

*Old Greenwich,  
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

*United Church  
of Christ*

*Celebrating 350 Years - 1665-2015*

## The Third Sunday of Easter

19 April 2015

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 as we look toward the celebration of Earth Day on Wednesday. In the spirit of the day, we start with this quote from the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon:

*“I appeal to all people everywhere to raise their voices. Speak out on behalf of this planet, our only home. Let us care for Mother Earth so she can continue to care for us as she has done for millennia.”*

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### **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

\*All who are able please stand.

#### **PRELUDE**

*Sonata #2*

*Adagio*

*Allegro*

*Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ*  
*Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)*

#### **CALL TO COMMUNITY**

*Please sign and pass the red book.*

*Rev. Mark D. Montgomery*

### **PRAISING GOD**

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Lauren Mickley*

*Leader: How wonderful, O Lord, are the works of your hands!*

*People: The heavens declare Your glory, the arch of sky displays  
Your handiwork.*

*Leader: In Your love You have given us the power to behold the beauty  
of Your world robed in all its splendor.*

*People: The sun and the stars, the valleys and hills, the rivers and  
lakes all disclose Your presence.*

*Leader: The roaring breakers of the sea tell of Your awesome might, the  
beasts of the field and the birds of the air bespeak Your  
wondrous will.*

*People: In Your goodness You have made us able to hear the music  
of the world.*

*Leader: The voices of loved ones reveal to us that You are in our midst.*

*All: A divine voice sings through all creation. *Jewish Prayer**

**\*HYMN**

*O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

New Century (black) Hymnal 42

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We join with the earth and with each other  
To bring new life to the land  
To restore the waters  
To refresh the air.

We join with the earth and with each other  
To renew the forests  
To care for the plants  
To protect the creatures.

We join with the earth and with each other  
To celebrate the seas  
To rejoice in the sunlight  
To sing the song of the stars.

We join with the earth and with each other  
To recreate the human community  
To promote justice and peace  
To remember our children.

We join with the earth and with each other.  
We join together as many and diverse expressions  
Of one loving mystery; for the healing of the  
Earth and the renewal of all life.

*U.N. Environmental Sabbath Program*

**ANTHEM**

*Come Worship God*

*The Children's Choir*

Michael Bedford (b. 1949)

*Vance Briceland, piano*

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

*Liam Joseph O'Gorman, son of Erin C. and Matthew P. O'Gorman*

## 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 **Liam** that you will watch over him and guide him as he 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.*

*(During the Baptismal Response, the children and teachers will go to their Rotation Workshops: Kindergarten/1st Grade go to Red Door in the Preschool; 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade go to Room 104; 3rd Grade and older go to the Daniels Center – all on the lower level of the building. Your child can just go with the “crowd” and we will be sure they find their room.)*

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### FIRST LESSON

*Betsy Kreuter*

### Psalm 4

**W**hen I call, give me answers. God, take my side!  
Once, in a tight place, you gave me room;  
Now I'm in trouble again: grace me! hear me!

You rabble—how long do I put up with your scorn?  
How long will you lust after lies?  
How long will you live crazed by illusion?  
Look at this: look who got picked by God!  
He listens the split second I call to him.  
Complain if you must, but don't lash out.  
Keep your mouth shut, and let your heart do the talking.  
Build your case before God and wait for his verdict.  
Why is everyone hungry for *more*? "More, more," they say.  
"More, more."  
I have God's more-than-enough,  
More joy in one ordinary day  
Than they get in all their shopping sprees.  
At day's end I'm ready for sound sleep,  
For you, God, have put my life back together.

From *The Message*

## ANTHEM

*The Chancel Choir*

*Since by Man Came Death (from Messiah)*

G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

*Since by man came death,  
by man came also the resurrection of the dead.*

## SECOND LESSON

*Barbara Norrgard*

### Luke 24:36-48

While they were saying all this, Jesus appeared to them and said, "Peace be with you." They thought they were seeing a ghost and were scared half to death. He continued with them, "Don't be upset, and don't let all these doubting questions take over. Look at my hands; look at my feet—it's really me. Touch me. Look me over from head to toe. A ghost doesn't have muscle and bone like this."

