

*Old Greenwich,  
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

*United Church  
of Christ*

*Founded in 1665*

**Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

**21 November 2010**

10 o'clock in the morning



**W**elcome to this Service of Worship at The First Congregational Church. Today is Harvest Sunday! On this Sunday, we continue to give thanks for all of the ways God blesses us. Today, in particular, we gather food, a portion of God's gift to us, to share with brothers and sisters in our community.

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### **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

\*All who are able please stand

‡Seating of latecomers

**PRELUDE**  
Trumpet Tune

*Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ*  
*David German*

**CALL TO COMMUNITY**  
*Please sign and pass the red book.*

*Rev. Daniel B. England*

### **PRAISING GOD**

**CALL TO WORSHIP AND CHORAL INTROIT** *The Cherub Choir*  
Jesus, I Want to Be Like You *Bill F. Leach*

**\*‡OPENING HYMN AND PROCESSION**

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come *Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 461*

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

We gather reaching  
Reaching for the Divine  
Reaching for Hope  
Reaching for Promise

We gather knowing  
Knowing that we are blessed  
Knowing that we are loved  
Knowing that we are welcomed

We gather, in response to the abundant gifts you have given to us  
We gather, seeking an encounter with you that will fill our lives  
with joy

We gather, celebrating this community in which we find ourselves  
We gather, be with us now.

## CONFESSING TO GOD

CALL TO CONFESSION

*Rev. Susan Murtha*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*(Our Prayer of Confession will be shared by members of the Pastors' Class. The puppets used this morning were conceived, designed and constructed by members of the Pastors' Class)*

SONG

We Beseech Thee (from *Godspell*)

*Pastors' Class*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SONG

Jesus Love Me

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to Him belong; They are weak, but He is strong.

*Chorus:*

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

*Peter Russell*

Psalm 139: 1-10

**Y**ou have searched me, LORD, and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it

completely. You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.

Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

SCRIPTURE ANTHEM  
Symphony of Praise

*The Youth Choir*  
*Dana Mengel*

SECOND LESSON

*Mike Russell*

Mark 5: 25-34

Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years. She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, for she said, "If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well." Immediately her hemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my clothes?" And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, 'Who touched me?'" He looked all around to see who had done it. But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

SERMON "Reaching for a Hem"

*Rev. Mark D. Montgomery*  
*Rev. Daniel B. England*

## RESPONDING TO GOD

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Leader: We are reaching, reaching for the divine

*People: We believe that God is with us.*

Leader: We are reaching for Hope

*People: We believe in God's grace*

Leader: We are reaching for Promise

*People: We believe God's promises to us*

Leader: We know that we are blessed

*People: We know that we are loved*

Leader: As we welcome one another

*People: We believe that God is welcoming us.*

*All: Sharing our gifts, sharing in community, sharing in God's love, we believe that we are reconciled and healed.*

### \*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.*

### ANTHEM

Amazing Grace

*The Children's Choir*

*arr. Francisco Nuñez*

### CALL TO PASTORAL PRAYER

*Dr. David D. Young*

### PASTORAL PRAYER AND QUIET MEDITATION

#### 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.

### CALL TO OFFERING

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

### Summer Ended

*The Chancel Choir*  
*Charles Wood*

Summer ended, harvest o'er,  
Lord, to thee our song we pour,  
For the valley's golden yield,  
For the fruits of tree and field;  
For the promise ever sure  
That while heaven and earth endure,  
Seedtime, harvest, cold and heat,  
Shall their yearly round complete.

For the care, which, while we slept,  
Watch o'er field and furrow kept,  
Watch o'er all the buried grain,  
Soon to burst to life again;  
When all earthly gifts must fail,  
And our years have told their tale.  
When in death our flesh is sown,  
Watch, Lord Jesus, o'er thine own.

When the unknown hour is come  
And the last great harvest home,  
And the reaping angels bring  
Tares and wheat before the King;  
When the tribes of earth shall weep,  
And the goats shall leave the sheep,  
Jesus, may we gathered be  
In the heavenly barn to thee.

Then the angel cry shall sound,  
"Praise the Lamb; the lost are found;"  
And the answering song shall be,  
"Alleluia, praise to thee,"  
Praise to thee! the toil is o'er;  
Blight and curse shall be no more;  
Lo! The mighty work is done!  
Glory to the Three in One. Amen.

*(Greville Phillimore, 1821-1884)*

## HARVEST OFFERING

### We Gather Together

*Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 21*

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies *Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 440*  
Now Thank We All Our God *New Century (black) Hymnal 419*  
This Is My Song *New Century Hymnal 591*

**\*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 THANKSGIVING AND BENEDICTION**

*Rev. Avery C. Manchester*

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

**CHORAL BENEDICTION**

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

*The Chancel Choir*  
*Peter Lutkin*

**POSTLUDE**

Now Thank We All Our God

*Sigfrid Karg-Elert*

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The Meetinghouse has been decorated in celebration of Harvest Sunday by Pam Grunow of The Chancel Committee.

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**

There are no church school classes today, however, the Baby Nursery and Toddler Room are open as always. Threes can join us if you or they need a change of venue! Next Sunday, Thanksgiving weekend, there are no classes again but there will be a Big Event for all children who are here.

#### **Sharing Christmas Blessings**

It's that time of year again when we share our blessings with friends at Pilgrim Towers and H.O.M.E. Co-op in Orland, Maine. Don't forget to pick up your gift tags today for a man, woman, boy or girl. Deadline for wrapping and delivering your gift(s) back to the church is Sunday, December 12.

