

# *Easter Sunrise Service*

*April 5, 2015*



*The First Congregational Church of Greenwich  
Celebrating 350 Years • 1665-2015*

*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.*



# *Easter Sunrise Service*

5 April 2015

6:15 in the morning at Greenwich Point

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## CALL TO COMMUNITY

### EASTER PROCLAMATION

*Leader: Praise the Lord! Christ is risen!*

*People: He is risen indeed!*

*Leader: For us the stone has been rolled away.*

*People: Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

*Leader: Christ has been raised from death to new life.*

*People: Christ is risen indeed!*

## OPENING HYMN

*Christ The Lord Is Risen Today (words and music on next page)*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION


Gracious God, you have walked patiently with us throughout our Lenten journey. You have celebrated our successes and our growing understanding of your love; and you have mourned our failures and rejections of your healing mercies. This day, as we have gathered to celebrate the joy of Easter, let us remember that we are to become “Easter People,” people of the Resurrection; people who know that what was thought to be impossible has been conquered. Forgive our stubbornness and fears. Fill us with your healing love and help us to become the disciples that you need to serve in this world.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

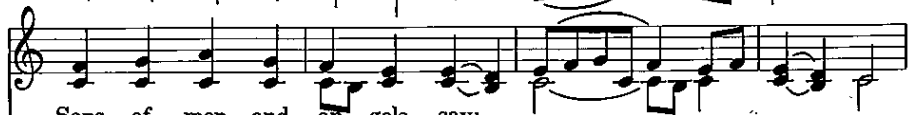
# Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788 alt.

EASTER HYMN 7.7.7.7. with Alleluias  
Arr. from "Lyra Davidica," 1708




1 Christ the Lord is risen to - day,  
2 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King,  
3 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - - le - lu - ia!  
4 Soar we now where Christ has led,



Sons of men and an - gels say:  
Where, O death, is now thy sting?  
Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - - le - lu - ia!  
Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head,



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,  
Dy - ing once, he all doth save,  
Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - - le - lu - ia!  
Made like him, like him we rise,



Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply:  
Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?  
Christ has o - pened Par - a - dise, Al - - le - lu - ia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies,

A-men.



A descant may be found at No. 582  
Alternative tune, LLANFAIR, No. 187

RESURRECTION

## FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

### Mark 16:1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

*From New Revised Standard Version*

### ANTHEM

*Come Ye Faithful*

*The Youth Choir*

R. S. Thatcher

*Carolyn Paulus, director*

*Jon Hunt, accompanist*

*Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness;  
God hath brought forth Israel into joy from sadness;  
'Tis the spring of souls today; Christ hath burst his prison,  
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath risen;*

*Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor,  
with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render;  
comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection  
welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.*

*Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal,  
nor the watchers, nor the seal hold thee as a mortal;  
but today amidst the twelve thou didst stand, bestowing  
that thy peace which evermore passeth human knowing.*

## SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

### Philippians 4:8-9

Summing it all up, friends, I'd say you'll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious – the best, not the worst; the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse. Put into practice what you learned from me, what you heard and saw and realized. Do that, and God, who makes everything work together, will work you into his most excellent harmonies.

From *The Message*

## HYMN

*Morning Has Broken*

Arr. Cat Stevens

*Morning has broken like the first morning;  
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing, fresh from the Word!*

*Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
Like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass.*

*Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning  
Born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day!*

## SERMON

*Now What?*

Rev. Mark D. Montgomery

## ANTHEM

*Salaam*

*The Youth Choir*

Sheva

Carolyn Paulus, director

Jon Hunt, accompanist

*Od yavo shalom aleinu, od yavo shalom aleinu,  
Od yavo shalom aleinu, v'al kulam. (Repeat)*

*Salaam aleinu v'al kol ha'olam Salaam, Shalom (Repeat)*

*Translation: Indeed there will come a time when there will be peace for all of us. Peace on us and on all of us.*

*(Salaam is the Arabic word for peace and Shalom is the Hebrew word for peace.)*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### 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.

### BENEDICTION

### CHORAL RESPONSE

"Finale" from *Godspell*

Stephen Schwartz

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**Youth Choir of  
The First Congregational Church of Greenwich**

*Carolyn Paulus, director  
Jon Hunt, pianist*

*Amy Cass  
Parker Freeman  
Ellie Garnett  
Lydia Garnett  
Yevgeniya Golodinskii  
Ivan Golodinskii  
Olivia Hartwell  
Mariel Laffan  
Alexa LaVersa  
Daniel Lepoutre*

*Charlotte Lorthioir  
Lauren Mickley  
Drew Mohn  
Elizabeth Mohn  
Sarah Morris  
Emma Olmsted  
Melanie Pfetsch  
Olivia Pfetsch  
Hans Van Rhyne  
Gillian Woodman  
Stephanie Woodman*

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**Our offering this morning** will be received at the close of the service. All undesignated contributions will go to support Youth Ministries in the church. Providing a safe place in which young people can explore who they are and the ways God is working through and with them has long been a goal of those who work with the youngest among us at The First Congregational Church of Greenwich. We have sought to raise our children well and our prayer is that we will plant the seeds of faith that will serve them their whole lives. This year, our Lenten Offering seeks to offer that same grace to two communities outside of our church walls.





This year's Lenten Offering recipients will enhance the facilities and programming for the children and families who are a part of the *Silver Lake Conference Center* and those who receive the services of *Covenant to Care for Children*. Our contributions this year will be used for these programs:

- **Silver Lake** is the Conference Center for the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ. FCCOG has a deep and fruitful relationship with Silver Lake and many who are a part of our congregation can give testimony to the ways the programs and presence of Silver Lake have shaped them and their children's lives. Our money this year will bring to fruition a building project at Silver Lake that will further the ministry they share. Not only will we be offering our dollars, but we will also have the opportunity to visit Silver Lake as a congregation and put our sweat equity into the project with some hands-on construction help.
- **Covenant to Care for Children** is an agency that works with foster children who are a part of the Connecticut foster care system. Their goal is to place children in both foster programs and forever homes. To do so, they need the support of churches like ours to ensure that the children have the material things they need when they find the home that is suitable for them. As part of this, we will provide a portion of the Lenten Offering dollars to assist in their program. We also were a part of creating Easter Baskets that were shared with the children who are part of the program.

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**At the conclusion of the service this morning,** you will receive a daffodil. These flowers are a gift from the Speer Family for this Easter Sunday.

**This Sunrise Service is sponsored and supported by The First Congregational Church of Greenwich,** United Church of Christ, and has been a project of the Youth Ministry Program of this church for over 60 years.

**Please join us as our Easter Sunday Celebration continues** in the Meetinghouse at 9:00 and 11:00 am with Festival Services, including choirs, brass and timpani. Child care is available.

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Where to find us:

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

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*The First Congregational Church of Greenwich*

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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