

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665

15 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.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

*All who are able please stand.

PRELUDE
Pastorale

Tim Pyper, Guest Organist/Director
J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

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

PRAISING GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Leader: I waited patiently for the Lord;
He inclined and heard my cry.

People: I will sing, sing a new song.

Leader: God lifted me up out of the pit,
Out of the miry clay.

People: I will sing, sing a new song.

Leader: God set my feet upon a rock,
And made my footsteps firm.

Many will see,

Many will see and hear.

People: I will sing, sing a new song.

How long to sing this song?

How long?

CHORAL INTROIT

*** HYMN**

I Sing the Mighty Power of God New Century (black) Hymnal 12

PRAYER OF INVOCATION
(Based on Psalm 46)

Rev. Patrick Collins

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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, all church school children will go to the Daniels Center for a Service Sunday project.)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Phil Bradford

Isaiah 42: 5-13

Thus says God, the Lord,
 who created the heavens and stretched them out,
 who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
 and spirit to those who walk in it:
I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,
 I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
 a light to the nations,
 to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
 from the prison those who sit in darkness.
I am the Lord, that is my name;
 my glory I give to no other,
 nor my praise to idols.

See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.
Sing to the Lord a new song,
his praise from the end of the earth!
Let the sea roar and all that fills it,
the coastlands and their inhabitants.
Let the desert and its towns lift up their voice,
the villages that Kedar inhabits;
let the inhabitants of Sela sing for joy,
let them shout from the tops of the mountains.
Let them give glory to the Lord,
and declare his praise in the coastlands.
The Lord goes forth like a soldier,
like a warrior he stirs up his fury;
he cries out, he shouts aloud,
he shows himself mighty against his foes.”

--New Revised Standard Version

ANTHEM

Praise the Lord, Ye Servants

The Chancel Choir

John Blow (1649-1708)

Praise the Lord, ye servants: O praise the Name of the Lord.
Blessed be the Name of the Lord: from this time forth for evermore.

SECOND LESSON

Psalm 40: 1-5

I waited patiently for the Lord;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.
He drew me up from the desolate pit,
out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.
He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear,
and put their trust in the Lord.
Happy are those who make

the Lord their trust,
who do not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after false gods.
You have multiplied, O Lord my God,
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;
none can compare with you.
Were I to proclaim and tell of them,
they would be more than can be counted.

--New Revised Standard Version

SERMON

Sing a New Song

Rev. Patrick Collins

*** HYMN**

To God Compose a Song of Joy New Century (black) Hymnal 36

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

Marilyn Derr

ORGAN OFFERTORY

Now Pray We to the Holy Spirit Dietrich Buxtehude (c.1637-1707)

*** 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**

God of Change and Glory

New Century (black) Hymnal 177

*** BENEDICTION**

*** CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE

Prelude in C

J. S. Bach

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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.

The flowers in the Meetinghouse this morning are given in loving memory of George J. Helmer III from Robyn, Heidi and Jay Helmer.

This morning, we welcome our guest organist/director Tim Pyper, who holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Cornell University. From 2010-2015, he was Director of Music at the Cathedral Church of the Redeemer in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. An accomplished recitalist, Tim has won First Prize in numerous regional and national organ competitions, and his solo recitals have been broadcast by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and National Public Radio's "Pipedreams". He presently divides his time between western Massachusetts and New York City where he is a teacher-trainee of the Alexander Technique.

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.

NEWS AND NOTICES

TODAY

Church School

Today is a Church School Service Sunday. In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we will engage in a service project when we will learn about supporting a refugee family that our church hopes to sponsor soon. Rotation workshops on “The Lord’s Prayer” will resume on January 22. Hold the date: January 29 at 9am is another intergenerational Faith Formation Breakfast. Everyone is invited!

Parish Nurse

Sue Asselin, RN will be available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations during Community Hour, following today’s worship service. During the week she is available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays by appointment, which can be made by calling extension 21.

Choir Rehearsals

There are no choir rehearsals today.

UPCOMING

Nights Off

Nights Off will be meeting at the home of Ginny Breismeister, 22 Keofferam Road in Old Greenwich on January 16, 2017 at 6:30 pm. We will be making soup to sell at the Souper Bowl Sunday soup sale being held on February 5th. Please come and bring what you would like to drink and an appetizer to share. Join in in the fun—if you’d like to carpool, please meet at church at 6:15 pm and drive over together. Contact Annette at (203) 912-7966 or (203) 964-8345 if you have any questions.

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.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting: Tuesday, January 24th

Welcome all! Whether you are a current prayer shawl volunteer, a curious knitter, or someone who would like to contribute by helping to tie the fringe and sew on the labels, we need you! The intent of this meeting is to share the instructions for the prayer shawls, ask questions of our seasoned knitters, and to discuss ways for us to work and pray together as we continue this important ministry. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the Binney Conference Room. If you are unable to attend, but would like to participate in the Ministry, please email Sheila Bennett at sheilabennett@optonline.net.

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 .

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).

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 for more information.

News from The Rummage Room

191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich

Monday, January 15: Go to www.fccog.org/the-rummage-room/ to see weekly sale items.

Manager Leanne’s Wish List for January: Valentine’s clothing/decorations; spring clothing,

Shop Hours: 10-5: pm Monday-Friday & 10-1:00 pm on Saturday.

Donations Hours: 9:30-4:30 pm Monday and Thursday & 9:30 - 12:30 pm on Saturday.

Mission Objective: Proceeds from The Rummage Room are distributed by the Women's Fellowship Allocations Committee to organizations that support women, children and families in need.

Tomorrow is Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: He said in one of his speeches: "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." Dr. King, who was a victim of gun violence himself, would be saddened that such acts have become even more pronounced since his death.

**Next Week at First Church
Sunday, January 22**

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr. preaching

Music by the Chancel Choir
Craig Scott Symons, directing
I Dream a World—Arr. Andre Thomas
He Never Failed Me Yet—Robert Ray



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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