

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665

5 November 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 auditorium.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

*All who are able please stand.

PRELUDE

Larghetto and Allegro

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, harpsichord

G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

Tod Hedrick, viola da gamba

CALL TO COMMUNITY

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

Rev. Patrick Collins

STEWARDSHIP AND OUTREACH MOMENTS

PRAISING GOD

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses. Patriarchs and matriarchs, prophets and psalmists, disciples and evangelists, martyrs and saints.

People: We thank you for their example and we remember their lives of faith with hymns of adoration.

Leader: We are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses. Loved ones resting with us, who guided us, nurtured and cared for us; ancestors who worked and traveled, lived and died that we might be who we are and where we are.

People: We thank you for their example and we remember their lives of faith with holy rituals.

Leader: We are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses. Family

members and members of this community; brothers and sisters in faith across denominations and spiritual backgrounds; friends who help, guide and lift us up. We are all children of God, sheep of your fold, saints of your redeeming.

People: We thank you for their example and we remember their lives of faith with prayers of joy.

Leader: For all the saints of the church. The young and the old, the dead and the living, the articulate and silent, the strange and familiar, the brilliant and the ordinary.

People: We remember in every time and place the saints of God, the great cloud of witnesses who surround us and have shown us the way.

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*** HYMN**

For All the Saints

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 306

UNISON PRAYER

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

God of all creation, we are surrounded by a cloud of faithful witnesses who have gone before us. Members of the church who brought love, healing, peace and forgiveness to this world. May we walk in their footsteps and learn from their example. May we learn to give so that others receive, love so that others may be set free and sacrifice so that others may live. Let us join this cloud of faithful witnesses in our worship and praise of God on this day.

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.

(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, 2nd, 4th and 5th graders will go to the Lounge for an opening session together. 3rd graders will go to the Rainbow Door (room 104 at the end of the stairs on the way to the preschool). 6th graders 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

Drew Seigla

Joshua 4: 1-7

When the entire nation had finished crossing over the Jordan, the Lord said to Joshua: "Select twelve men from the people, one from each tribe, and command them, 'Take twelve stones from here out of the middle of the Jordan, from the place where the priests' feet stood, carry them over with you, and lay them down in the place where you camp tonight.'" Then Joshua summoned the twelve men from the Israelites, whom he had appointed, one from each tribe. Joshua said to them, "Pass on before the ark of the Lord your God into the middle of the Jordan, and each of you take up a stone on his shoulder, one for each of the tribes of the Israelites, so that this may be a sign among you. When your children ask in time to come, 'What do those stones mean to you?' then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off in front of the ark of the covenant of the

Lord. When it crossed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. So these stones shall be to the Israelites a memorial forever.”
—New Standard Revised Version

SOLO

Adagio

G.F. Handel

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 12: 1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

— New Standard Revised Version

SERMON

For All the Saints

Rev. Patrick Collins

*** HYMN**

The Church's One Foundation

Pilgrim (red) hymnal 260

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Patrick Collins

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

I Dream a World

The Chancel Choir
Andre Thomas (b. 1952)
Vance Briceland, piano

I dream a world where man
No other man will scorn,
Where love will bless the earth
And peace its paths adorn
I dream a world where all
Will know sweet freedom's way,
Where greed no longer saps the soul

Nor avarice blights our day.
A world I dream where black or white,
Whatever race you be,
Will share the bounties of the earth
And every man is free,
Where wretchedness will hang its head
And joy, like a pearl,
Attends the needs of all mankind—
Of such I dream, my world!

--Langston Hughes

*** 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

In the tradition of our church, let us partake of the bread (note, gluten-free bread is available) as it is served, remembering our individual uniqueness in the eyes of God and our diversity within the Body of Christ. Let us hold the cup (grape juice) until all have been served, remembering our oneness with God and our unity in the
Body of Christ.

COMMUNION HYMN

For Everyone Born

Shirley Erena Murray



1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,
3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,
4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,
5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,



for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,
to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,



a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
with wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,
in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,



for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head,
for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair,
for young and for old, the right to be - long,
for just and un - just, a new way to live,
for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,

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.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

* HYMN

God, Be the Love

1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
 2 Bind to my-self the Name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness-
 3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light-ning,
 4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to
 5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that

move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:
 es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:
 strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:
 light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:
 hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:

O Christ, sur-round me; O Christ, sur-round me.

*** BENEDICTION**

*** CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE

Allegro

G.F. Handel

* * *

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 Lillian and Edmund Hoffman by their families.

A Note to Parents

Relax! God put the wiggle in children, do not feel you have to suppress it during worship. The presence of children is a Gift to the church, which offers hope for all. 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.

For those who are interested, we do have child care available for babies and toddlers every Sunday, for the entirety of the church service, in the Preschool classrooms.

To the members of our congregation, please know that a smile of encouragement is always welcome to parents with small, active children.

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

About Today's Pastoral Prayer

You are invited to light a candle for a family member, friend, or someone else in your life who died this last year during this morning's pastoral prayer. The Pastors will provide more details during that time of worship.