As he said this, he showed them his hands and feet. They still couldn't believe what they were seeing. It was too much; it seemed too good to be true. He asked, "Do you have any food here?" They gave him a piece of leftover fish they had cooked. He took it and ate it right before their eyes.

Then he said, "Everything I told you while I was with you comes to this: All the things written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets, and in the Psalms have to be fulfilled."

He went on to open their understanding of the Word of God, showing them how to read their Bibles this way. He said, "You can see now how it is written that the Messiah suffers, rises from the dead on the third day, and then a total life-change through the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed in his name to all nations—starting from here, from Jerusalem! You're the first to hear and see it. You're the witnesses." From *The Message*

**\*HYMN**

*All Things Bright and Beautiful (CC\*)* Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 478

**SERMON**

*You're the Witnesses?*

*Rev. Avery C. Manchester*

**RESPONDING TO GOD**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**ORGAN OFFERTORY**

*Sonata in D*

Leonardo Vinci (1690-1730)

**\*DOXOLOGY**

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 515

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD**

**\*HYMN**

*Come to Tend God's Garden*

New Century (black) Hymnal 586

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

*March*

G. F. Handel

\*CC = Congregation Choice

\* \* \*

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

*Please join us for Fellowship Hour in the Auditorium following the worship service.*

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The flowers in the Meetinghouse this morning are given in celebration of the baptism of Liam Joseph O’Gorman by his family.

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. On Church School Sundays we also have a class for 3 and 4-year olds during the entire 10:00 am service. Please see an usher if you need directions to child care or Church School.

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](http://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.

*Calendar*

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TODAY

### Church School

Today we will have the first of two Sunday Rotation Workshops on Communion. The Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> graders will learn about the Last Supper in several different ways. The 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and their

parents will learn about the Last Supper and what Communion means to us. The older group will look at DaVinci's "Last Supper" and prepare a tableau for you all to see during Fellowship Hour next Week!

### Parish Nurse

Sue Asselin, R.N. is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations in Room 203 following today's Worship Service.

### Choir Rehearsals

Youth Choir will have rehearsal today from 11:15 am-12:15 pm in the Choir Room. There is no Children's or Cherub Choir rehearsal.

### Bible Study Returns

Join us for Bible Study today at 11:20 am in the Lounge. No need for you to have ever attended before. All are welcome. Led by Rev. Avery Manchester.

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## THIS WEEK

### *Nights Off Women's Group April Gathering*

*Crepes and Conversation:* Our *Nights Off Women's Group* will be meeting tomorrow, **Monday, April 20** at 6:30 pm at the home of Sue McCalley. We will be making crepes to help restock our food to be



delivered to church members who are in need due to medical and other issues. This will also be a great time to meet new and old friends for a bit of socializing.

Please bring an appetizer to share and whatever you would like to drink. All are welcome! Please join us and bring a friend along. If you have questions about this gathering, please contact Sue McCalley at 203-273-6526 (phone or text). To be added to the email list, please contact Shirley Flierl at [fbtworld@aol.com](mailto:fbtworld@aol.com).

### Annual Quilt Raffle Tickets on Sale!

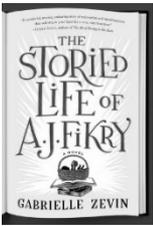
Tickets for the 45th Annual Quilt Raffle are now available for purchase for **\$5 each**. The drawing will take place at the *Women's Fellowship Spring Luncheon* on **Wednesday, May 13** at noon. You do not need to be present to win. This year's quilt is a full-sized vintage cross stitch, *Colonial Plymouth*. The original embroidery was done around



1950. Dee Robarts acquired the separate pieces at The Rummage Room and passed them onto our beloved Kettle Quilters who painstakingly assembled the beautiful quilt, thus, saving this original embroidery. **Tickets are now being sold during Fellowship Hour following Sunday worship (each Sunday now through May 10), in the Church Office and an order form is included in the April Meetinghouse Monthly.** All proceeds are donated to support charitable organizations that benefit women, children and families.