#### **Special Request to Support Child Nutrition Act**

On this special Harvest Sunday, please contact Representative Jim Himes and encourage him to pass the Child Nutrition Act, currently before Congress. Postcards will be available during Coffee Hour for your convenience.

#### **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.

#### **Flu Vaccine Clinic 11:00-11:45 am 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 will happily provide a receipt. Individuals under 18 should see their primary physician for the vaccine.

#### **Annual H.O.M.E. Craft Show**

Today is the last day of the Annual H.O.M.E. Craft Show hosted by The Senior Pilgrim Fellowship, Women's Ministries, and Christian

Outreach Committee. It is being held in the auditorium from 11 am to 1 pm. Be sure to stop by to enjoy a bit of Maine hospitality and shopping to help support Homeworkers Organized for More Employment (H.O.M.E.) from rural Hancock County, Maine. All proceeds from this sale go directly to H.O.M.E. Come see the handmade quilts, Christmas decorations and gifts, woollens, pottery, wooden toys, weavings, homemade jams, maple syrup, and much, much more!

### **Youth Ministry**

Join us tonight for our Y! programs. Fellowship for those in grades 6-8 (JPF) is from 5:00-6:00. Our 9-12 (SPF) meets from 7:00-8:00 pm, and both parents and youth are invited. We will discuss our upcoming mission trip.

### **Youth Choir**

There will be no Youth Choir rehearsal today.

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## **NEXT WEEK**

### **Community Thanksgiving Service Tomorrow**

The Community Thanksgiving Service will be held at First Presbyterian Church in Greenwich tomorrow, Monday, November 22, at 7:00 pm. Choirs from around the area will participate in a combined choir, singing Gabrieli's massive "Bucinate in neomenia tuba" (Blow the trumpet in the new moon). In addition, choirs will sing an individual anthem. FCCOG's Chancel Choir will be part of this service. This is a great opportunity to gather as Christians to celebrate the blessings we receive from God. The church is located at the corner of W. Putnam Ave. and Lafayette Place in downtown Greenwich.

### **Annual Advent "Make Your Own" Craft Workshop Next Sunday**

Mark your calendar for the Annual Advent "Make Your Own" Craft Workshop next Sunday, November 28th from 2 to 4 pm in the Daniels Center hosted by the Church School Task Force. There will be several new crafts as well as the long time favorites - photo ornament and pet gifts. A great time will be had by all!

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## NEWS AND NOTICES

### **Messiah is coming!**

We will be starting rehearsals for our annual performance of Messiah under the direction of Director of Music, Dr. Craig Scott Symons, held on Saturday and Sunday, December 18 and 19 at 4 pm. Singers should be prepared to attend all rehearsals and performances. Choir rehearsals will be in the Meetinghouse from 8:00-10:00 pm on: Tuesday, December 7; Wednesday, December 8; Tuesday, December 14; and Wednesday, December 15. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join us in this exciting choral opportunity!

### **Environmental Mission Team Catalog Project**

The Environmental Mission Team would like to help you stop delivery of all of those unwanted catalogs which use so much paper and clog your mailbox. Just tear off the back page of those unwanted catalogs and leave them in the Church office in the envelope marked "Environmental Mission Team Catalog Project." A member of the team will either call the catalog publisher or fax them a request to stop delivery of the unwanted catalog. If you prefer, you may request the cancellation yourself. It usually takes a month or two for the publishers to remove a name from their mailing list, but it's a good move toward saving natural resources. Thanks for being a part of this endeavor!

### **Senior Transportation – Call-A-Ride**

If you are over sixty and need a ride to doctors' appointments, the pharmacy, grocery stores, physical therapists, the library, the Senior Center or even to visit with friends, Call-A-Ride is ready to give you a free ride within Greenwich between the hours of 9:00am and 3:30pm. Our volunteer drivers are most happy to accommodate you. Just call our office to make an appointment. The First Congregational Church is one of the founding sponsors of this program and continues to participate through its Outreach program. Call-A-Ride: 203-661-6633

### **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, will be reading *The Autobiography of Eleanor Roosevelt* starting after Christmas. The group meets every Thursday from 9:45 to 11:30 am in the church lounge. All are welcome. For details, call Marcia Livingston at 203-625-0772.

### **Rummage Room News**

On Monday, November 22nd, the Christmas Shop will open at the Rummage Room for the 2010 Christmas season, beginning at **10:00 am**. Come in and shop for your holiday decorations, new gifts for Christmas giving, and adult and children's clothing for your Christmas and New Year's wardrobe. There will be wonderful items at reasonable prices for your holiday pleasure.

**Wish list for November:** Christmas decorations, clothing for the holidays, new items for Christmas giving, bric-a-brac, shoes, jewelry, handbags, small furniture, children and adult clothing in clean, usable condition, including winter coats and jackets.

**Rummage Room Mission Statement:** The Rummage Room proceeds go to Women and Children’s Organizations who need your help during the holidays. As you are getting ready for this season in your own family, think of the families who will be doing with far less and try to make the Rummage Room your destination of choice for shopping and donating. It is the perfect time for us to remember that the task the Lord asks of us is to unwrap the gifts of human kindness and know that we are our sisters’ and brothers’ keepers!



# *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: The Members of The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. David D. Young

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

Associate Pastor for Christian Education: Rev. Susan Murtha

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

Minister of Pastoral Care: Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Director of Music: Dr. Craig Scott Symons

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