

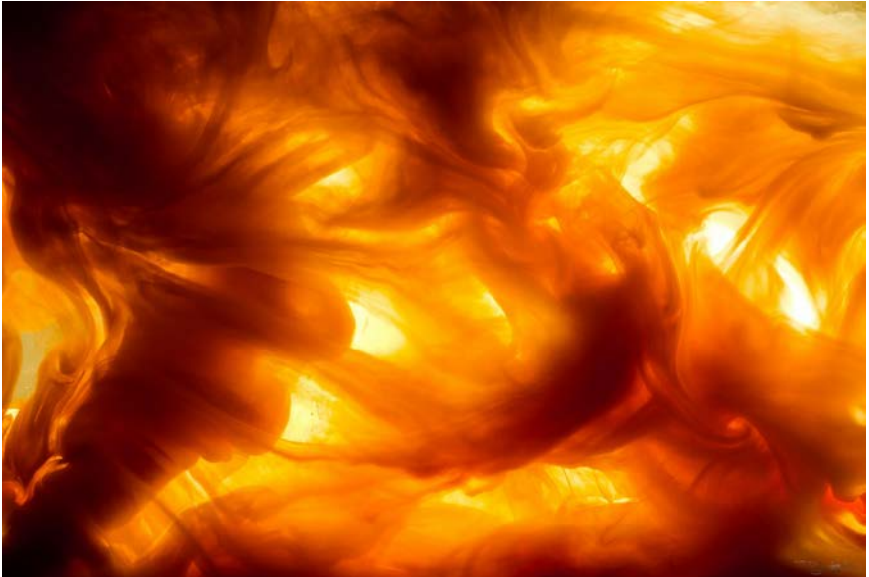
The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665

21 May 2017

Confirmation Sunday

Sixth Sunday of Easter

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 Memory Garden.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

*All who are able please stand.

PRELUDE

Variations on "Christ, You
Are My Life"

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

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 journey of faith is a journey through life. We are pilgrims, travelers, making our way. We sojourn on the pathway of the saints. We walk the same highway and follow the same landmarks which lead them.

People: But for each generation, in each place and time, and for each seeker who travels this way, the road seems different.

Leader: Today we celebrate new leaders. We hold out our hands to them and beckon them to join us on the journey.

People: As they walk beside us, we may tell them our stories, but we may not tell them the way, for they will find the way that is theirs.

Leader: We celebrate a new generation of faith, a new branch, with its leaves about to blossom.

People: Let us all make a place for them and let them know that the family of Christ is their family, too, as we all worship God together.

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

CHORAL INTROIT

*** HYMN**

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

New Century (black) Hymnal 293

GATHERING PRAYER

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Wonderful, amazing God, we gather as those who have caught a glimpse of your glory and goodness. Your love has surrounded us from our birth and drawn us to yourself. Thank you for calling us into this community of faith. Help us to love you, one another and the world with the love revealed to us in Jesus Christ.

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, children will go to their classrooms: 3's & 4's in the Purple door; K & 1st in the Red door; 2nd. Grade in the Green door, 3rd in the Rainbow door; 4th & 5th in the Daniels Center. "678" will be in worship for the Confirmation.)

SOLO

Andante and Allegro

Francesco Geminiani (1687-1762)
John Russell, oboe

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Rosemary Lamie

2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

—New Standard Revised Version

ANTHEM

You Raise Me Up

The Youth Choir

Arr. Joseph Martin

Carolyn Paulus, director

Vance Briceland, piano

SECOND LESSON

John 14: 15-21, 25-27

“Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to God. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that God may be glorified. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask God, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in God, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by God, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.

