

*The First Congregational Church of Greenwich*  
*Founded in 1665*

**7 August 2016**

10 o'clock in the morning





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.



Welcome to The First Congregational Church of Greenwich on this beautiful Sunday morning! Please join us after the service for refreshments and conversation during Community Hour in the Memory Garden.

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### **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

\*All who are able please stand.

#### **PRELUDE**

Ah, Lord and God

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

#### **CALL TO COMMUNITY**

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

(Please sign and pass the red visitor pad found at the end of your pew.)

### **PRAISING GOD**

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: For the beauty of the summer day,

**People: And the comfort of friends nearby;**

Leader: For the invitation to love and be loved,

**People: For time set apart to nourish the soul,**

Leader: For time to go out into the world armed with love:

**All: For all these things we give thanks. Let us worship God.**

#### **CHORAL INTROIT**

#### **HYMN**

God of Abraham and Sarah

New Century (black) Hymnal 20

## **UNISON PRAYER**

**Holy God, you have called us to journey forward in faith and freedom, but way too often we prefer to play it safe. You have called us to move in a new direction, but we cling instead to the paths we know. You have called us to reach out to the stranger with love, but our impulse is to draw inward for protection. You have called us to live with abandon, in trust, but we live carefully in fear. Gracious God grant us the courage to not only to follow the way of Jesus, but also to be the way, the truth and the life to all of your children everywhere. In Christ name we pray. Amen.**

(Following the unison prayer, children will leave with Rosemary for Church School – Summer Faith)

## **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

### **FIRST LESSON**

Joe McBride

### **Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16**

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they

would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

From New Revised Standard Edition

## **ANTHEM**

O Lord, Support Us

Summer Choir

Carson Cooman (b. 1982)

O Lord, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done.

Then, in thy mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last.

## **SECOND LESSON**

**John 14: 5-7**

Thomas said to Jesus, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

From New Revised Standard Edition

## **SERMON**

The Way

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

## **HYMN**

In the Midst of New Dimensions New Century (black) Hymnal 391

## **RESPONDING TO GOD**

### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

### **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**

Eric Schless

**OFFERTORY SOLO**

Sally DeFord (b.1959)

Linnea Conley, mezzo soprano

This is my journey, like Israel of old.  
I travel through the wilderness so far away from home.  
Though dangers surround me, though the night is long,  
The Lord is my light, my beacon and guide, My strength and my song.

And I will be strong, I will walk unafraid.  
With the Lord as my companion every step along the way.  
Then come what may, I'll live with courage in my heart,  
Because I know, He is with me everywhere I go.

This is my journey, like Israel of old.  
I need not wander lost, nor seek to find my way alone,  
His presence before me is all that I require.  
The Lord is my light, my beacon and guide, My pillar of fire.

This is my journey, and nothing will I fear.  
The Lord my God will safely pilot me and keep my pathway sure.  
My help and my guardian to the journey's end.  
The Lord is my light, my beacon and guide, My Savior and Friend.

**\*DOXOLOGY**

New Century (black) Hymnal 779

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

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

This morning's communion is by intinction. Members and friends are invited to come forward up the aisle to one of the communion stations. All are welcome to the table of God!

## INVITATION

## PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

## UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, in gratitude, in deep gratitude,  
for this moment, this meal, these people.

We give ourselves to you.

Take us out to live as changed people

because we have shared this sacrament and cannot remain the  
same.

Ask much of us, expect much from us,

enable much by us, encourage many through us. Amen.

## GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

### \*HYMN

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 267

### \*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

Finale on 'Hyfrydol'

Henry Coleman (1888-1965)

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We have **child care for babies and toddlers** every Sunday in the  
Preschool classrooms. Your children are always welcome in child  
care for the entire worship service or for a respite time if needed. We  
also now have two rows in the back of the chapel reserved for  
parents with infants or little ones who are not ready for the Nursery  
where the parents can be comfortable and still be part of worship.  
Please see an usher if you need help finding either of these locations.

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.

Child care remains available at the 10:00 am service every Sunday for babies through 4 years old.

## NEWS AND NOTICES

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**Church School – “Bible Stories at the Beach” & “Summer Faith”**  
“Summer Faith” is a multi-age program during the 10 a.m. worship, for children ages 5-10. Children 3 and 4 years old are welcome in child care or in Summer Faith. Also, at 8 a.m. at Greenwich Point, between the Innis Arden Cottage and the Susie Baker Pavilion, there is a children's program - “Bible Stories at the Beach”. Upcoming sessions are: Aug 14, 21, 28, and Sept 4.

### **News from The Rummage Room 191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich**

**August Calendar:** The Rummage Room is closed for the next two weeks.

**Monday, August 22:** The Rummage Room will be celebrating its 52<sup>nd</sup> Grand Reopening with all ‘new’ merchandise. The doors open at 10:00 am. Mark your calendars as this will be the biggest event of the year at ‘The Best Little Shop in Town!’

**Tuesday, August 23:** Donations will be accepted 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. **Please do not leave donations before this date as there will be no one at The Rummage Room to process them.**

In the past 52 years, The Rummage Room has raised and allocated over 5 million dollars for organizations dedicated to helping women

and children in need. How difficult is it to raise this kind of money from a small shop in OG? Only 'next to impossible' describes the degree of difficulty, without its dedicated donors, shoppers and volunteers who so generously support this mission.

### **Summer Sings**

Come as you are from 7:30-9:30 on Wednesday, August 31 and, within two hours, we will have shared in an energized rehearsal and an 'instant performance' of great choral music. Music will be provided. Hospitality, refreshments, and fun are all included! No sign-up necessary, just come ready to sing. Donation of \$10 per person.

**Wednesday, August 31 — The BEST Anthems in the World!**  
Craig Scott Symons, conductor, Mark Swicegood, accompanist

### **Summer Choir – All Are Welcome!**

Please join us on Sunday mornings throughout the summer, starting at **9:00 am in the Meetinghouse** for a warm-up and rehearsal of the music being sung that morning. Come any Sunday that you are available to help lead the congregation in worship, and it's also a chance to experience worship from the choir loft. If you have any questions, please contact Craig Symons (ext. 22).

## **Refugee Task Force**

The Refugee Task Force needs help researching employment opportunities for a refugee family. We are assuming that there will be two adults who initially speak little or no English. Entry level jobs that require minimal English are needed to help the refugee family become self-sufficient. Being accessible by public transportation would be a plus.

If Church Council approves an application to sponsor a refugee family, it will be several months before they would arrive. However, we need to include information on the availability of jobs on any such application.

If you can help with this research or know of available jobs, please contact Jean Bruder at 203-661-1685 ([gfb Bruder1@verizon.net](mailto:gfb Bruder1@verizon.net)), or Mary Ferry at 203-637-9385 ([ferry600@gmail.com](mailto:ferry600@gmail.com)).





## *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. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

Transitional Associate Pastor: Rev. Meghan D. Young

Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Director of Music: Dr. Craig Scott Symons

Director of Family Ministries: Rosemary Lamie

Director of Church Administration & Finance: Steve Summerton

Administrative Assistant - Operations: Donna White

Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister

Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin, RN

Director of Preschool: Darla Kohler Steiner