

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665

2 July 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 Memory Garden.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

*All who are able please stand.

PRELUDE

Brass Ensemble

Mike Carolan, Christopher Doney, trumpets

Ray Guier, French horn

Cliff Haynes, trombone

Vasil Golodinskii, tuba

Arr. William Ryden

Three American Songs

When Johnny Comes Marching Home

Yankee Doodle Dandy

You're a Grand Old Flag

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

(Please sign and pass the red Fellowship Pad found at the end of your pew.)

*** NATIONAL ANTHEM**

O say can you see, by the dawn's early light, What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming, Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight, O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?

And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air, Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there; O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

PRAISING GOD

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Leader: In this land of freedom and beauty, let us give thanks to God.

People: **Let us praise the holy one who created the blue lakes and grassy prairies, the vast desert lands, and the breathtaking mountains of our homeland.**

Leader: Let us unite in worship of the Creator who formed all lands and all people,

People: **Who declared, with loving affirmation, "It is good!"**

All: **Come, let us worship God!**

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*** HYMN**

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 437

UNISON PRAYER FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY

We lift up our hearts, O God, on this weekend of celebration in gratitude for the gift of being Americans. We rejoice with all those who share in the great dream of freedom and dignity for all. With flags and feasting, with family and friends we salute those who have sacrificed that we might have the opportunity to bring to fulfillment our many God-given gifts. Come, O gracious God, bless our country and join our simple celebration that we may praise you, our Source of freedom, the One in whom we place our trust.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Juliet Brooks Cagnoni, daughter of
Lesley Brooks Hathaway and Pablo J. Cagnoni

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 Juliet, that you will watch over her and guide her as she grows 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.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Leviticus 25: 8-17

You shall count off seven weeks of years, seven times seven years, so that the period of seven weeks of years gives forty-nine years. Then you shall have the trumpet sounded loud; on the tenth day of the seventh month—on the day of atonement—you shall have the trumpet sounded throughout all your land. And you shall hallow the fiftieth year and you shall proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you: you shall return, every one of you, to your property and every one of you to your family. That fiftieth year shall be a jubilee for you: you shall not sow, or reap the aftergrowth, or harvest the unpruned vines. For it is a jubilee; it shall be holy to you: you shall eat only what the field itself produces.

In this year of jubilee you shall return, every one of you, to your property. When you make a sale to your neighbor or buy from your neighbor, you shall not cheat one another. When you buy from your neighbor, you shall pay only for the number of years since the jubilee; the seller shall charge you only for the remaining crop years. If the years are more, you shall increase the price, and if the years are fewer, you shall diminish the price; for it is a certain number of harvests that are being sold to you. You shall not cheat one another, but you shall fear your God; for I am the Lord your God..

—New Standard Revised Version

ANTHEM

God Bless America

The Summer Choir

Irving Berlin (arr. Joseph Martin)

Congregation join in singing after the choir sings:

God bless America, land that I love.

Stand beside her and guide her

through the night, with a light from above.

From the mountains to the prairies,

to the oceans, white with foam.

God bless America, my home sweet home.

God bless America, my home, my home sweet home.

SECOND LESSON

Galatians 5: 1, 13-15

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

—New Standard Revised Version

SERMON

Sweet Land of Liberty

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

*** HYMN**

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

Pilgrim (red) hymnal 440

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Hymn to Freedom

The Summer Choir

Oscar Peterson (arr. Kirby Shaw)

Drew Seigla, tenor

When every heart joins every heart and together yearns for liberty,
That's when we'll be free.

When every hand joins every hand and together molds our destiny,
That's when we'll be free.

Any hour any day, the time soon will come when men will live in
dignity,

That's when we'll be free.

When every man joins in our song and together singing harmony,
That's when we'll be free.

*** 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

We practice open Communion – all who wish to know the presence of Christ and to participate in the community of God's people are welcome to receive Communion, including children of all ages, and regardless of church membership or denominational affiliation. All are welcome to the table of God.

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

Today's communion will be by intinction. Congregants are invited to come forward down the center aisle to one of the communion stations by the chancel, receive the bread (gluten-free), dip in the cup and partake. Those who need to stay in the pew should indicate their need to be served there to one of the ushers or greeters.