“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom God will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”

—New Standard Revised Version

SERMON

The Advocate

Rev. Patrick Collins

*** HYMN**

I Was There to Hear Your
Borning Cry

New Century (black) Hymnal 351

SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION

INVITATION

REMEMBERING BAPTISM

Confirmation Class of 2017

William Goggins
Will Grunow
Maggie Jacoby
Mariel Laffan
James Mair
Lauren Mickley
Elizabeth Mohn
JQ Norrgard
Emma Olmsted
Taylor Pratt

Kendall Schrohe
Catherine Ziac

PRAYER

QUESTIONS OF CONFIRMANDS

QUESTION OF CONGREGATION

PRAYER FOR CONFIRMATION

ACT OF CONFIRMATION

PRESENTATION OF THE CROSSES

The Jerusalem Cross is bronze and often is worn around the neck. It is one large cross in the center surrounded by four small crosses. The symbolism is that Jesus Christ is Lord over the four corners of the earth. Or that the story of Jesus Christ is told by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

PRAYER AND DECLARATION

Rev. Patrick Collins

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

Andrea Woodman

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit

The Chancel Choir
Arr. William Dawson (1899-1990)
Thomas Woodman, bass

*** 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

Will You Come and Follow Me

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)
F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

- 1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
- 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
- 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
- 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
- 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
Will you set the pris-oners free and nev - er be the same?
Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus) (A)
Gm7 B^b Am7 B^b Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

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* BENEDICTION

* CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Choral Improvisation

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933)

* * *

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 Jane and Sterling Watts, from their family.

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 our last regular Church School Sunday before our Celebration on June 4. Today's classes will be held in their regular locations: 3's & 4's in the Purple door; K & 1st in the Red door; 2nd. Grade in the Green door, 3rd in the Rainbow door; 4th & 5th in the Daniels Center. "678" will be in worship for the Confirmation. Everyone is reminded to bring flowers for the Flower Cross on June 4!

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

First Music & Arts presents the 5th Annual Spring Festival of the Arts

Today, May 21, at 4 p.m., the sanctuary will be filled with sounds of piano and organ music presented by the Birk and Hoke Duo.

Husband and wife, Eric Birk and Bernadette Hoke will perform organ and piano duets by Widor, Dupré, Ernst, Hesse, and Yon.

Admission is \$25; youth 18 and under are free.

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.

Free T-Shirts Today During Community Hour

When the construction started, we were tasked with cleaning out some of the building space and came across a box of "350th Anniversary T-Shirts". They will be at Community Hour in bins, grouped by size. Please pick up as many as you like for your children, grandchildren, favorite niece or nephew, or the nice kid down the block. (There are a few adult small.)

UPCOMING

Undies Sunday Continues for the Month of May

Nothing says you care like underwear! This month we will be collecting new, unused briefs and boxers for men, women's panties, and children's underwear for those in need to improve their lives. All sizes and ages needed. Collection bins will also be available for the remainder of the month in the church office and during Community Hour. All items donated will be distributed through Neighbor to Neighbor to their clients.

Underwear is the most under-donated—and most needed—item of clothing. No one should be deprived of the simple, daily necessity of clean underwear that many of us take for granted. Hygiene and physical comfort are only a part of this basic human need. New, clean underwear also provides dignity and self-esteem. The Undies Project at Neighbor to Neighbor was started to fulfill this need.

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

Monday, May 22: All sale items for the week can be found on the website at www.fccog.org/about-us/the-rummage-room.

Remember The Rummage Room when you are looking for graduation clothing, wedding gowns, mother-of-the-bride dresses and jewelry. Also available are shoes, summer clothing, a great selection of men's dress and casual shirts; bathing suits, and children's clothing for all ages. If you are looking for wedding gifts, you won't be disappointed! The Rummage Room has beautiful crystal, pottery and art work. And don't forget that gift certificates in any amount are available.

Manager Leanne's Wish List: Ladies' handbags; men's dress shoes, and table linens.

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. Please do not leave donations when the shop is closed.

Our Thanks to You: The Rummage Room Committee, The Women's Fellowship, Manager Leanne Meyer, and the Volunteers are grateful for your continued help so the Allocations Committee can meet the goals that have been set for those in need near and far. The effort by all includes both shoppers and donors. Your help makes the range of good works absolutely amazing!

Thought for the week: Life is a series of thousands of tiny miracles! Remembering that we have contributed to those tiny miracles reminds us there is **always** hope!

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 .

**Next Week at First Church
Sunday, May 28**

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr., preaching

Music by The Chancel Choir
God Omipotent Reigneth—Charles Wood



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

Publications Coordinator: Vance Briceland

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

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