

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

**Epiphany Sunday**  
**8 January 2017**  
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 this service of worship at The First Congregational Church of Greenwich on this Sunday morning. Please join us after worship for our Community Hour in the Auditorium.

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### **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

\*All who are able please stand.

#### **PRELUDE**

The Old Year Now Has Passed Away

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

#### **CALL TO COMMUNITY**

(Please sign and pass the red Fellowship Pad found at the end of your pew.)

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

### **PRAISING GOD**

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

James Mair

Leader: Great Spirit, you have turned your face earthward and opened your heart to your children.

**People: And so, O God, do we turn to you now.**

Leader: We turn to you for purpose and correction.

**People: For joy and peace,**

Leader: For a way out of hopeless situations,

**People: For justice,**

Leader: For forgiveness,

**People: For love.**

Leader: We turn to you, O God, for all these things offered through Jesus the Christ the maker of redemption and the bringer of hope.

**People: Amen.**

#### **CHORAL INTROIT**

**\* HYMN**

Amazing Grace

New Century (black) Hymnal 547

**GATHERING PRAYER**

**O God, in our spiritual wandering, you search us and know us and long to bring us back to you. In our anxious quest to be all that we can be, we lose touch with our loved ones and our own true selves. When we take ourselves too seriously, remind us that we are only human. Make us patient with our mistakes and the mistakes of others, to forgive as you forgive us that we may be born anew. And, above and beyond everything else, remind us that we are precious, not because we are good but because you have accepted us for who we are and called us to be your very own. All of this we pray in Jesus' name, whose prayer we pray 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.**

(Following the Lord's Prayer, Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th graders will go to the Auditorium for an introduction to their new Rotation Workshop. 3rd graders go to their classroom—the Rainbow Door Room 104 on the lower level. "678" meets in the Binney Conference Room behind the stage.)

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

**FIRST LESSON**

Jean Watkins

**Isaiah 43: 1-7**

But now thus says the Lord,  
he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:  
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,  
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

Because you are precious in my sight,  
and honored, and I love you,

I give people in return for you,  
nations in exchange for your life.

Do not fear, for I am with you;  
I will bring your offspring from the east,  
and from the west I will gather you;

I will say to the north, "Give them up,"  
and to the south, "Do not withhold;

bring my sons from far away  
and my daughters from the end of the earth—  
everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made."

--New Revised Standard Version

## **ANTHEM**

Arise, Shine!

The Chancel Choir

Richard Shephard (b. 1949)

Arise, shine, for thy light is come.  
And the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.  
And the gentiles shall come to thy light.

## **SECOND LESSON**

### **Mark 1: 4-11**

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not

worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

### **SERMON**

God’s Whisper

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

### **\* HYMN**

O Holy Dove of God Descending New Century (black) Hymnal 285

### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

## **RESPONDING TO GOD**

### **CALL TO OFFERING**

Andrea Woodman

### **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

From the Rising of the Sun

The Chancel Choir

F. A. Gore Ouseley (1823-1889)

From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same  
my name shall be great, among the Gentiles;  
and in ev’ry place incense shall be offer’d up unto my name:  
for my name shall be great among the heathen, thus saith the Lord!

### **\* DOXOLOGY**

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 515

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all  
creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### **\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

## GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

### \* HYMN

Like a Tree Beside the Waters      New Century (black) Hymnal 313

### \* BENEDICTION

### \* CHORAL RESPONSE

### POSTLUDE

Postlude on a Theme of  
Orlando Gibbons

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

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Directly following the service, one of our pastors will remain in the Chapel to be available to anyone who has a pastoral care concern.

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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.

### NEWS AND NOTICES

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### TODAY

#### Church School

Today we begin our new Rotation Workshops on the The Lord's Prayer. Kindergarten & 1st graders will be in the Daniels Center in

and near the kitchen. 2nd graders will be in the Red Door. 4th and 5th grades will be in the front of the Daniels Center. “678” will start in the Binney Conference Room. Next Sunday is a Church School Service Sunday and in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we will engage in a service project. Rotation workshops resume on January 22.

### **Blood Pressure Screening**

Betsy Kreuter, PT, is available for blood pressure screenings during community hour in the auditorium following today’s worship service.

### **Choir Rehearsals**

No Cherub Choir

Children’s Choir: 3rd floor 11:15–12:00

Youth Choir: Meetinghouse 11:15-12:15

### **UPCOMING**

#### **Women’s Fellowship Tea: Thursday, January 19 at 3:30 p.m.**

Enjoy an afternoon of tea and guest speaker Catalina Horak from Neighbors Link in Stamford, whose mission is “to strengthen the whole community by actively enhancing the healthy integration of immigrants.”

Catalina Horak, Executive Director of Neighbors Link, will present a program about their work in Fairfield County, and how they will assist us when we are assigned a refugee family.