Someone will come to serve you.

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in this power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

*** HYMN**

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

Pilgrim (red) hymnal 443

*** BENEDICTION**

*** CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE

The Stars & Stripes Forever

John Philip Sousa (arr. Don Patterson)

Brass Ensemble

Mary Fike, piccolo

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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 joyful celebration of the baptism of Juliet Brooks Cagoni.

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

This Sunday there will be no Church School outside of Child Care for children birth through 4 years old. However all children are invited to be in worship and we will have a special "PrayGround" in the chapel with rugs, playthings, books and coloring options for any young children who will be here. Parents need to supervise their children in this area and can easily do that from the front row in the chapel or the front row on the lectern side of the Meetinghouse.

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.

UPCOMING

Join Us for the First Church Beach BYO Picnic— Thursday, July 13

Welcoming Committee is pleased to invite everyone to the First Church Beach Bring-Your-Own Picnic! Pack a picnic dinner and beverages for yourself and your family—dessert is on us! We will gather from 5 pm until 8 pm on Thursday, July 13 at the clambake area of Tod's Point. At 6 pm, the Milkcraft Truck will arrive to dispense fresh gourmet ice cream treats made on the spot—absolutely free!

Those who do not have park passes to Greenwich Point Park will be able to enter the park for the festivities.

Sign-up sheets will be available at Community Hour after worship service, or you may either call the church office or contact Ginny Breismeister (GinnyB@fccog.org) to let us know you're coming. Come beat the summer heat with great company and great ice cream!

Summer Choir – All Welcome!

Please join us on Sunday mornings throughout the summer, starting at 9:00 am in the Meetinghouse for a warm-up and rehearsal of the music being sung that morning. Come any Sunday that you are available to help lead the congregation in worship, and it's also a chance to experience worship from the choir loft. Everyone is welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Craig Symons (ext. 22).

Join Us for Summer Sings!

Do you miss singing with your choir during the summer months?

Come as you are from 7:30-9:30 on the Wednesday July 26 and, within two hours, we will have shared in an energized rehearsal and an 'instant performance' of great choral music.

Music will be provided. Hospitality, refreshments, and fun are all included! No sign-up necessary, just come ready to sing. Donation of \$10 per person.

Wednesday, July 26—An Evening with Gilbert and Sullivan

Eric Peterson, conductor

Dorothy Kolinsky, accompanist

Calling Women of All Ages and Stages!

Come hear what Ruth and Naomi have to do with us today! It is not too late to join the group. On two more Mondays we will to reflect on and discuss the Book of Ruth. Under the able guidance of Olga Hartwell, a current Yale Divinity School student and long-time member of our church, we will meet on Monday, July 10 at the church in the Binney Conference Room to continue a journey of discovery. We will meet from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. Our last date is July 17. Contact RosemaryL@fccog.org for questions.

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

Monday, July 3: Sale items for the week can be found on the website at www.fccog.org/about-us/the-rummage-room.

Tuesday, July 4: The Rummage Room is closed for Independence Day. Happy red, white, and blue!

Manager Leanne's Wish List: Men's summer blazers; records; cutlery; women's handbags.

Monday, July 3: The Rummage Room will be open 10-5:00 pm.

Tuesday, July 4: The Rummage Room will be closed for Independence Day.

Wednesday and Thursday, July 5 and 6: The Rummage Room will be open 10 - 5:00 pm.

Monday, July 31st through Wednesday, August 2: Everything in the shop 50% off .

Notice: Last day for donations will be August 2. The Rummage Room will close on August 5 for restocking and repairs.

Tuesday, September 5: The Rummage Room's grand reopening will be at 10:00 am.

Thought for Independence Day: July 4th is a day to remember how formidable the Founding Fathers were in intellect, courage and wisdom to fight and win a revolution and then write a Constitution that has been the envy of the world since 1776 and gave voice to what freedom means.

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, July 9**

Rev. Avery C. Manchester, preaching

Music by The Summer Choir
My Eyes for Beauty Pine—Herbert Howells
Thomas Woodman, bass
Swing Low, Sweet Chariot—Spiritual



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