### ***Hats Off* Book Discussion Group**

Our *Hats Off* book study group has chosen *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Levin for our next spring selection which will begin this Thursday, April 23. This story is about a middle-aged man who owns a failing, independent bookstore on Alice Island off the coast of Massachusetts. This book "is an unforgettable tale of transformation and second chances, an irresistible affirmation of why we read, and why we love." Please call Jean Bruder at 203-661-1685 to order a copy or you can reserve your book from the Greenwich Library. We meet on Thursdays in the Lounge from 10:00 to 11:30 am. Please join us.



### **Moms' Group**

If you have a baby, toddler and/or 2 year old, join us for an opportunity to meet and relax with other moms and their young kids. The next gathering is this *Friday, April 24* from 10:00-11:00 am in Room 104. Then with the nice weather, the group will change to having an outing once a month OUTDOORS. In **May** we will go to the new Cos Cob Park. If you would like your name added to the email invitation list, please contact Kristen Jacks at 203-344-1961 or [kmj33z@yahoo.com](mailto:kmj33z@yahoo.com).

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## **NEXT WEEK**

### **Wellness Second Hour**

Join us on *Sunday, April 26* at 11:30 am in the Lounge for an Advanced Directive Workshop with Dr. Donna Coletti, Director of Palliative Care at Greenwich Hospital, Judy Holding, MAR, Chaplain at Greenwich Hospital, and Lori Romano, JD, an estate planning lawyer (and FCCOG member). Learn how to express our

wishes through documents such as a living will, power of attorney, and health care proxy. Call Parish Nurse, Sue Asselin, with any questions at 203-637-1791 ext. 21 or email [susana@fccog.org](mailto:susana@fccog.org).

### Spring Festival of the Arts: May 1-3

Mark your calendars and be sure to join us for our *Spring Festival of the Arts* on the first weekend of May, *May 1-3*.

**Friday, May 1: 6:00 pm, Art Opening and Reception** – The *Art Society of Old Greenwich* will present artwork from their members in our auditorium. The evening will include a wine and cheese reception to mark the opening of the exhibit, which will be on display and viewable from Friday evening-late Sunday afternoon.

**Friday, May 1: 8:00 pm, Chamber Music Performance by *Serio Divertimenti* (R).** The group is comprised of Marcia Eckert, piano; Monte Morgenstern, clarinet; Peter Prosser, cello; Lisa Arkis, flute. Tickets \$25.



**Saturday, May 2: 8:00 pm, First Church Festival Chorus and Orchestra** performing Beethoven's *Mass in C* and *Choral Fantasy*, directed by Craig Scott Symons. Special guest, Cullan Bryant, pianist (L). Tickets \$35 for preferred seating, and \$25 for regular seating.



**Sunday, May 3: 4:00 pm, *Rock of Ages: Hymns for the Soul***, featuring vocalist, Jolie Rocke Brown (R) and nationally acclaimed pianist, Joel Martin. Tickets \$25.

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## NEWS AND NOTICES

### Calling All "Young" People!

Calling all "young" people...girls and boys...to help with one of the first historical activities related to our 350th celebration. Years ago we used to have a **Maypole Dance** in early May on our front lawn. This tradition was started by Richard Vogt and continued by John Stansell for many years. We thought this year would be a perfect time to reprise this wonderful event. The "dance" will be "choreographed" by a few of our adult and high school dancers. If you are interested in hearing more OR you know that your child(ren) might want to participate, please contact Rosemary Lamie ASAP at

[RosemaryL@fccog.org](mailto:RosemaryL@fccog.org) or 203-637-1791 ext. 20. We plan to have one rehearsal on Saturday, May 2 and then the event will take place immediately after worship on **Sunday, May 3**.

