

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665

17 September 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

Adagio from Sonata in G

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, harpsichord

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Tod Hedrick, viol da gamba

CALL TO COMMUNITY

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

Rev. Patrick Collins

PRAISING GOD

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We gather together to give thanks for the ways in which God is working within our midst.

People: We are being blessed by God!

Leader: We gather together to open our eyes to the ways God is using us to work within our midst.

People: We will continue to be blessed by God!

Leader: God has given us so much and is very much alive, at work and still speaking among us.

People: We are called to be good stewards; good stewards of our time, of our resources and of our money.

Leader: Let us give thanks to our God of blessings and be open to the ministry God is calling us into.

People: Let us give thanks and praise to God!

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*** HYMN**

I Sing the Mighty Power of God New Century (black) Hymnal 12

UNISON PRAYER

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

O Spirit of Power, open our lives to your inspiration as we worship today. May we feel you within us and among us as we speak and sing your praises. We rejoice in the splendor and diversity of your creation. Empower us to join your creative work in the world. Give us fresh meaning and purpose as we follow your call. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

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.

(All sing, as children exit)

Jesus loves me! This I know,
For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong;
They are weak, but He is strong.

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me still today,
Walking with me on my way,
Wanting as a friend to give
Light and love to all who live. (Refrain)

(After the Lord's Prayer, children will go to Church School. Kindergarten and 1st graders should meet their teachers in the back of the church and

then go with the 2nd, 4th and 5th graders to the Lounge for an opening session together. 3rd graders go to the Rainbow Door (room 104 at the end of the stairs on the way to the preschool). 6th grades go to Patrick's Office on the 3rd floor and 7th and 8th graders go to the new Youth Room just past the kitchen.)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

William DeHaven

Santiago

The road seen, then not seen, the hillside
hiding then revealing the way you should take,
the road dropping away from you as if leaving you
to walk on thin air, then catching you, holding you up,
when you thought you would fall,
and the way forward always in the end
the way that you followed, the way that carried you
into your future, that brought you to this place,
no matter that it sometimes took your promise from you,
no matter that it had to break your heart along the way:
the sense of having walked from far inside yourself
out into the revelation, to have risked yourself
for something that seemed to stand both inside you
and far beyond you, that called you back
to the only road in the end you could follow, walking
as you did, in your rags of love and speaking in the voice
that by night became a prayer for safe arrival,
so that one day you realized that what you wanted
had already happened long ago and in the dwelling place
you had lived in before you began,
and that every step along the way, you had carried
the heart and the mind and the promise
that first set you off and drew you on and that you were
more marvelous in your simple wish to find a way
than the gilded roofs of any destination you could reach:
as if, all along, you had thought the end point might be a city
with golden towers, and cheering crowds,
and turning the corner at what you thought was the end
of the road, you found just a simple reflection,

and a clear revelation beneath the face looking back
and beneath it another invitation, all in one glimpse:
like a person and a place you had sought forever,
like a broad field of freedom that beckoned you beyond;
like another life, and the road still stretching on.

David Whyte, from *Pilgrim*

ANTHEM

True Light

The Chancel Choir

Keith Hampton (b. 1957)

Linnea Conley, mezzo soprano

SECOND LESSON

Luke 8: 1-3

He continued according to plan, traveled to town after town, village after village, preaching God’s kingdom, spreading the Message. The Twelve were with him. There were also some women in their company who had been healed of various evil afflictions and illnesses: Mary, the one called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out; Joanna, wife of Chuza, Herod’s manager; and Susanna—along with many others who used their considerable means to provide for the company. --The Message

SERMON

The Shrewd Investors

Rev. Patrick Collins

*** HYMN**

A Grateful Heart

1 A grate - ful heart is what I bring, a song of
2 Your name is known in all the lands. You feed the
3 With sav - ing love you set us free, and still you

