

*Old Greenwich,  
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

*United Church  
of Christ*

*Founded in 1665*

**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Worldwide Communion**

**3 October 2010**

10 o'clock in the morning





WELCOME to this Service of Worship and to our life together at First Congregational Church. As we and the Christians around the world celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper together, all of us can feel the openness of our fellowship about this special table. It is Christ who extends the invitation to all who seek in their lives the renewing and emerging reality of his presence.

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### **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

\*All who are able please stand

‡Seating of latecomers

#### PRELUDE

Prelude and Fugue in G Minor

*Mark Swicegood, organ  
Marcel Dupré*

#### CALL TO COMMUNITY

*Please sign and pass the red book.*

*Dr. David D. Young*

#### MISSION TEAM OPPORTUNITY

*Kathy Fraser*

### **PRAISING GOD**

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

#### \*‡OPENING HYMN AND PROCESSION

I Come with Joy

*New Century (black) Hymnal 349*

#### OPENING PRAYER *(In Unison)*

O God of all that has the potential for growth,  
be present at the table you have prepared for us this  
day that we might be drawn toward Christ  
and toward each other as journeyers  
on his Way. Amen.

### **CONFESSING TO GOD**

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

*Rev. Avery C. Manchester*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, whose favor is life and  
whose presence is fullness of joy,  
we confess that we are those who find favor with the passing  
and settle for a lesser happiness.

...Called in our Baptism to a life of discipleship,  
we have let the pressure of the times erode this  
simple identity.

...Invited to your table to share a common meal,  
we have remained at our own, separated from  
others and from you.

...Summoned to serve in the name of Christ,  
we have felt service as personal loss and self-  
giving as a too lavish spending.

Forgive us for failing to trust in your promise  
that in service to others is personal freedom.

Renew in us the power of love,  
which replenishes the springs of joy.

In the name of Christ, who took the form of a servant,  
we now pray the prayer He taught us,

## 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.*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*Dr. David D. Young*

*After the Children's Message, 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 grade will meet their teachers at the back of the Meetinghouse (Narthex) and will go to their classrooms as a group. It is not necessary for parents to accompany their children because there are many Hall Helpers to guide anyone who needs help.*

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### FIRST LESSON

*Charlie Baird*

Lamentations 3: 19-26

The thought of my affliction and my homelessness  
Is wormwood and gall!  
My soul continually thinks of it  
and is bowed down within me.  
But this I call to mind,  
and therefore I have hope:

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,  
his mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.  
'The LORD is my portion,' says my soul,  
'therefore I will hope in him.'

The LORD is good to those who wait for him,  
to the soul that seeks him.  
It is good that one should wait quietly  
for the salvation of the LORD.

SCRIPTURE ANTHEM  
Ave Verum Corpus

*The Chancel Choir  
Camille Saint-Saëns Gabriel*

SECOND LESSON

*Pat Mendelsohn*

Psalm 137

By the rivers of Babylon—  
there we sat down and there we wept  
when we remembered Zion.  
On the willows there  
we hung up our harps.  
For there our captors  
asked us for songs,  
and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying,  
'Sing us one of the songs of Zion!'

How could we sing the Lord's song  
in a foreign land?  
If I forget you, O Jerusalem,  
let my right hand wither!  
Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth,  
if I do not remember you,  
if I do not set Jerusalem  
above my highest joy.

Remember, O Lord, against the Edomites  
the day of Jerusalem's fall,  
how they said, 'Tear it down! Tear it down!  
Down to its foundations!'  
O daughter Babylon, you devastator!  
Happy shall they be who pay you back  
what you have done to us!  
Happy shall they be who take your little ones  
and dash them against the rock!

Luke 17: 5-10

**T**he apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' The Lord replied, 'If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you.'

‘Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, “Come here at once and take your place at the table”? Would you not rather say to him, “Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink”? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, “We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!” ’

\*‡HYMN

Great Is Your Faithfulness      *New Century (black) Hymnal 423*

SERMON    *The Tough Taste of Tenderness*    *Dr. David D. Young*  
*(Third in the Series “Homeloning: the Heart’s Re-turning”)*

**RESPONDING TO GOD**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God the Eternal Spirit,  
    Who is made known to us in Jesus our brother,  
    and Who bestows upon us the Holy Spirit.  
God calls us into the church  
    to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,  
    to be servants in the service of the whole human family,  
    to proclaim the gospel to all the world  
    and resist the powers of evil,  
    to share in Christ’s baptism and eat at his table,  
    to join him in his passion and victory.  
God promises to all who trust in the gospel  
    forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,  
    courage in the struggle for justice and peace,  
    the presence of the Holy Spirit in trial and rejoicing,  
    and eternal life in that kingdom which has no end.  
Blessings and honor, glory and power be unto God. Amen.

*From the U.C.C. Statement of Faith*

**\*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.*

**CALL TO OFFERING**

*Rev. Daniel B. England*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

Draw Us in the Spirits Tether

*The Chancel Choir  
Harold Friedell*

**\*Doxology**

*New Century 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**

**COMMUNION** (*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.*

*When receiving the juice tray, pass it along to your neighbor who will hold and “serve” you as you then take your cup.*

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of your 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.

## GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

### \*CLOSING HYMN AND PROCESSION

Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race *(To the tune of Tallis' Canon)*

Diverse in culture, nation, race,  
we come together by your grace.  
God, let us be a meeting ground  
where hope and healing love are found.

God, let us be a bridge of care  
connecting people ev'rywhere.  
Help us confront all fear and hate  
and lust for pow'r that separate.

When chasms widen, storms arise,  
O Holy Spirit, make us wise.  
Let our resolve, like steel, be strong  
to stand with those who suffer wrong.

God, let us be a table spread  
with gifts of love and broken bread,  
where all find welcome, grace attends,  
and enemies arise as friends.

### \*CLOSING SENTENCES

*Leader: "Today salvation has come to this house."  
For we have shared in Eucharist,  
a feast of thanksgiving.*

*People: We cannot talk Eucharist.  
We cannot philosophize about it.  
We cannot dogmatize it.  
We do it.*

*Leader: Sometimes we laugh it,  
Sometimes we cry it,  
Often we sing it...*

*People: Sometimes it's wild peace, then crying hurt,  
often humiliating, never deserved.  
Freely given, gratefully received.*

## \*BENEDICTION

## \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

## POSTLUDE

Fanfare

*William Mathias*

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The flowers in the Meetinghouse today are given in remembrance of J. Robert Guy by Louise Guy and daughters, Cristina Birkic and Cynthia Slack.

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.

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.

## *Calendar*

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## TODAY

### Church School

Classes continue today as usual and our children will learn about David as a Musician. A reminder for parents: please be sure to register your children, especially if you are new or have new address or email information; you can register online at [www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org). Also, next week Church School will be a Big Event in the Daniels Center after everyone begins in worship. There are no individual classes because it is a holiday weekend and several teachers will not be here.

### **Flu Vaccine Clinic - 9:30-10:00am & 11:00am-12pm in Room 203**

The Wellness Committee will be offering seasonal flu vaccines today (this year's formula includes H1N1). Vaccines will be administered on a first-come, first-served basis to people 18 years of age or older who bring payment of \$30 cash or check (made out to FCCOG). We are unable to bill insurances, but we can provide a receipt. Individuals under 18 should see their primary physician for the vaccine.

### **Volunteers for Blood Drive**

During Coffee Hour today, please sign up if you are able to help with refreshments for the upcoming blood drive on October 12. Details on the drive are below under News and Notices.

### **Just Bag It with First Congregational Church Stewards of the Earth**

Pick up your recycled bag (made from 11 plastic bottles) after church today and take your faith with you as you travel and shop.

### **Women's Fellowship Annual Bulb Sale**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Women's Fellowship Fall Bulb Sale starts today with pre-orders during coffee hour from 11am to noon. Pre-orders will continue each Sunday in October until the final sale day (and order pick-up) on Sunday October 24 from 11am to 1pm in the auditorium. Order forms are available at coffee hours and in the Church Office.

### **Bible Study**

The first Bible Study gathering of the fall is meeting today. We will be considering *Exodus*, the book not the movie, in all its fascinating facets – burning bush, plagues, chariots, ten commandments and, of course, Aaron's great idea, the Golden Calf. These classes will be recorded so that you can listen to them, or download them, on the church's Web site ([www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org), Tab: Faith Formation, Tab: Bible Study). Therefore, even if you cannot attend every week, you can still follow our progress. But, as in baseball or concerts, live is better than recorded. So join the more than 200 people who have attended these Bible studies (we get sixty-some every week) and discover or re-discover why it is an exercise in faith building that you soon won't want to be without. Besides, we have fun!

## **Greeters Needed!**

If you can smile and say “Good morning” we need you to help us welcome everyone to worship on Sunday mornings. Please sign up to help at coffee hour. You’ll be contacted by email with available dates. Please help. You’ll be glad you did!

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## **NEXT WEEK**

### **Youth Ministry**

Because of Columbus Day Weekend, there will be no Youth Fellowship programs on October 10. Join us tonight for our Y! programs. Fellowship for those in grades 6-8 (JPF) is from 5:00-6:00 pm and grades 9-12 (SPF) meets from 7:00-8:00 pm.

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## **NEWS AND NOTICES**

### **Annual Preschool Photo Fundraiser**

Can't find time for a family portrait? Still looking for the perfect holiday card photo? Sign up today for the Annual First Congregational Church Preschool Photo Fundraising Event in beautiful Binney Park. 20 minute sessions are available with Greenwich photographer, Joseph Budzelek ([www.josephbudzelekphotography.com](http://www.josephbudzelekphotography.com)).

Approximately 10-20 proofs per family, reasonable prices, convenient ordering and quick turnaround time. Dates are:

- Sunday, October 17
- Saturday, October 23
- Sunday, October 24
- Saturday, October 30

Signup sheets are available in the vestibule outside the preschool entrance. Please leave \$85 check payable to First Congregational Church Preschool in the marked box outside Libby White's office to hold your time slot.

(All proceeds of the \$85 sitting fee go directly to the preschool!)

