

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665

23 April 2017

Second Sunday of Easter

10 o'clock in the morning



Earth Day Sunday

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

Fugue in C BWV 547

Timothy Pyper, Guest Director/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**

Leader: Blessed is the One who spoke and the world came into being.

People: Blessed is the One who creates the world.

Leader: Blessed is the One who speaks and does.

People: Blessed is the One who decrees and fulfills.

Leader: Blessed is the One who has compassion for the earth.

People: Blessed is the One who has compassion for all creatures.

Leader: Blessed is the One who rewards those who fear God.

People: Blessed is the One who lives eternally and exists forever.

Leader: Blessed is the One who redeems and saves.

All: Blessed is the Holy One.

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

CHORAL INTROIT

*** HYMN**

God, Who Stretched the
Spangled Heavens

New Century (black) Hymnal 556

GATHERING PRAYER

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Almighty God, your word of creation caused the water to be filled with many kinds of living beings and the air to be filled with birds. With those who live in this world's small islands we rejoice in the richness of your creation, and we pray for your wisdom for all who live on this earth, that we may wisely manage and not destroy what you have made for us and for our descendants. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Vivian Isabel Fardelmann, daughter of Andrea and Garrett
Fardelmann

Cooper Thomas St. Amour, son of Katherine and Edgar St. Amour

BAPTISM PRAYER (in unison)

Gracious God, giver of life, you have called us by name, and pledge to each of us your faithful love. We pray today for your blessing on Vivian and Cooper, that you will watch over them and guide them as they grow in faith. Remind us of the promises of our own baptism, and renew our trust in you. Make us strong to obey your will and to serve you with joy, through the power of your Holy Spirit. All of this we pray as Jesus taught us 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.

BAPTISMAL RESPONSE

Child of Blessing,
Child of Promise

New Century (black)
Hymnal 325

**Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the
Spirit's sign;
With this water God has sealed you unto love and grace
divine.
Child of God, your loving Parent, learn to know whose child
you are.
Grow to laugh and sing and worship, trust and love God
more than all.**

(Following the Baptismal Response the children and their teachers will gather to begin our curriculum on Pentecost and preparations for Children's Sunday. Also during Church School, there will be a Communion Class for the 2nd Graders and parents in the Preschool Green Door.)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Virginia Richards

Psalm 24: 1-6

God claims Earth and everything in it,
God claims World and all who live on it.
He built it on Ocean foundations,
laid it out on River girders.
Who can climb Mount God?
Who can scale the holy north-face?
Only the clean-handed,
only the pure-hearted;
Men who won't cheat,
women who won't seduce.
God is at their side;
with God's help they make it.
This, Jacob, is what happens
to God-seekers, God-questers.

—The Message

ANTHEM
Easter Carol

The Chancel Choir
Vernon Hoyle

Rejoice, rejoice! In pomp today
Our King returneth from the fray:
Good Christian folk put grief away,
And raise the high triumphing lay,
Deo gratias. Benedicamus Domino,
For Christ hath vanquish'd ev'ry foe.

Hark! down and dale resound with glee:
See all in blossom, earth and tree:
These festal robes and carols be
In joy of Jesu's victory:
Deo gratias.

The Lamb that died, the sheep to save,
Is Judah's Lion, stalwart, brave:
In vain the granite stone, the grave,
The watch and ward, the sealed cave.
Deo gratias.

As Aaron's rod brake forth of yore,
And almond bloom ere morning bore,
So our High Priest his service o'er,
Bare fruitage: life for ever more.
Deo gratias.

Jesu, true Victor in the fray,
Restore thy people peace we pray,
The pledge of this thy Rising day,
That we may ever raise the lay.
Deo gratias.

SECOND LESSON

Colossians 3: 12-17

So, chosen by God for this new life of love, dress in the wardrobe God picked out for you: compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, discipline. Be even-tempered, content with second place, quick to forgive an offense. Forgive as quickly and completely as the Master

forgave you. And regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it.