Church School

Today most classes will continue their workshops on the story of Jesus feeding 5000 as found in the gospel of John. 3rd graders will learn more about Moses and the Book of Exodus. Be sure to hold these dates: Harvest Sunday (November 19) when we are in worship together to give our thanks to God and donate food for our neighbors. November 26, Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend when church school will be a "one room schoolhouse" and we will plan a new way to do an advent calendar.

Second Hour: Rabbi Cohen

Please join us after worship today in the lounge for an inspiring talk by Rabbi Daniel Cohen. He will share practical self-reflection strategies to create and live your legacy. Rabbi Cohen will discuss seven transformative principles to reverse engineer your life so that you are living with purpose and passion, so that the person you are today will more closely align with the person you aspire to be.

Rabbi Cohen is the spiritual leader of Congregation Agudath Sholom in Stamford. He speaks with authenticity and humor, and shares his wisdom which transcends all faiths. Rabbi Cohen's book will be available for purchase after his talk. The discounted price will be \$10.

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: Music Room (3rd floor) 11:15-12:00
- Youth Choir: Choir Room (3rd floor) 11:15-12:15

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

Volunteers Still Needed for Neighbor to Neighbor Next Sunday

November 11 is our next First Church Volunteer Day at Neighbor to Neighbor. www.signupgenius.com/go/20f094ca4ab2faaf58-neighbor or contact Rosemary Lamie at RosemaryL@fccog.org OR call the office and leave a message with the receptionist. We will be stocking the food pantry and sorting and displaying the clothing and linen contributions. Neighbor-To-Neighbor is located at Christ Church in Greenwich (across Putnam Avenue from the YWCA). Please contact Rosemary Lamie (RosemaryL@fccog.org) if you have any questions. This is a great opportunity for a parent/child team or a teen and a friend as well as individuals. Children 12 – 15 need to be accompanied by a parent or another adult.

Giving Trees 2017

Next Sunday, November 12, our "Giving Trees" will be ready for you to choose a gift, fulfilling a wish for our friends at H.O.M.E. (Homeworkers Organized for More Employment) the non-profit organization that supports low-income and homeless families in Orland Maine and Pilgrim Towers, a senior residential community in Stamford. Gifts will be needed back by Sunday, December 3. This is our 12th year of bringing holiday blessings to these communities.

Harvest Sunday—November 19

Please fill up a grocery bag—or two—with canned and other dry goods. Bring your filled bags to the Harvest Sunday Service on November 19 where they will be collected as part of our offering during the worship service. The offering will be divided between Neighbor to Neighbor and H.O.M.E. in Orland, Maine.

Annual Christmas Tree & Wreath Sale Begins November 25

Our annual Christmas Tree & Wreath Sale begins on **Saturday, November 25 at 9:00 a.m.** with the delivery of 500 fresh cut Fraser and Balsam Fir trees from New Hampshire and over 200 balsam wreaths, roping and kissing balls!

IRIS Winter Coat & Boot Drive

IRIS is welcoming 53 Afghans in October alone, a record-breaking pace. And they need our help! They are very low on winter coats and boots. And they need to distribute them ASAP! Most community groups wait until the holidays to do coat drives, but that is too late for refugees facing their first New England winter. It would be tremendously helpful if you could round up any spare warm winter coats and boots over the next couple of weeks and bring them to the box marked IRIS on the stage in the Auditorium.

Hurricane Relief Yoga Classes

Andrea Woodman Osker will be giving yoga classes to benefit the victims of the many hurricanes which have wreaked such havoc. The classes will be gentle in nature. Classes will be held in the Daniels Center at 1:00pm. The dates are Saturdays on November 18 and December 16th. Live music will be performed by Kevin Makarewicz. Please come and support those who have suffered so! The suggested donation is \$20.00. Please bring a yoga mat. All levels are welcome.

News from the Rummage Room

191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich

Monday, November 6: The Thanksgiving Shoppe is now open! There are many lovely and helpful items to choose from for your Thanksgiving table and your other decorations.

Mark your Calendars for Tuesday, November 7: Election Day. It is our privilege as American Citizens to vote.

Early Alert: Monday, November 20: The Christmas Shop will be opening.

Items 50% off for the Week may be found on the website at www.fccog.org/about-us/the-rummage-room/ .

Mgr. Leanne's Wish List: New items for Christmas gifts; Christmas decorations; winter hats.

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.

Thought for the Holidays: As we enter the Seasons of Thanksgiving and Christmas, may we think of the abundant gifts the Lord has given us. In turn may we work together to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate. Please make The Rummage Room one of your destinations to shop and donate in the coming months. Thank you from The Women's Fellowship, The Allocations Committee, The Rummage Room Committee, the Volunteers and the Rummage Room Staff.

**Next Week at First Church
Sunday, November 12**

Rev. Avery C. Manchester, preaching

Music by the Chancel Choir
Almighty and Everlasting God—Orlando Gibbons

Humoresque—Alec Rowley
Romance—Jacques Durand
Jeffrey Beyer, flute

Oh Glory—Hall Johnson
Thomas Woodman, bass



The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

108 Sound Beach Avenue,
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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 Art: Paul Chapman