

Old Greenwich,  
Connecticut

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

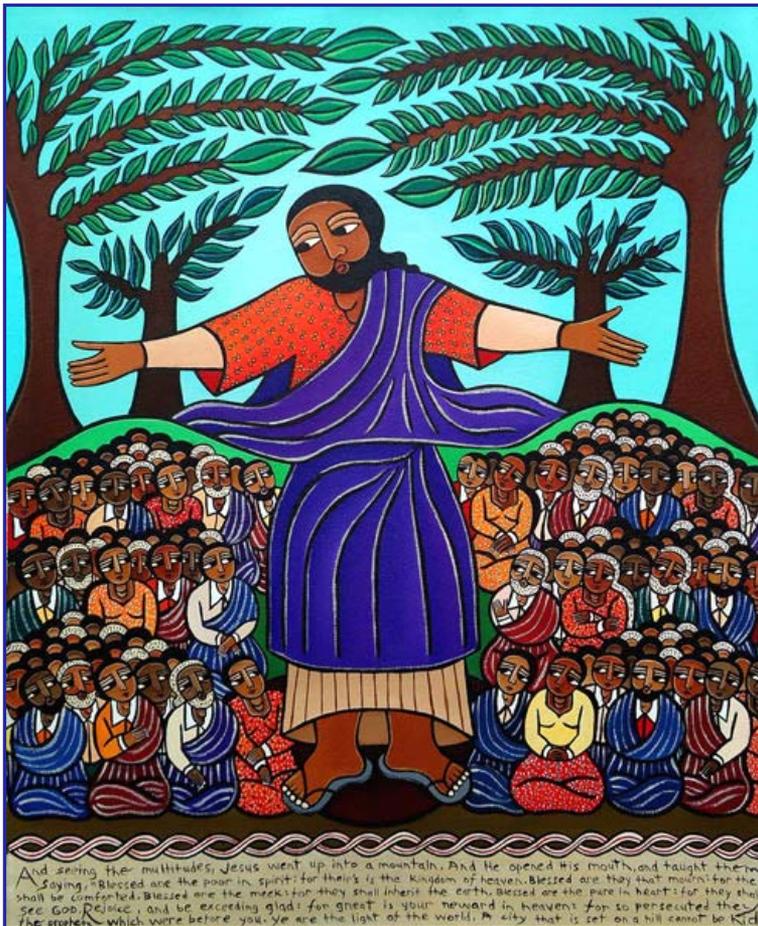
United Church  
of Christ

Founded in 1665

# The Second Sunday of Easter

7 April 2013

10 o'clock in the morning



Sermon on the Mount by Laura James

<http://www.laurajamesart.com>

*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.*



**A**s the earth comes to life in this vibrant springtime, we welcome you to worship at First Congregational Church of Greenwich. We are glad you are here to share this sacred time and we hope that your spirit will feel the deep, transforming touch of God's love.

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### **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

\*All who are able please stand.

‡Seating of latecomers.

#### **PRELUDE**

*March*

*Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ*  
John Marsh (b. 1939)

#### **CALL TO COMMUNITY**

*Please sign and pass the red book.*

*Rev. Daniel B. England*

#### **MOMENT OF OPPORTUNITY – CROP Hunger Walk**

### **PRAISING GOD**

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Leader: Friends in Christ, we are gathered to give thanks for all we have received from the hands of God.*

*People: We are here to praise God's holy name and to hear the promises of scripture.*

*Leader: We are here to ask those things needed for a full life.*

*People: We are here to deepen our compassion for all God's people.*

*Leader: Let us draw near to God in all humility.*

*People: Let us celebrate God's infinite goodness and mercy.*

#### **\*‡HYMN**

*Thine Is the Glory*

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 193

#### **OPENING PRAYER (in unison)**

Living God, you call us together in this sacred hour to feel the deep connection of love which binds us to you and to one another. May our prayer this day open a path for that love to

flow through us and into the world. May we feel our stress and anxiety lessen as we reclaim your promise to lift our burdens and carry our load. Make us a blessing to those in need, that we may continue to feel your Easter power filling our hearts with all the possibilities of new life. We pray in Jesus' name, whose prayer we pray,

### 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.

### \*GLORIA

New Century (black) Hymnal 754

*Glory to God the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Amen.*

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### FIRST LESSON

*Pat Larrabee*

### Acts 10:30-38

Cornelius replied, "Four days ago at this very hour, at three o'clock, I was praying in my house when suddenly a man in dazzling clothes stood before me. He said, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your alms have been remembered before God. Send therefore to Joppa and ask for Simon, who is called Peter; he is staying in the home of Simon, a tanner, by the sea.' Therefore I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. So now all of us are here in the presence of God to listen to all that the Lord has commanded you to say."

