

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

**9 April 2017**

**Palm Sunday**

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**

Beside Quiet Waters

How Can I Keep from Singing?

The Palmer Handbell Choir

Dan R. Edwards

Sondra Tucker

#### **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**

Mariel Laffan

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;  
God's steadfast love endures forever!

**People: This is the gate of the Lord;  
the righteous shall enter through it.**

Leader: The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

**People: This is the Lord's doing;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**People: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Leader: Bind the festal procession with branches,  
up to the horns of the altar.

**All: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good,  
God's steadfast love endures forever.**

(Psalm 118, selected verses)

**\* PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

**\* HYMN**

All Glory, Laud & Honor Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 155

(In the spirit of Palm Sunday, you are encouraged to wave your palm branches as we raise our voices to welcome and bless Jesus Christ in our midst. Children are invited to join the processional; please follow the Chancel Choir and then return to your seats at the end of the hymn.)

**GATHERING PRAYER**

Rev. Patrick Collins

**Humble and riding on a donkey,  
we greet you;  
acclaimed by crowds and caroled by children,  
we cheer you;  
moving from the peace of the countryside to the corridors of  
power,  
we salute you: Christ our King.  
You are giving the beast of burden  
a new dignity;  
you are giving majesty  
a new face;  
you are giving those who long for redemption  
A new song to sing.**

**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.**

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### FIRST LESSON

Barbara Norrgard

#### Zachariah 9: 9-10

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!  
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!  
Lo, your king comes to you;  
triumphant and victorious is he,  
humble and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.  
He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
and the war-horse from Jerusalem;  
and the battle bow shall be cut off,  
and he shall command peace to the nations;  
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

—New Revised Standard Version

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### SECOND LESSON

#### Luke 19: 29-40

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

"Blessed is the king  
who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Peace in heaven,

and glory in the highest heaven!"

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

—New Revised Standard Version

## SERMON

Takin' It to the Streets

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

## \* HYMN

The Palms

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O'er all the way green palms and blos - soms gay  
His word goes forth, and peo - ple by its might.  
Sing and re - joice, O blest Je - ru - sa - lem...

Are strewn this day in fes - tal <sup>3</sup> - tal prep - a - ra - tion.  
Once more re - gain free - dom from de - gra - da - tion.  
Of all thy sons sing the e - man - ci - pa - tion.

Where Je - sus comes to wipe our tears a - way  
Hu - man - i - ty doth give to each his right  
Through bound - less love the Christ of Beth - le - hem

E'en now the throng to welcome him pre - pare, Join all and sing, His  
While those in dark - ness are restored to light.  
Brings faith and hope to thee for - ev - er - more.

name de - clare, Let ev' - ry voice re - sound with ac - cla - ma - tion, Ho

san - na! Praise to the Lord! Bless him who cometh to bring us sal

va - - - - tion!

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**PASTORAL PRAYER**

Rev. Patrick Collins

**RESPONDING TO GOD**

**CALL TO OFFERING**

Paul Kretschmann

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

The Chancel Choir

Sing a Loud Hosanna

Mark Schweizer

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer King!  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal son,  
Who in the Lord's name comest, the King and Blessed One.  
The company of angels are praising Thee on High,  
And mortal men and all things created make reply.  
The people of the Hebrews with palms before Thee went;  
Our prayer and praise and anthems before Thee we present.  
Hosanna in the Highest!  
To Thee, before Thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;  
To Thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.  
Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.  
Come, sing a loud Hosanna!

**\* 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**

Ride On! Ride On in Majesty

New Century (black) Hymnal 215

**\* BENEDICTION**

## \* CHORAL RESPONSE

### POSTLUDE

O World, I Now Must Leave Thee

Johannes Brahms

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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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The calla lilies in the Meetinghouse on this Palm Sunday are given in loving memory of our parents, Margaret and Carleton Gisborne, by Claire Henry and Ruth Reed and our families.

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

There are no church school classes today or next Sunday; however, we do have Child Care as usual. For these two Sundays, 3's and 4's may join child care in the Preschool Blue Door if they are unable to be in church. Also today, upon arrival in church, children are invited to see where their parents are sitting in the church and then, with their palms in hand, go to the auditorium to meet up with Patrick and

prepare to join in the Palm Procession at the beginning of the service. Then they will join their parents in the pews.

### **Choir Rehearsals**

The following choirs will meet today in their normal places/times:

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

Children's Choir: Daniels Center 11:15-12:00

Youth Choir: Meetinghouse 11:15-12:15

### **Prayer Net**

The Faith Formation and Education Committee have designed a prayer practice for lent which Patrick introduced earlier in the season. This practice was inspired by an installation at the Ely Cathedral in England. When the Cathedral was built, Ely was an island, in a sea of rivers & swamps. Fishing formed an important part of people's livelihood. Jesus' first followers were also fishermen. Yet Jesus called them to leave their nets and follow him. This prayer net serves to remind us of Jesus' call and of the universality of our prayers. Return as often as you'd like to tie a piece of yarn as a symbol of a prayer. It can express the prayer of your heart without speaking a word. By rituals like this, we can come closer to the Holy Spirit who prays within us "with sighs too deep for words." (Romans 26:8)

## **UPCOMING**

### **Easter Saturday Family Program**

Next Saturday, is our annual egg dyeing and preparation for Easter activities from 10 am – noon. Come to the Daniels Center with your hardboiled white eggs and we will have the supplies. Sign up on the easel in Community Hour or at [fccog.org](http://fccog.org), so we can plan for you.

