and seeing you act in our lives.

For these things to happen we need a faith
that is daily and strong.

We are encouraged that throughout the Bible, we have examples
of people whose faith was riddled with doubt,
but who yet affirmed belief in you.

And so for us, we believe; help thou our unbelief.

*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 PASTORAL PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Let Us With a Gladsome Mind
Text at Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 70

*The Summer Choir
Alan Ridout*

*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

Glorious Things of You Are Spoken

New Century (black) Hymnal 307

*CLOSING SENTENCES

Leader: Rest in the Lord, and trust in his Word.

People: So we are called to do.

Leader: Trust in the rest of God and be busy with his work.

People: So we are called to do.

All: So are we all called to do.

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Gigue Fugue

J. S. Bach

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. Your children are always welcome for the entire service or for a respite time if needed. Please see an usher if you need directions. Child Care for August is in Room 104 while areas of the Preschool are being renovated.

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

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.

Church School

There will be **no** Church School classes until Recognition Sunday, September 19th. Children are always welcome in worship and there is always Child Care for our youngest children. Early elementary children may also go to Child Care should they get restless in the Meetinghouse.

NEWS AND NOTICES

Church Office Summer Hours

First Church weekday office hours will be 9am to 3pm until September 7. Volunteer receptionists will be on duty during those hours. Of course, you can leave a voicemail 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 through September 12. See our website, www.fccog.org, for more information.

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.

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 am in August. The August session is \$35 for five classes--(only \$7 a class). 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!

Rummage Room News

The Rummage Room is closed until **Monday, August 30th**.

- **Monday, August 30th - Opening Day with all “New” Merchandise - 10:00am - 5:00pm**
- **Wednesday, September 1st - Begin taking-in donations - 10:00am to 5:00pm**

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE DONATIONS AT THE RUMMAGE ROOM DURING CLOSED MONTH OF AUGUST.

Plastic and paper shopping bags are needed when the Rummage Room opens on August 30th. Please drop off all you can spare!
Thanks.

Food Collection

A reminder that the Food Collection Barrel will remain in the back of the Meetinghouse throughout each month, to encourage month-round contributions.

A Food Collection Bin will be available at the Beach Services as well to encourage our Beach Service Attendees to remember the hungry.



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

Interim Director of Music: Mark Swicegood

Director of Church School: Rosemary Lamie

Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister

Director of Publications: Barbara Wilkov

Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin, RN

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

Director of Music Emeritus: Dr. John Stansell