Please call Dianne Shrier with questions at 203-698-8823.

Thank you for your continued support!

### **Red Cross Blood Drive – Tuesday, October 12 here at FCCOG**

This community blood drive, sponsored by Women's Fellowship and the Wellness Committee, runs from 1:30 to 6:30 pm. Please donate the *Gift of Life* or donate some prepared food. Devilled eggs, finger sandwiches, veggies, or baked goods are all appreciated. Blood donation appointments can be made by calling 1-800-GIVE LIFE (1-800-448-3543). Food contributions can be planned by calling Betsy Kreuter at 698-3016. There is also a sign-up sheet for refreshments at today's Coffee Hour and in the church office on weekdays.

### **Flu Vaccine Clinic – Sunday, October 17th 9:30-10:00 am & 11:00 am-12 pm, in Room 203**

The Wellness Committee will be offering season flu vaccines (this year's formula includes H1N1). Vaccines will be administered on a first-come, first-served basis to people 18 years of age or older who bring payment of \$30 cash or check (made out to FCCOG). We are unable to bill insurances, but we can provide a receipt. Individuals under 18, should see their primary physician for the vaccine.

### **Sunday Flowers in the Meetinghouse**

Every Sunday flowers at the front of the Meetinghouse enhance our worship setting. These flowers are often given by members and friends to remember or to honor a family member, a friend, or someone special. Donating the flowers for a given Sunday is also an opportunity to mark a special date or to remember a special occasion – baptism, anniversary, confirmation, birthday, graduation, etc. If you would like to donate flowers or wish to know more about this opportunity, please contact Judy Gordon, Chair of the Chancel Committee at 203-637-8575 or by email at [gordoog@aol.com](mailto:gordoog@aol.com).

### **Are You Into Photography?**

From time to time (at events such as Homecoming) the church needs photographs taken for use on the website, in the Meetinghouse Monthly, and for other media. We could use more than one person for this important task. So, if you're looking for a way to show off your skills with a camera and help the church at the same time, contact Dan England at [dengland@optonline.net](mailto:dengland@optonline.net). Thanks.

## **Nights Off**

Come join this evening Women's Fellowship group on Monday, October 18 at 6 pm in the church lounge and experience the "Getting to Know Your Church and Each Other" Treasure Hunt, followed by dessert at Rosemary Lamie's house. For more information, contact Karen Young at 203-637-7877 or [klyct1@aol.com](mailto:klyct1@aol.com).

## **Tai Chi Classes with Luis Duarte**

**All are welcome!** Improve your balance, health and well being. Come and experience the many wonderful benefits of Tai Chi and Qi Gong exercises. Classes are held on Wednesdays at 8 am and Thursdays at 9 am. Only \$7 per class if paid by the month, and \$8 per class for "drop ins." Join us! You'll love it!

## **Book Discussion Group**

Hats Off!, the popular women's book discussion group, meets every Thursday from 10:00 to 11:30 am in the church lounge. All are welcome. For details, call Marcia Livingston at 203-625-0772.

## **Interested in Learning about Joining the Church?**

Our next New Member class will be held on Sunday, October 24, at 11:15 am in the Lounge. It will last approximately two hours and will include lunch. (Child care will be provided.) During the class, prospective new members have the opportunity to hear about the history and faith of our Congregational denomination, the United Church of Christ, and to learn more about our church and meet the clergy as well as staff. Attending does not obligate you to join but we hope that this time together will strengthen you on the journey of faith. Please feel welcome to join us. We will receive new members on Sunday, November 7 during the 10am worship service. For questions or to indicate your interest in attending please contact David Young at [dyoung@fccog.org](mailto:dyoung@fccog.org) or Ginny Breismeister at [ginnyb@fccog.org](mailto:ginnyb@fccog.org).

## **Rummage Room News**

**Halloween:** The "Best Little Costume Shop in Old Greenwich" opened Saturday, October 2, with costumes and decorations to fit any occasion. As you decorate for the holiday, please keep in mind

The Rummage Room would love to receive your surplus of decorations and costumes as the need for restocking is a daily occurrence. There are outfits for everyone from the youngest to the oldest and the fun is in the mixing and matching. Don't miss the opportunity to be the best-dressed goblin, ghost, witch or whatever suits your fancy ... and be sure you view the Halloween window because it is sure to put you in the mood for "trick or treat night."

**Wish List For October:** Besides Halloween items, we need double and single strollers, jewelry, shoes, handbags, small furniture, children's and adult clothing, bric-a-brac, musical instruments, and bikes for adults and children.

**Rummage Room Hours:** 10:00am to 5:00pm Monday through Friday. 10:00am to 1:00pm Saturday.

**Donation Hours:** 9:30am to 4:30pm Monday through Thursday, and 9:30am to 1:00pm Friday and Saturday.

**Rummage Room Mission Statement:** Proceeds go to Women and Children's Organizations locally, nationally and internationally to help support their many needs. The Rummage Room, co-chaired by Judy Miller and Judy Chapman, the Allocations Committee, chaired by Prill Meyer, and The Rummage Room manager, Maria Drieghe, all want to thank you for your continued support.

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: **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.



# *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

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