

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665

Harvest Sunday
19 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

How Can I Keep from Singing?

The Palmer Handbell Choir

Arr. Cathy Mocklebust

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, director

CALL TO COMMUNITY

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

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

ANTHEM

I Was Glad

Children's, Youth, & Chancel Choirs

K. Lee Scott

Carolyn Paulus, director

PRAISING GOD

*** CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 100)**

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness;

come into his presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God.

It is he that made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture

**People: Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise.**

All: Give thanks to him, bless his name
For the Lord is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*** HYMN**

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 461

UNISON PRAYER

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Generous God, we recognize that you are the source of all the good gifts in our lives. We worship you today with thankful hearts. We are grateful for the beauty and bounty of the world, and for all the joys and comforts of life. We are grateful for our homes and families, for our friends and the good will of persons near and far. We are grateful for the moments of love and joy which are given to us, and we praise you for all the ways your grace comes to us. Let us respond to your unfailing goodness with generous spirits, eager for the opportunity to serve. We ask these things in Jesus' name, whose prayer we pray 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.

ANTHEM

Shalom, Chaverim

The Cherub Choir
Israeli Folk Song
Carol Woodman, director
Debbie Berner, piano

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Pat Larrabee

Mark 2: 13-17

Jesus went out again beside the sea; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them. As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were also sitting with Jesus and his disciples—for there were many who followed him. When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, they said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" When Jesus heard this, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners." —New Revised Standard Version

ANTHEM

Sing of the Lord's Goodness

The Children's Choir

Ernest Sands

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, director

Vance Briceland, piano

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 25: 6-8

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken. —New Revised Standard Version

SERMON

A Feast for All People!

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Patrick Collins

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

At this time, you are invited to come forward with your offerings as well as your donations of food.

HARVEST OFFERING

We Gather Together	Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 21
O Beautiful for Spacious Skies	Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 440
Now Thank We All Our God	New Century (black) Hymnal 419
This Is My Song	New Century (black) Hymnal 591

*** 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

*** BENEDICTION**

*** CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God Sigfrid Karg-Elert

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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 Chancel Committee thanks Pam Grunow for decorating the Harvest Table.

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

Church School

Today is Harvest Sunday when we all worship together. There is Child Care for babies and toddlers including 3 year olds. Next Sunday, November 26, is the first Sunday in Advent. At the appropriate time in the service, all children will gather in the Daniels Center for a new way to participate in the Advent of Christmas.

H.O.M.E. Craft Sale

Today between 11 and 1 pm is your last chance to buy gifts and other handmade items from crafters in Maine. The folks from H.O.M.E. Coop in Orland Maine bring a wide array of artisan goods and food products from rural Maine. This traditional fall event features handmade quilts, Christmas decorations and gifts, woolens, pottery,

weavings, homemade jams, maple syrup, and more from rural Hancock County.

Giving Trees 2017

The “Giving Trees” are outside the auditorium decorated with tags for you to choose a Christmas gift 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. Please come by and fulfill a wish! Wrapped gifts are needed back by Sunday, December 3. Thank you!

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.

Stewardship 2018

Thank You to the 150+ individuals and families who have pledged to Stewardship 2018. If you have not yet pledged yet, won’t you join your fellow members who have put their Faith into Action? It’s super easy to make your pledge at iamfirstchurch.com . Thank you from your Stewardship Committee.

UPCOMING

Annual Christmas Tree & Wreath Sale Begins November 25

Our annual Christmas Tree & Wreath Sale begins on **Saturday, November 25 at 9:00 am** with the delivery of 500 fresh cut Fraser and Balsam Fir trees from New Hampshire and over 200 balsam wreaths, roping and kissing balls! The sale continues on weekends through December 10 while supplies last. Remember that all funds raised go to support local organizations. Check out the available volunteer times and dates here: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/9040C49A9A87-christmas1

First Church Preschool Holiday Boutique: November 29

Join us for the annual Holiday Boutique at First Church in Old Greenwich! Browse gifts from local vendors, bid for fantastic items in a silent auction, and even take photos with Santa while enjoying a sip of wine. Boutique hours are from 1 pm to 7 pm on Wednesday, November 29th. Babysitting is available from 2 to 5 pm. All proceeds benefit First Church Preschool.

Advent Craft Workshop with a New Twist

On Sunday, December 3 the Church School Task Force will host the annual Advent Craft Workshop from 4 to 6 pm in the Daniels Center. The time has been changed this year to allow families to include their children who nap, to give you a longer break between church and this event and to provide a simple dinner for all! This very popular event has many options for making your own gifts and decorations. This year we have made an effort to have something for adults as well. Let's make this truly intergenerational and join the fun!

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 last date will be Saturday, 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 20: The best little Christmas Shoppe in town is now open with wonderful Christmas items dropped off by our many Santas!

Wednesday, November 22: The Rummage Room will close at 1 pm for Thanksgiving.

Thursday, November 23: Happy Thanksgiving Day from everyone at the Rummage Room!

Friday and Saturday, November 24-25: All merchandise 50% off (except Christmas items).

Saturday, December 2: First Light festivities in Old Greenwich from 5 to 8 pm. First Light marks the beginning of The Christmas

Season. You won't want to miss this beautiful evening so bring your family, tell your friends and make the rounds to all the shops. The Rummage Room will be open for shopping and a lot of good cheer!

Saturday, December 16: Last day to leave donations before the holidays.

Mgr. Leanne's Wish List: Handbags, jewelry, and wool sweaters.

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.

The Rummage Room's Mission Statement: Proceeds go to organizations that support women and children in need, especially during the Holidays. As we enter the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons, we remember the families who have so little and need so much. We also remember that the Lord asks us to unwrap our gifts of human kindness and be our sisters and brothers keepers. When you make the Rummage Room your destination for shopping and donating, you are contributing to the fulfillment of that task.

**Next Week at First Church
Sunday, November 26**

Rev. Patrick Collins, preaching

Music by the Chancel Choir
The King of Love My Shepherd Is—Edward Bairstow

Music by Hanna Golodinskii, soprano
Ave Maria—William Gomez



The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

108 Sound Beach Avenue,
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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