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'A Grateful Heart'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with three verses of text. The first verse is 'A grate - ful heart is what I bring, a song of', the second is 'Your name is known in all the lands. You feed the', and the third is 'With sav - ing love you set us free, and still you'. The music is a simple, hymn-like melody.

praise, my of - fer - ing. A - mong the saints I
 poor with gen - tle hands. Your word is true, your
 dwell in mys - ter - y with wis - dom none can

lift my voice: in you, O God, I will re - joice.
 works are just; in you, O God, the faith - ful trust.
 com - pre - hend. Your praise, O God, will nev - er end.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Andante

J. S. Bach

*** 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**

Won't You Let Me
 Be Your Servant

New Century (black) Hymnal 539

* BENEDICTION

* CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Allegro

J. S. Bach

* * *

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

Welcome to Church School! Babies & toddlers are in the Orange and Purple Preschool Doors and 3's and 4's are in the Purple Door at 10 am. Kindergarten is in the Red Door. 2nd grade is in the new Gold Door (moved from the Green door). 3rd grade is in the Rainbow Door. 4th & 5th grade in the Lounge. 6th grades go to Patrick's Office on the 3rd floor and 7th and 8th graders go to the new Youth Room just past the kitchen.

If you have not yet registered your child, please do so today on our website at www.fccog.org or in the preschool office area. Visitors are welcome to register their children, too! Registration helps us to know your children and puts you on our mailing list. Most importantly it is where you record your child's allergies and/or special needs.

Organ Informance: Today Following Worship at 11:15

Have you ever wondered what all those doodads are on the organ; what those pipes are made from; why there are pipes in front and pipes in back? Well, here's your chance to learn about those things and more. Following the 10 a.m. worship today, Craig Symons will hold an Organ Informance in the Meetinghouse where he'll cover the basic features of a pipe organ, how they're constructed and built, and what needs our organ has at this time, as well as options for further upgrades and expansion. You'll even get to hold some sample pipes! As you know, money was allocated in the Capital Campaign for some renovation needs on our organ, which was built and installed in 1978 by the Hartford builder, Austin Organs, Inc., founded in 1893. Join us for a look into the workings of a pipe organ!

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

Introducing the New FCCOG Faith Formation Website www.familyfaithatfccog.weebly.com

This is a new resource for anyone who is a parent, grandparent, relative, caretaker or friend of our children. It is the first edition which will be updated and enhanced regularly. Rosemary and Patrick have worked on this for many months and are anxious to hear your comments and suggestions for making it helpful to you. Most of all we hope it helps you and your children on your faith journeys!

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

The September 53rd Grand Reopening was busy and productive. Half of our first day sales were donated to The American Red Cross to help victims of the hurricanes.

If you missed the Reopening, there is still an abundance of quality merchandise and new donations, which began to flow in the day after Reopening. Many thanks to all of our customers for your continued support and the good and attractive donations you bring to The Rummage Room year after year. You are truly the best.

Monday, September 18: 50% off sale-merchandise for the week may be found at [www.fccog.org/about-us/the.rummage room/](http://www.fccog.org/about-us/the.rummage.room/)

Mgr. Leanne's Wish List: Children's winter coats; a birdcage; and winter gloves.

Shopping Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 to 5 pm and 10 to 1 pm Saturday.

Donation Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:30 to 4:30 pm & Saturday 10 to 12:30 pm.

Prayer for the Months Ahead: Lord: So many are going through their darkest place at the moment and they desperately need Your presence. And even though they are in their deepest valley, hopefully with the light You shed, they will soon be able to scale the peak again.

Caregiver Support Group

The Caregiver Support Group will resume on Sunday, October 8th at 11:15 am in the Binney Conference room. For questions about the group, call Dorothy Mueller at 203-588-9896 or email: dorothymueller1@gmail.com

Next Week at First Church Sunday, September 24

Rev. Avery C. Manchester, preaching

Choral Music by the Chancel Choir
Kumbaya—Paul Sjolund

Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies—Harold Darke



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

Cover Photo: Dave Bowden