And, remember, we will have the Opening Celebration for our 350th anniversary the following Sunday on **May 10** as part of Music Sunday. Don't miss all the fun!

**News from The Rummage Room**  
*191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich*

**Monday, April 20:** Manager Maria will have several categories of merchandise 50% off through Saturday, April 25. All sales items for the week can be found on our website at

[www.fccog.org/about-us/the-rummage-room](http://www.fccog.org/about-us/the-rummage-room).

**Wednesday, April 22:** *Today is Earth Day.* Earth Day to The Rummage Room is all about helping to keep the earth 'green.' It has been an important mission for The Rummage Room to remember that we are part of the 3 R's ... Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. The 3 R's are part of our mission to raise money which is distributed yearly to worthy organizations locally, throughout the United States and around the World. Every time we donate and every time we buy at The Rummage Room, we are helping both the earth and women and children's organizations in need.

**Tuesday, April 28:** Remember the annual '**Thank You Breakfast for The Rummage Room Volunteers.**' The breakfast will begin at 9:00 am and end by 10:30 am. If you have not signed up for this, please do so at The Rummage Room or call Maria at 203-637-1875.

**Manager Maria's Wish List:** Two boys navy blazers, size 10 and size 12; men's navy summer-weight blazer, size 42 long; strollers, bikes and trikes; a child's violin and guitar; fishing poles. Please bring only clean, saleable clothing.

**Shop Hours:** 10:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday & 10:00 am to 1:00 pm on Saturday.

**Donation Hours:** 9:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Thursday & 9:30 am to 12:30 pm on Saturday.

**Thought for Earth Day:** *When we were born, we cried and the World Rejoiced! It is hoped we will live our lives so that when we die, the world cries and We Rejoice! - A Cherokee Wisdom Expression*

## Tai Chi Classes

TRY IT OUT! Come and experience the many wonderful benefits of Tai Chi and Qi Gong exercises. Classes are held on **Wednesday** at 8:00 am and **Thursday** at 9:00 am. Only \$10 per class. Drop-ins are welcome.

## Neighbor to Neighbor – Food Collection

Please don't forget those in need. **Items especially needed are canned meats, such as Spam, chili, etc.** Tuna is **not** needed at this time. Other items include: Cereal, canned fruit, pasta, peanut butter, and jelly. Sheets and towels are always needed.

### *Next Week at First Congregational Church*

10:00 am Worship Service – Meetinghouse

*April 26, 2015*

Music by:

**The Chancel Choir**

*Softly and Tenderly*, Arr. by Gilbert Martin

Kyrie from Mass in C by Ludwig van Beethoven

**Linnea Conley, mezzo soprano**

*How Beautiful Are Thy Dwellings* by S. de Lange

*Rev. Richard DenUyl, Jr., preaching*

Where to find us:

[www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org)

Facebook

Twitter

YouTube

Instagram





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*Ever faithful, ever present*

## Opening Celebration May 10, 10 am

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich is turning 350! Join us on *May 10* at 10:00 am in our historic Meetinghouse for the Opening Ceremonies of our year-long celebration. We will be joined by several dignitaries and there will be a special reception following the service. During this commemorative year we will *'honor the past, celebrate the present, and lean into the future.'*

*The First Congregational Church of Greenwich*

108 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich, Connecticut, 06870

203-637-1791; [www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org)

Ministers: The Members of The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

Senior Pastor: Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry: Rev. Mark D. Montgomery

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

Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister

Director of Communications: Barbara Wilkov

Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin, RN

Director of Preschool: Darla Kohler Steiner

Pastors Emeriti: Rev. Dr. Thomas L. Stiers and Rev. Sally Colegrove

Director of Music Emeritus: Dr. John Stansell