Let the peace of Christ keep you in tune with each other, in step with each other. None of this going off and doing your own thing. And cultivate thankfulness. Let the Word of Christ—the Message—have the run of the house. Give it plenty of room in your lives. Instruct and direct one another using good common sense. And sing, sing your hearts out to God! Let every detail in your lives—words, actions, whatever—be done in the name of the Master, Jesus, thanking God the Father every step of the way.

—The Message

SERMON

Whose Day?

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

*** HYMN**

O How Glorious, Full of Wonder New Century (black) Hymnal 558

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

Eric Schless

ORGAN OFFERTORY

Trio in D

Johann Krebs (1713-1780)

*** 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, Whose Giving
Knows No Ending

New Century (black) Hymnal 565

FAREWELL TO ANNETTE BERGH & GARY LICO

* BENEDICTION

* CHORAL RESPONSE

The Lord Bless You & Keep You

The Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE

Prelude in G BWV 568

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 celebration of the baptism of Cooper Thomas St. Amour by his grandparents, Catherine and Thomas St. Amour.

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 begin our curriculum on Pentecost and preparations for Children's Sunday on June 7. Also this Sunday, there will be a

Communion Class for the 2nd Graders and parents in the Preschool Green Door during Church School. 4th & 5th graders will be making their annual planting and garden cleanup trip to Pilgrim Towers after Church School. Anyone is invited to come along—just let Rosemary Lamie you are interested (RosemaryL@fccog.org).

**Interested in Learning about Joining the Church?
Join Us Today!**

Today, following our community hour, our next New Member class will be held 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 will 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.

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

The following choirs will meet today in their normal places/times:
Cherub Choir: Rainbow Room (basement) 11:15-11:45

UPCOMING

Installation Service for Rev. Patrick Collins

On Sunday April 30 during our 10 am worship service we will celebrate the installation of Patrick as our Associate Pastor. Rev. Dr. Michael Ciba from the Connecticut Conference will preach. Please mark your calendars for this very special morning.

Kettle Quilters Raffle

The Kettle Quilters have created a beautiful queen-sized quilt for the Women's Fellowship Quilt Raffle this year. It is a variation of a classical Log Cabin pattern. Log Cabin quilt blocks feature strips of fabric arranged around a center square. The contrasting fabrics create a pattern in the individual blocks. When placing the blocks, they can be turned to achieve different looks in a quilt. This quilt could have looked very different if the same blocks were stitched together in a different pattern. Each square in the 2017 Raffle Quilt has a light side and a dark side, resulting in an unique pattern. This lovely quilt will be raffled off at the Spring Luncheon on May 10.

Tickets are on sale at The Rummage Room, at Coffee Hour and in the Church Office in the weeks leading up to the luncheon, but please don't delay. You need not be present to win. All proceeds from this raffle will support charitable organizations that benefit women, children and families.

If you have questions, please contact Ginny Breismeister at GinnyB@fccog.org . Thank you!

We are grateful to our dedicated group of Kettle Quilters who continue the tradition of providing heirloom quilts year after year. We thank them and our faithful Church Community for the continued support of the mission of Women's Fellowship.

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).

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

Monday, April 24: All sale items for the week can be found on the website at www.fccog.org/about-us/the-rummage-room. If you are looking for spring and summer clothing, shoes, handbags, men's wear, children and baby wear, now is the time to shop at The Rummage Room. You may also purchase gift certificates at the cash register in any amount for the people on your list gifts for Mother's Day, weddings, proms, graduations, birthdays, baby showers or any celebration.

Manager Leanne's Wish List: Ladies blouses; spring handbags; sunglasses.

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.

Thoughts for the week: Easter is not an event. It is a reminder of the power and compassion of God who gave us His only son so that we might have everlasting life. Let's keep the faith and keep the feeling . . . all year long.

**Next Week at First Church
Sunday, April 30**

Installation Service for Rev. Patrick Collins
Rev. Dr. Michael Ciba, Connecticut Conference, preaching

Music by
The Chancel Choir
True Light—Keith Hampton

The Children's Choir
This Little Light of Mine—Joseph Mabry



The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

108 Sound Beach Avenue,
Old Greenwich, Connecticut, 06870
203-637-1791
www.fcog.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