

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665

6 August 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

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ
Andante and Allegro (from Sonata in G) G. Sammartini (1700-1775)
Dorothy Darlington, oboe

CALL TO COMMUNITY

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

HYMN SING

PRAISING GOD

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: God will delight when we are creators of compassion and peace.

People: For everyone born, a place at the table.

Leader: God will delight when we revise our roles, divide our power, and with wisdom and grace share our abundance.

People: For everyone born, a place at the table.

Leader: God will delight when everyone can live without fear, speak out, work, witness, worship, and simply be who God created them to be.

All: God will delight when we are creators of justice, joy, compassion, and peace. For everyone born, a place at the table.

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*** HYMN**

God Is Here

New Century (black) Hymnal 70

UNISON PRAYER

We hunger for power, and you feed us the bread of humility.
We long for freedom, and you invite us to drink the cup of self-denial. Our songs of gratitude will echo down the hallways of creation. Without your wisdom, we would be speechless. Without your peace, we would be heartless. Without your presence, we would be graceless. Our songs of joy will echo down the hallways of eternity. God in Community, Holy in One, may our songs echo in your heart as 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.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Enid Norris

Isaiah 55: 1-5

All of you who are thirsty, come to the water!
Whoever has no money, come, buy food and eat!
Without money, at no cost, buy wine and milk!
Why spend money for what isn't food, and your earnings for what doesn't satisfy?
Listen carefully to me and eat what is good; enjoy the richest of feasts.
Listen and come to me; listen, and you will live.
I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful loyalty to David.
Look, I made him a witness to the peoples, a prince and commander of peoples.

Look, you will call a nation you don't know, a nation you don't know will run to you because of the Lord your God, the holy one of Israel, who has glorified you. —Common English Bible

ANTHEM

For the Beauty of the Earth

The Summer Choir
Kenton Coe (b. 1931)

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
For the love from which our birth over and around us lies;
We sing this hymn of graceful praise, we sing this hymn of praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild;
We sing this hymn of grateful praise, we sing this hymn of praise.

We sing this grateful hymn of praise.

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 14: 13-21

When Jesus heard about John, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. When the crowds learned this, they followed him on foot from the cities. When Jesus arrived and saw a large crowd, he had compassion for them and healed those who were sick. That evening his disciples came and said to him, "This is an isolated place and it's getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

But Jesus said to them, "There's no need to send them away. You give them something to eat."

They replied, "We have nothing here except five loaves of bread and two fish."

He said, "Bring them here to me." He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. He took the five loaves of bread and the two fish, looked up to heaven, blessed them and broke the loaves apart and gave them to his disciples. Then the disciples gave them to the crowds. Everyone ate until they were full, and they filled twelve

baskets with the leftovers. About five thousand men plus women and children had eaten. —Common English Bible

SERMON

A Place at the Table

Rev. Patrick Collins

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION HYMN

For Everyone Born

Shirley Erena Murray

(The congregation is to sing this refrain after each verse)

Refrain

and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and

joy, com-pas - sion and peace: yes,

God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,
 jus-tice and joy!

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.

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Flosst mein Heiland
 (from Christmas Oratorio)

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
 Linnea Conley, mezzo soprano
 Carol Woodman, soprano
 Dorothy Darlington, oboe

O my Savior, does your name instill even the very tiniest seed of that powerful terror? No, You Yourself say no. (No!)
 Shall I shun death now? No, Your sweet word is there!
 Or shall I rejoice? Yes, o Savior, You Yourself say yes. (Yes!)

