

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

**26 February 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**

Salvation Now Has Come for All

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

Anonymous

#### **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**

Leader: The Glory of God transfigures the everyday!

**People: The light of God transfigures familiar faces.**

Leader: At the heights of our worship, may God's presence shine through the commonplace.

**People: At the depths of our pain and struggle, may God's presence give us courage and peace.**

**All: May God's beauty, shining in the face of Christ, illumine all our days!**

#### **CHORAL INTROIT**

#### **\* HYMN**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 7

## **GATHERING PRAYER**

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

**Radiant God, source of light,  
as you surrounded Jesus with your glory,  
so you come to us in penetrating brightness.  
You catch us off guard and expose our weakness.  
We choose the limelight while you call us to explore the  
shadows and brighten the darkness.  
We seek the spectacular while you bind up the broken in  
countless acts of mercy.  
We seek to stay on the mountain or in a comfortable pew  
while you walk to the valleys of need.  
Radiant God, fill us with light and courage to carry good  
news into all the corners of the world and to bring back the  
joy of your presence.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Rev. Patrick Collins

## **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, Rotation classes will start in the Daniels Center. They will then go their classrooms: Kindergarten & 1st graders in the Red Door; 2nd graders in the Green Door. 4th and 5th grades will be in the Daniels Center. "678" will go directly to the Binney Conference Room and 3rd graders will meet in their classroom – the Rainbow Door.)

## **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

### **FIRST LESSON**

Pat Mendelsohn

**Exodus 34: 29-35**

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking

with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

—New Standard Revised Version

## **ANTHEM**

Praise Ye the Lord

The Chancel Choir

Luigi Cherubini (1760-1842)

Hanna Golodinskii, soprano

Praise ye the Lord, all ye nations, ye people, praise him.  
For his merciful kindness is great toward us.  
And the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

## **SECOND LESSON**

### **Matthew 17: 1-9**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

--New Revised Standard Version

**SERMON**

La La Land

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

**\* HYMN**

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

New Century (black) Hymnal 433

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

Rev. Patrick Collins

**RESPONDING TO GOD**

**CALL TO OFFERING**

Paul Kretschmann

**ORGAN OFFERTORY**

Voluntary in D major

John Stanley (1712-1786)

**\* 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**

We Have Come at  
Christ's Own Bidding

New Century (black) Hymnal 182

**\* BENEDICTION**

**\* CHORAL RESPONSE**

**POSTLUDE**

Improvisation on “Immortal, Invisible”

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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 will have another lesson on "Festivals and Celebrations in the Bible" as a prelude to Lent. 3rd graders will prepare for their "Bible Jeopardy" challenge to their parents. Next Sunday we begin our workshops for Lent.

#### **Choir Rehearsals**

All choirs will meet today in their normal places/times:

Cherub Choir: Rainbow Room (basement) 11:15-11:45

Children's Choir: Third Floor 11:15-12:00

Youth Choir: Meetinghouse 11:15-12:15

#### **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.

### **Sunday Afternoons Live**

Our popular Sunday Afternoons Live series returns today in the acoustic splendor of the First Church Auditorium. Each Sunday at 4:00 p.m., a wonderful performance by outstanding local and national artists will surely delight all in attendance. Tickets are \$20 for each performance and are available at the door. As always, school-aged children are free.

#### **Today, February 26: Peter & Will Anderson, Jazz Saxophonists**

Peter and Will Anderson are one of the most extraordinary set of brothers performing music today, and are known for their unique renditions of classic jazz songs. Their ensemble has performed in over 35 U.S. States, toured Japan, and featured four times in NYC's famed "Highlights in Jazz" series. "Virtuosos on clarinet and saxophone" (New York Times).

## **UPCOMING**

### **Sign Up Today "Feast and Fast at First Church"**

#### **Tuesday, February 28, 6:30 – 8:00 pm, Daniels Center**

It's our version of Mardi Gras! We will feast, party with Mardi Gras beads, make our own masks, listen to Mardi Gras music and even end with a devotional time. Visit [fccog.org](http://fccog.org) to RSVP or sign up on the easel during Community Hour. There is no charge but we would like to be prepared for everyone who will join us. Also, if you have a waffle iron to loan us for the evening, let us know that too. All ages are invited! By all means, invite your friends.

