

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665

5 March 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

O Man, Bewail They Grievous Fall

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

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

Catherine Ziac

Leader: The season of Lent calls us to journey into the wilderness, to anticipate that final trip to Jerusalem.

People: Lent calls us to the cutting edge, when the wheat falls to the ground and new life comes forth.

Leader: Lent not only calls us to give up something, but also invites us to participate in the mystery of God-with-us.

All: Loving God, by your grace, call us from grief into gladness, despair into hope, estrangement into right relations with each other and with the earth.

CHORAL INTROIT

*** HYMN**

O Love, How Deep,
How Broad, How High

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 150

GATHERING PRAYER

Rev. Patrick Collins

Loving God, we long for wholeness within and without. We are divided by race and wealth, by politics and religious beliefs. We hunger for healing and deep meaning within life. We thirst for peace in our families, our nation and our world. Emerging from the heart of Christ, you come to us in reassuring love. The power of your Spirit blesses our living with hope and feeds us in joy. In the unity of that Spirit we draw together to sing and pray as you own dear renewed children. Refresh us now as we open who we are to who we may yet become. We ask these things in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, who taught us to 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.

ANTHEM

The Solid Rock

The Youth Choir
Arr. Dale Peterson (b. 1948)
Carolyn Paulus, Director
Vance Briceland, piano

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face,

I rest upon unchanging grace;
In ev'ry rough and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, His covenant, His blood,
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh may I then in Him be found,
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the Throne.

(Following the Youth Choir's Anthem, 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 with Patrick and 3rd graders will meet in their classroom – the Rainbow Door.)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Jean Watkins

Psalm 63: 1-8

O God, you are my God, I seek you,
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.
So I will bless you as long as I live;
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.
My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips
when I think of you on my bed,
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;

for you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand upholds me..

—New Standard Revised Version

SOLO

So Art Thou to Me

Drew Seigla, tenor

Arr. K. Lee Scott (b. 1950)

As the bridegroom to his chosen, as the king unto his realm,
as the keep unto the castle, as the pilot to the helm,
so, Lord, art thou to me.

As the fountain in the garden, as the candle in the dark,
as the treasure in the coffer, as the manna in the ark,
so, Lord, art thou to me.

As the music at the banquet, as the stamp unto the seal,
as the medicine to the fainting, as the wine-cup at the meal,
so, Lord, art thou to me.

As the ruby in the setting, as the honey in the comb,
as the light within the lantern, as the father in the home,
so, Lord, art thou to me.

As the sunshine in the heavens, as the image in the glass,
as the fruit unto the fig-tree, as the dew unto the grass,
so, Lord, art thou to me.

SECOND LESSON

Mark 1: 9-13

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." And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

--New Revised Standard Version

SERMON

Lenten Solo

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl., Jr.

*** HYMN**

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth,
The peace that was meant to be.

With God as our Father
family all are we,
Let us walk with each other
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me,
Let this be the moment now;
With every step I take,
Let this be my solemn vow

To take each moment and live each moment
In peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

Shirley Flierl

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O How Amiable

The Chancel Choir
R. V. Williams (1872-1958)

O how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts! My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord. My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God.

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house. They will be always praising thee. The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us; prosper thou the work of our hands upon us. O prosper thou our handiwork.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

*** 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**

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

RECEIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

In the tradition of our church, let us partake of the bread (gluten-free) as it is served, remembering our individual uniqueness in the eyes of God and our diversity within the Body of Christ. Let us hold the cup (grape juice) until all have been served, remembering our oneness with God and our unity in the Body of Christ.

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 the Living Bread 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

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 63

* BENEDICTION

* CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Marche

Pierre Kunc (1865-1941)

* * *

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 their fathers, James Anderson III and Donald Winston Tufts by Ty and Cindy Anderson.

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 we will begin our workshops for Lent. Kindergarten & 1st grade will be in the Preschool Red Door, 2nd grade will be in the Green Door, 4th & 5th grade will be in the Daniels Center. Some of our private school kids will be going on vacation starting next weekend. We wish for you fun, rest and great family times!

Second Hour: Today in the Auditorium

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 today's service, in the Auditorium.

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

CPR - AED Refresher Classes:

Saturday, March 11, 9:00 to 10:00 am

This class is offered to individuals already certified in CPR, such as those who took the American Heart Association CPR course in 2016. (That certification is good for 2 years.) This non-mandatory class provides an excellent opportunity for review and hands-on practice. Attendees must sign up. Please see Sue Asselin to ask any questions or to sign up, or call extension 21 or email susana@fccog.org.

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, 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.

UPCOMING

Upcoming Sunday Afternoon Live Performances 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.

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.

News from The Rummage Room

191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich

Monday, March 6: The Rummage Room is 'All about Spring'. Every clothing rack, every shelf, every basket, and every nook and cranny is filled with new and gently used spring clothing for women, men, and children. So come in and get it while it's hot! There is new artwork; spring hats; jewelry; shoes; glassware—you name it, the Rummage Room has it or it is coming. Don't miss the spring windows decorated by Leanne Meyer and Nancy Hamilton.

The donations for the Rummage Room's 'Opening Interlude Into Spring' have been amazing. For you who have not cleaned out your

closets . . . please be inspired soon! Your donations are needed for any and all seasons. Thanks for continuing to separate your donations and bringing in only salable goods.

Manager Leanne's Wish List: Everything!

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 us all: God has given us many gifts; the joy of laughter; the comfort of friends; the opportunity to help others—like donating, shopping and volunteering—plus the gift of appreciation from those who have received much needed help from the proceeds of the Rummage Room over the years.

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) or Prill Meyer, (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 12

Rev. Patrick Collins, preaching

Music by the Chancel Choir
I Will Lift Up My Eyes—Leo Sowerby
Carolyn Paulus, Soprano



The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

108 Sound Beach Avenue,
Old Greenwich, Connecticut, 06870
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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