*** 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

Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table

1 Look who gath - ers at Christ's ta - ble! Hear the sto - ries
2 Clouds of light sur - round the ta - ble; an - cient fol - low -
3 Their sad sto - ries are re - peat - ed in a thou - sand
4 Bring your joy and bring your sad - ness, and pre - pare to

that they bring. Some are weep - ing; some are laugh - ing;
ers ap - pear, saints con - fess - ing how they wres - tled
dif - ferent ways, but they share one thing in com - mon:
be sur - prised by the host whose hands are wound - ed,

some have songs they want to sing. Oth - ers ask why they're in -
with their guilt, their doubt and fear. Pe - ter tells of his de -
they all end in thanks and praise for the host who has in -
who will o - pen wide your eyes when he bless - es bread and

vit - ed, bur - dened by the wrong they've done. Christ in - sists they
ny - ing Christ was ev - er in his sight; Paul re - lates his
vit - ed north and south and east and west to con - verge a -
breaks it— truth and man - na from a - bove!—and then pass - es

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed between the vocal and piano lines. The key signature is G major, and the time signature is 4/4. The score includes a variety of note values, rests, and dynamic markings.

all are wel - come. There is room for ev - ery - one.
 fruit - less ef - forts to ob - lit - er - ate the light.
 round this ta - ble, where all life is fed and blest.
 wine that wak - ens in your heart the taste of love.

*** BENEDICTION**

*** CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE

Allegro (from Sonata in G)

G. Sammartini
 Dorothy Darlington, oboe

Directly following the service, one of our pastors will remain in the Chapel to be available to anyone who has a pastoral care concern.

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

A Note to Parents

Relax! God put the wiggle in children, do not feel you have to suppress it in God's House. All are welcome here at First Congregational Church! Feel free to sit towards the front where it is easier to see and hear. Explain the parts of the service. Sing the hymns and pray together. Children learn behavior by copying you. If you have to leave the service with your child, please feel free to do so. Jesus said, "Let the children come to me." At First Church we believe that the way we welcome children in worship directly affects the way they respond to God, the Church, and to one another.

To the members of our congregation, please know that a smile of encouragement is always welcome to parents with small, active children. The presence of children is a Gift to the church, which offers hope for all.

Church School

This Sunday there is no Church School outside of Child Care for children birth through 4 years old. However all children are invited to be in worship where there is a special "PrayGround" in the chapel with rugs, puppets, books and coloring options for any young children who are 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

Rev. DenUyl will be on vacation/study leave from July 24 through August 21. He will return to the pulpit on August 27. In the event of a pastoral emergency please contact Rev. Collins.

Church School Teachers Needed

We are still in need of folks who can spend time with and teach our children on Church School Sundays. A special thank you to all who stepped up in the last week or so. Here's where we have need: One adult to help in the Baby Nursery/ Toddler Room once or twice a month. Two adults to teach the combined 3's and 4's class. One adult for 2nd Grade. One adult for 4th & 5th grade class. And one adult for the 6th grade class. Teaching is a great gift to our children as we learn with them the stories of the love of God and Jesus and as we all grow in our faith together. Please talk to either Rosemary or Patrick if you are even a little tempted to give it a try or to come back again. You will not be sorry!

News from The Rummage Room

191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich

Monday, August 7: The Rummage Room will be closed for repairs and restocking the month of August

Please do not leave donations before Wednesday, September 6— There will be no one to process your donations and they will be tossed in the dumpster.

Tuesday, September 5: The Rummage Room's 53rd Grand Reopening will take place as the doors open at 10 am.

Wednesday, September 6: The Rummage Room will once again begin accepting donations between 9:30-4:30.

Thank you from the Rummage Room! We are thankful for your patronage throughout the years. Because of your donations and your purchases, The Rummage Room has been able to help people in small villages in other countries; on reservations in our own country; in helping children to attend schools in other countries (especially girls who had never attended school); helping the elderly; in the digging of wells in small villages where previously it took a whole day to walk and collect water; and in helping those who needed places to live. The list is endless.

**Next Week at First Church
Sunday, August 6**

Rev. Patrick Collins, preaching

Choral Music by The Summer Choir
Give to the Wind Thy Fears—Robert Powell

Hanna Golodinskii, soprano
On Eagle's Wings—Michael Joncas



The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

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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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