

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665

14 January 2018

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

Aria

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist
Harold Heeremans (1900-1997)

CALL TO COMMUNITY

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

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

PRAISING GOD

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

Leader: We gather to worship God,

People: Who creates us and loves us;

Leader: Who gifts us with diversity and makes us for
community;

People: Who gives Jesus Christ to show us how to live;

Leader: Who inspires children, youth, young adults, and people
of all ages,

**People: To seek justice, share power, and live together in
love and equality;**

Leader: Who invites us to join the struggle for wholeness and
wellbeing for all,

**People: And whose presence, grace, and love sustain us in
our living.**

Leader: We gather to worship God.

All: To God be all glory, honor, and praise!

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

* HYMN

Wonder of Wonders,
Here Revealed

New Century (black) hymnal 328

UNISON PRAYER

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

O God, we thank you for the fact that you have inspired men and women in all nations and in all cultures. We call you different names: some call you Allah; some call you Elohim; some call you Jehovah; some call you Brahma; some call you the Unmoved Mover. But we know that these are all names for one and the same God. Grant that we will follow you and become so committed to your way and your kingdom that we will be able to establish in our lives and in this world a brother and sisterhood, that we will be able to establish here a kingdom of understanding, where men and women will live together as brothers and sisters and respect the dignity and worth of every human being. In the name and spirit of Jesus. Amen. –Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Berkeley Claire Connell, daughter of
Kristin Connell and Patrick Connell

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 Berkeley, 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.**

(After the baptism, all children will go to Church School in the Daniels Center. Three and younger four year olds are welcome in child care in the Blue Door. Older youth (5th, 6th, 7th, 8th) are needed to help in the Daniels Center.)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Car Westbrook

Mark 1: 9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

—New Revised Standard Edition

ANTHEM

A Repeating Alleluia

The Chancel Choir

Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

SECOND LESSON

Galatians 3: 27-29

As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

—New Revised Standard Edition

SERMON

With You I Am Well Pleased

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

*** HYMN**

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

New Century (black) hymnal 472

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Patrick Collins

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY SOLO

Steal Away to Heaven

Linnea Conley, mezzo soprano

Arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

*** 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**

We Shall Overcome

New Century (black) hymnal 570

*** BENEDICTION**

* CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988)

* * *

The flowers in the Meetinghouse this morning are given in celebration of the baptism of Berkeley Claire Connell, daughter of Kristin and Patrick Connell.

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

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

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.

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

Church School today is in the Daniels Center where we will do a Service project in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Next week, January 21st we will return to our regular church school schedule.

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

New Members Wanted: Come Learn About First Church!

Our next New Member class will be held on Sunday, January 21, 2018 at 11:15 AM in the Senior Pastor's office. It will last approximately two hours and will include lunch. During the class, prospective new members will have the opportunity to hear about the history and faith of our denomination, the United Church of Christ, and to learn more about our church and meet the clergy as well as staff. Attending does not obligate you to join but we hope that this time together will strengthen you on the journey of faith. New members will be received on Sunday, January 28th. Child care will be provided at both times. Please feel welcome to join us. If you are planning to attend or you have questions please contact Ginny Breismeister at ginnyb@fccog.org or 637-1791 ex.26.

Nights Off Cooking Soup

The Women's Fellowship evening group, Nights Off, will be gathering at the home of Ginny Breismeister on Tuesday, January 23, at 6:30 pm. We will be making soup for the Women's Fellowship Souper Bowl Soup Sale. We will have all the ingredients for the soup. Please bring your beverage of choice and perhaps an appetizer to

share. RSVPs appreciated to Ginny Breismeister at ginbreis@optonline.net .

Announcing the 2018 “Souper Bowl” Sunday Soup Sale

Calling all cooks! It’s time to show-off your soup-making skills once again by volunteering to make and donate a quart (or quarts) of soup to this year’s annual “Souper Bowl Sunday” soup sale to benefit the FCCOG Women’s Fellowship! The sale will take place in the auditorium on Sunday, February 4, 2018 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and quarts homemade of soup will be sold for \$10 each. Please sign up to donate in the church office or after church in the auditorium for the next several Sundays. Restaurant-style food containers will be available for pick-up starting this Sunday after church in the auditorium. This annual event has proven to be an easy, inexpensive and popular way to contribute to the community for both those who love to cook and those who love to eat! Please contact Jenny Gartner at jenniferhgartner@gmail.com or Sue Wilder at swilder102@gmail.com for more information.

Women’s Fellowship Allocation Committee Seeks Members

Have you wanted to participate in Church outreach, but do not have the time to sign up for a year-long commitment? The Women’s Fellowship Allocation Committee has the perfect solution for you. The Allocation committee is charged with reviewing, researching and recommending awards in response to funding applications received for the allocation year. This year we have 47 organizations that have requested funding, and could use a few good women to engage in the important work of allocating to these worthy organizations. We meet every other Wednesday from 7 - 8 pm. Most of the work can be done at your convenience. If you are interested in joining our Committee, please contact Sheila Bennett at sheilabennett@optonline.net.

News from the Rummage Room

191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich

Monday, January 15: Good winter clothing is available for both adults and children. Winter coats, warm sweaters, scarves, hats, boots and more. Other good buys are home goods, shoes, jewelry, bric-a-brac and children’s clothing.

Mgr. Leanne’s Wish List: Winter coats; winter hats; jewelry; handbags.

Tax Slips: Pick up your tax slip for claiming donations during 2017. Only one needed per year.

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

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

The Rummage Room helps give hope and radiance to those needing help. The idea of hope being just around the corner has meant that the Rummage Room has been that place for more than . . . years. So when you shop and donate, you are giving that needed radiance to women's, children's and family organizations. Thank you for your continued support throughout the years.

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, January 21**

Rev. Patrick Collins, preaching

Music by the Chancel Choir
I Waited for the Lord—Felix Mendelssohn
Carolyn Paulus and Carol Woodman, sopranos

Music by the Cherub Choir
Hallelu Hallelu—Traditional

Music by John Russell, oboe
Grave and Allegro from Concerto in G Minor—G. F. Handel



The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

108 Sound Beach Avenue,
Old Greenwich, Connecticut, 06870
203-637-1791
www.fcog.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