### **Ashes to Go: March 1**

Start your morning on Ash Wednesday, March 1, with a new approach to a centuries-old Christian tradition, in the parking lot of the First Congregational Church from 7:00 am to 9:00 am!

We are taking part in a new nationwide movement that has clergy and lay people visiting transit stops, street corners, coffee shops, and college campuses to mark the foreheads of interested passers-by with ashes and invite them to repent of past wrongdoing and invite them to experience the power of God's eternal love and grace in an informal way.



## **Upcoming Sunday Afternoon Live Performances**

### **March 5: Wholly Brass**

The Wholly Brass has been entertaining and dazzling audiences since 1996. With performances at New York's Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Hall, and many more prestigious venues, Wholly Brass brings music in an educational and entertaining fashion everywhere it goes. The group was founded and nurtured while the players were still students at The Juilliard School. The repertoire of the group includes classical masterpieces, jazz, Broadway, world and Hollywood music. To date, Wholly Brass has performed in over 30 states in United States in concerts and special events.

### **March 12: First Church Musicians LIVE!**

All of your favorite First Church musicians wrapped up in one concert! These outstanding musicians have graciously donated their services to make this a special afternoon of vocal music to benefit the Music Ministry at First Church. Performers include Linnea Conley, Hanna Golodinski, Carolyn Paulus, Drew Seigla, Gianna Barone, Vasil Golodinskii, Craig Symons, Vance Briceland, Carol Woodman, Tom Woodman.

### **Second Hour: March 5**

We are pleased that Rabbi Bruce Freyer of Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester will speak at Second Hour about his experiences over several decades with Afghan people. The talk will take place at 11:20, following the March 5 service, in the Auditorium.

### **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) 588-9896, or email: [dorothymueller1@gmail.com](mailto:dorothymueller1@gmail.com) .

## **News from The Rummage Room**

**191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich**

**Monday, February 27 through Wednesday, March 1:** Winter clearance sale begins. 50% off everything in the shop!

**Three-day Famous Bag Sales Begin Thursday, March 2!** 1st day of Bag Sale: Everything you can ‘stuff’ in a bag: \$12

**Friday, March 3:** 2nd day of Bag Sale: Everything you can ‘pack’ in a bag: \$8

**Saturday, March 4:** 3rd day of Bag Sale: Everything you can ‘cram’ in a bag: \$1

**Saturday, March 4:** Shop closes at 1:00 pm.

**Monday, March 6:** The Rummage Room reopens at 1:00 pm with everything for spring. And since you are thinking about spring, also think about cleaning out your closets!

**Manager Leanne’s Wish List:** Framed art; cotton sweaters; spring handbags.

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

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

**Thought for the week:** Know that the sun is there even when it is not shining. Believe in love even when you are alone. Trust in God even when He is silent.

### **At Home Dinners: “For the Fun of It!”**

You are invited to join an old tradition at First Church, At Home Dinners. Everyone is welcome! We are looking for six to eight folks who will be willing to host a group the size of your choosing in your home. The dinner will be pot luck or perhaps a wine and cheese if you prefer. There is no agenda, just come and meet some people you have not met before and greet old friends as well. Dinners will be offered between Friday, March 17th, St. Patrick’s Day, and Sunday March 26th. Please let Ginny Breismeister, ([ginnyb@fccog.org](mailto:ginnyb@fccog.org)) or Prill Meyer, ([prillmeyer@optonline.net](mailto:prillmeyer@optonline.net)) know that you are willing to host a gathering. Look for sign up sheets in the auditorium, and a link to sign up, when homes and dates have been finalized. What a wonderful way to have a party and celebrate our church family!

**Next Week at First Church  
Sunday, March 5**

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr., preaching

Music by the Chancel Choir  
Oh, How Amiable—Ralph Vaughn Williams

Drew Seigla, tenor  
So Art Thou to Me—Arr. K. Lee Scott

Music by the Youth Choir  
The Solid Rock—Arr. Dale Petersen



## **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

Cover Art: Cornelis Monsma, 'The Transfiguration'