

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665

14 August 2016

10 o'clock in the morning



(Photo: Hannah Doyle)

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.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

*All who are able please stand.

PRELUDE

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

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: The Earth is the Lord's,

And God's Earth is our home.

People: We live in God's World; we are not alone.

We share this life with the heavens and the earth,

With the waters and the land,

With trees and grasses,

With fish, birds, and animals,

With minerals and creatures of every form,

And with all our brothers and sisters.

Leader: God is good and everything God makes is good.

All: God is love and everything God makes is love's fruit.

Let us worship God!

CHORAL INTROIT

HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 66

UNISON PSALM

Psalm 148 (selected verses)

Praise the Lord!

Praise him, sun and moon;

praise him, all you shining stars!

Praise him, you highest heavens,

and you waters above the heavens!

Praise the Lord from the earth,

you sea monsters and all deeps,

Fire and hail, snow and frost,

stormy wind fulfilling his command!

Mountains and all hills,

fruit trees and all cedars!

Wild animals and all cattle,

creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples,

princes and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and women alike,

old and young together!

Praise the Lord!

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Ava Rose Vavricka, daughter of Alison Marsh Vavricka & Laura
Victoria Vavricka

BAPTISM PRAYER (in unison)

Gracious God, giver of life, you have called us by name, and pledge to each of us your faithful love. We pray today for your blessing on Ava, that you will watch over her and guide her as she grows in faith. Remind us of the promises of our own baptism, and renew our trust in you. Make us strong to obey your will and to serve you with joy, through the power of your Holy Spirit. All of this we pray as Jesus taught us saying,

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.

BAPTISMAL RESPONSE

Child of Blessing,
Child of Promise

New Century
(black) Hymnal 325

**Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign;
With this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.**

(During the Baptismal Response, children will leave with Rosemary for Church School – Summer Faith.)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Pat Larrabee
Thomas Woodman

Genesis 1: Select Verses

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God

said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

From New Revised Standard Edition

ANTHEM

Harvest Blessings, Richly Showered

Summer Choir

Vernon Hoyle (b. 1948)

Harvest blessings, richly show'red
By the God of love;

Field and garden, sweetly flow'red;
Heav'n's blue sky above.
For these mercies now we sing
Grateful praise to God our King.

Nature's wonders yearly sharing,
Thank we now our Lord,
Who, for all his creatures caring,
Doth his gifts afford.
For these mercies now we sing
Grateful praise to God our King.

Loving God and loving neighbour,
Man in joy doth reap
Harvest of the farmer's labour,
Harvest of the deep.
For these mercies now we sing
Grateful praise to God our King.

He who took the bread and brake it,
Blessed it with the wine,
Common food of earth doth make it
Sustenance divine.
For these mercies now we sing
Grateful praise to God our King.

Harvest blessings,
richly show'red
By the God of might;
Body, soul and mind, empow'red
Praise him in the height!

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 6: 25-34

“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into

barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well.

“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Let the day’s own trouble be sufficient for the day.”
From New Revised Standard Edition

SERMON

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

HYMN

All Things Bright and Beautiful

New Century (black) Hymnal 31

RESPONDING TO GOD

PASTORAL PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

Donna Hascher

OFFERTORY SOLO

Fear Not Ye, O Israel

Dudley Buck (1839-1909)
Hanna Golodinskii, soprano

Behold! There shall be a day, when the watchman upon the mountaintop shall cry aloud:
"Arise, ye! Arise, ye! Get ye up unto Mount Zion, unto the Lord your God!" For thus saith the Lord:

Fear not ye, O Israel, neither be thou still dismayed.
Refrain thine voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears;

For I, the Lord, am with thee, and will save thee,
I have loved thee with everlasting love, and have redeemed thee.

Why criest thou in thine affliction?
Why mournest thou in nightly watches?
I have redeemed thee. Therefore, thus saith the Lord:

Sing ye aloud with gladness! Thy mourning is turned to joy!
I even I have redeemed thee. Be glad and rejoice!
Thy sorrows now are ended, and great shall be thy peace.
Rejoice! Be glad!
Then fear ye not, fear not, O Israel, neither be thou still dismayed.
I have redeemed thee, redeemed thee.

***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**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

***HYMN**

God of the Sparrow,
God of the Whale

New Century
(black) Hymnal 32

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Postlude in Bb

John West (1863-1929)

The flowers in the meeting house this morning are given in joyful
celebration of the baptism of Ava Rose Avricka.

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. 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

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 21, 28, and Sept 4.

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

The 52nd Grand Reopening of the Rummage Room, Monday, August 22: The doors will open at 10:00 am. The Rummage Room will have been completely restocked with ‘new,’ gently-used merchandise. You will be rewarded with an amazing variety of quality

goods at great prices. Additional merchandise will be put out daily the remainder of the week!

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.**

Thought for the Month: Life is a series of miracles, and the merchandise the Rummage Room receives from our donors year after year is truly a miracle! Opening week sales contribute significantly to the funds distributed by The Women's Fellowship to organizations who have given to those in need for 52 years. With your help we can make yet another miracle in 2016.

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), or Mary Ferry at 203-637-9385 (ferry600@gmail.com).



The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

108 Sound Beach Avenue,
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203-637-1791
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