#### **“The Spiritual Child” author to speak at First Church on Sunday, January 22 at 11:30 AM**

Research by the Spiritual Child Team at Columbia Teachers College have revealed some remarkable data about the effect of spirituality in children and their wellbeing as teenagers. These findings are relevant for all ages and that is why we have invited Dr. Lisa Miller to be with us to share a light lunch and to dialogue about the findings of her 10 years of study. Dr. Miller is Professor of Psychology and Education

at Columbia University, Teachers College and is Founder of the Spirituality Mind Body Institute, the first Ivy League graduate program in spirituality and psychology. Dr. Miller is the author of "The Spiritual Child; The New Science of Parenting for Health and Lifelong Thriving." A graduate of Yale, she received her doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania from Martin Seligman. She frequently is cited in print and in on-line media and has appeared on CNN, Fox News, MSNBC, and NBC Today Show as an expert. She lives in Connecticut with her husband and three children. Dr. Miller's book is available to purchase for \$10 in the church office during the week, and on Sundays during Fellowship Hour.

### **Caregivers Support Group**

Please join us for the Caregivers Support Group for those who currently are, recently have been, or no longer are, a caregiver for a family member or friend. The group offers a confidential place where participants can share experiences, learn new information, and receive emotional support and comfort from others in similar situations. The group meets on the second Sunday of the month from 11:15 am - 12:15 pm in the Binney Conference Room. Dorothy Mueller, FCCOG Stephen Minister, is the group facilitator. For more information, please call Dorothy at (203)588-9596, or email: [dorothymueller1@gmail.com](mailto:dorothymueller1@gmail.com)

### **Caring Ministries / Soup for the Soul / Frozen Dinners**

Interested in sharing a container of soup, chili, or a small serving of a dinner casserole with members of our congregation or other friends of the church? If so, please bring a frozen container to the church office with a list of all the ingredients. Leave a note for Sue Asselin in her mailbox in the reception area or a voice message at 203-637-1791 extension 21, so she will know we have the food to give. Containers are also available in the church office. Any questions, call Sue or Mary-Ann Assing 203 532 0082 ([mazalman@aol.com](mailto:mazalman@aol.com)).

## **Faith Formation and Education Committee**

What better way to start the New Year than with a renewed appreciation for the spiritual practice of daily prayer? We invite the congregation to reflect on the words of the Lord's Prayer now and during Fellowship Hour where you pick your favorite part and describe what it means to you. Then place them on the Faith Formation Tree.

This month the Church School will also focus on The Lord's Prayer each Sunday in their Rotation sessions. They will explore its meaning and expand their faith through art, science and cooking. We will share their projects and culminate the month at a Faith Formation Breakfast on Sunday, January 29 at 9:00 AM in the Daniel's Center.

### **Announcing the 2017 "Souper Bowl" Sunday Soup Sale**

Calling all cooks! It's time to show-off your soup-making skills once again by volunteering to make and donate a quart (or quarts) of soup to this year's annual "Souper Bowl Sunday" soup sale to benefit the FCCOG Women's Fellowship!

The sale will take place in the auditorium on Sunday, February 5, 2016 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and quarts homemade of soup will be sold for \$10 each.

Please sign-up to donate in the church office or after church in the auditorium for the next several Sundays. Restaurant-style food containers will be available for pick-up starting this Sunday after church in the auditorium.

This annual event has proven to be an easy, inexpensive and popular way to contribute to the community for both those who love to cook and those who love to eat!

Please contact Jenny Gartner at [jenniferhgartner@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferhgartner@gmail.com) for more information.

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

**Monday, January 8:** Good winter clothing available, including ski clothing. Visit [www.fccog.org/the-rummage-room/](http://www.fccog.org/the-rummage-room/) for items 50% off for the week.

**Manager Leanne's Wish List:** Spring clothing; items for Valentine's Day, blouses; jewelry and handbags.

**Tax Slips:** Only one tax slip is required during the year for 2017. Ask any volunteer for help.

**Shop Hours:** 10:00 - 5:00 pm Monday to Friday & 10 - 10:00 - 12:30 Saturday.

**Donation Hours:** 9:30 - 4:30 pm Monday to Thursday & 9:30 - 12:30 pm Friday and Saturday.

**Thought for 2017:** People in need often cling to the notion that 'Hope' is just around the corner. The Rummage Room has been "just around the corner" for 52 years, so when you shop, donate, and volunteer, you are giving much needed hope to women, children and families in need through organizations that receive The Rummage Room's financial aid.

**Next Week at First Church**  
**Sunday, January 15**

Rev. Patrick Collins preaching

Music by the Chancel Choir  
Craig Scott Symons, directing  
Praise the Lord, Ye Servants—John Blow



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

108 Sound Beach Avenue,  
Old Greenwich, Connecticut, 06870  
203-637-1791  
*www.fccog.org*

Ministers: The Members of The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

Senior Pastor: Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

Associate Pastor: Rev. Patrick Collins

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

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