### **News from The Rummage Room**

**191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich**

**Monday, April 10:** See Leanne's 50% off sales at [www.fccog.org/about-us/the-rummage-room/](http://www.fccog.org/about-us/the-rummage-room/).

**Gift Certificates Available:** Spring is always a festive time which includes Easter; Proms; Weddings; Mother's Day; Father's Day; Birthdays; Graduations and any number of celebrations. What better way to give to your favorite people than giving them Gift Certificates in any amount from The Rummage Room?

**Manager Leanne's Wish List:** Spring handbags; jewelry; children's shoes.

**Tuesday, April 18:** The "Thank-you Breakfast" for The Rummage Room Volunteers will be held in the church auditorium from 9:00 to 10:30 am in honor of their many years of service in helping to raise funds for those in need, both in the community and around the world. The Volunteers are the heart and soul of The Rummage Room. They clearly love what they do and enjoy the camaraderie of those around them. Thanks to all for a job well done. From: Leanne Meyer, Rummage Room manager, Judy Miller, Rummage Room chair, and Melanie Garnett and Shelia Bennet, Co-chairs of the Allocations Committee.

**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:** The joy and work shared at the Rummage Room over the past 53 years has been one of the most wonderful forms of service that can be given. The Rummage Room moved from the church basement in 1964 to 191 Sound Beach Avenue and the rest is history!

### **Interested in Learning about Joining the Church?**

Our next New Member class will be held on Sunday, April 23rd at 11:20 AM in the Senior Pastor's office. It will last approximately an hour and one half and will include lunch. During the class, prospective new members have the opportunity to hear about the history and faith of our denomination, the United Church of Christ, and to learn more about our church. Attending does not obligate you to join but we hope that this time together will strengthen you on the journey of faith. New members will be received on Sunday, May 7th. Child care will be provided at both times. Please feel welcome to join us. If you are planning to attend, or you have questions, please contact Ginny Breismeister at [ginnyb@fccog.org](mailto:ginnyb@fccog.org) or 637-1791 ex.26. or call the church office.

### **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 .

**Where two or three are gathered in my name,  
there am I in the midst of them. —Matthew 18:20**

Do you have a prayer concern? First Church will pray for you. Please speak to one of the ministers or fill out a prayer request card found in each of the pews. Place the card in the prayer box at the back of the church. All prayer requests are confidential and only first names will be used. You can ask the ministers to pray and also for members of our church who are part of the prayer chain to pray for you. You can also submit prayer requests online on our website at <http://www.fccog.org/pastoral-care/prayer-chain> . If you know of others who are in need of prayer, please ask them first if you can submit their prayer concern. If you are interested in praying for others as part of the prayer chain, please contact Patrick Collins (patrickc@fccog.org or 203-637-1791 ext. 25) or Mary-Ann Assing (maryannassing@gmail.com or 203-532-0082).

## **Easter Week at First Church**

### **April 13: Maundy Thursday**

6-7 pm Soups & Sides supper (please bring a side dish for eight to share), followed by Communion – Auditorium  
7:15 pm Service of Tenebrae – Sanctuary

### **April 14: Good Friday**

12 pm Cross Walk  
7:30 pm Service of Readings and Music – Sanctuary  
Requiem by Bob Chilcott, Chancel Choir, and Instrumental Ensemble

### **April 15: Easter Saturday**

10 am-noon Families Prepare for Easter!  
Come to the Daniels Center with your hardboiled white eggs for dyeing and decorating (we have all the supplies); Find signs of Holy Week and Easter in the Sanctuary; walk the Labyrinth and spend a few minutes in prayer in the Auditorium.

### **April 16: Easter**

6 am Sunrise Service at Tod's Point: Rev. Patrick Collins, preaching  
Music by the Youth Choir

9 am Service: Rev. Avery C. Manchester, preaching  
Music by the Youth Choir and Chancel Choir,  
organ, brass, and timpani

11 am Service: Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr., preaching  
Music by the Chancel Choir,  
organ, brass, and timpani

# Easter Memorial/Honor Flowers & Brass

The Chancel Committee invites contributions for flowers in the Meetinghouse this Easter, and the Church Committee invites contributions for Easter Brass. You may give to one, the other, or both. Any amount is welcome. Please deliver this completed form with your check to the Church Office (payable to *The First Congregational Church of Greenwich*) on or before **Sunday, April 9**. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. Thank you.

Please accept my contribution to the (check one or both):

\_\_\_\_\_ Easter Flower Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ Easter Brass

In MEMORY of:

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In HONOR of:

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By:

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Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_

**(Please print names legibly to minimize spelling errors.)**







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

108 Sound Beach Avenue,  
Old Greenwich, Connecticut, 06870  
203-637-1791  
*[www.fccog.org](http://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

Publications Coordinator: Vance Briceland

Pastors Emeriti: Rev. Dr. Thomas L. Stiers & Rev. Sally Colegrove