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in

Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

*From NRSV*

SOLO

*The Peace of Christ*

*Linnea Conley, mezzo soprano*

Donald E. Dillard (b. 1940)

## SECOND LESSON

### Matthew 7:1-12

“Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. For with the judgment you make you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get. Why do you see the speck in your neighbor’s eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? Or how can you say to your neighbor, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ while the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor’s eye. “Do not give what is holy to dogs; and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under foot and turn and maul you.

“Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for bread, will give a stone? Or if the child asks for a fish, will give a snake? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him! In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets.”

*From NRSV*

\*‡HYMN

*Born of God, Eternal Savior*      New Century (black) Hymnal 542

*(As the hymn begins, the Church School children and teachers will leave for their classrooms. Children in second grade and older will leave*

*independently. Children in kindergarten and first grade will meet their teachers at the back of the Meetinghouse (narthex) and will go to their classrooms as a group.)*

**SERMON**

*Check Your Iron*

*Rev. John W. Collins*

**RESPONDING TO GOD**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

*Rev. Avery C. Manchester*

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*The Chancel Choir*

*Achieved is the Glorious Work (from The Creation)*

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

*Achieved is the glorious work;  
Our song let be the praise of God.  
Glory to His name forever.  
He sole on high exalted reigns. Hallelujah.*

**\*DOXOLOGY**      To the tune of *All Creatures of Our God and King*  
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.*  
*Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!*  
*Praise God, the source of all our gifts!*  
*Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!*  
*Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

**RECEIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(in unison)*

We thank you, O God, for these moments of communion with you and each other. By these actions, we have renewed our commitment to bear your name and to follow you wherever you lead us. O Lord God, your great name be praised. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

### \*HYMN

*The Day of Resurrection*

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 192

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*CHORAL RESPONSE

### POSTLUDE

*Choral Improvisation*

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933)

*\* Please join us for Coffee Hour following the worship service.*



### Music Notes:

The Offertory Anthem is from Haydn's greatest choral work, *The Creation* (Die Schöpfung), written between 1796-1798. This particular movement comes at the end of the second section of the oratorio, after the sixth day's work, when man was created. The chorus shouts "Achieved is the glorious work;" God has finished all that he envisioned and he declares it good.

Donald Dillard is an African American composer who is currently Music Director at Philadelphia's Covenant Presbyterian Church. He did graduate work at Westminster Choir College and taught music

theory at West Chester University, where he also received his under-grad degree.

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We have **child care for babies and toddlers** every Sunday. Your children are always welcome for the entire service or for a respite time if needed. Please see an usher if you need directions.

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's Church School lesson is based on the first scripture reading about Peter and Cornelius. Next week is a Big Event – the one room schoolhouse format for children of all ages. Preschool children have the option of being in child care.

#### **Parish Nurse**

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

#### **Choir Rehearsals**

Choir rehearsals today are: Cherub Choir from 11:15 am to 12:00 noon in Room 104; Children's Choir from 11:15 am to 12:00 noon in Room 303 (Craig's office); and Youth Choir from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm in the Choir Room.



linc resumes today at 5:00 pm in the Auditorium. We will hear the story of what happened just after the resurrection. Rev. Avery Manchester will be leading us in story and prayer. This is a casual service good for all ages, so come as you are and bring the whole family!

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## THIS WEEK

### **Gun Violence Prevention Meeting – Thurs, April 11**

If you would like to be a part of a grassroots conversation regarding gun violence, gun control and how our congregation may respond, please join us on *Thursday, April 11* at 6:30 pm in the Lounge. We hope to have a diversity of voices and ideas and look forward to where the spirit may lead our conversation and our action. If you plan to attend, please contact the Church Office to let us know.

### **Invitation to Mothers of Very Young Children**

Starting *Friday, April 12*, First Congregational Church will offer a Mothers Group every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month. Bring your baby, toddler and/or 2 year old for an opportunity to meet and relax with other moms and their young kids. The group will meet at 9:00 am in Room 104. For more information, email Kristen Jacks at [kmj33z@yahoo.com](mailto:kmj33z@yahoo.com) or call her at 203-344-1961.

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## NEXT WEEK

### **Sunday Bible Study**

Sunday Bible Study will recommence on *April 14, 2013* at 11:20 am in the Lounge. The subject, at least initially, will be the "nones" - those people who when asked about their religious affiliation check "none" on the survey. Why do they say that? What are the forces creating a distance between them and God, the church and a sense of soul? Or are they finding a different way? This will be no sociological study but a true Bible Study that will perhaps give us some insight into how our church can better minister to this community and also confront the "none"-ness in each of us. Led by Dan England.

### ***Nights Off* Women's Fellowship Group**

*Nights Off* will not be meeting on April 15 as previously announced. We will meet again in May on a date to be determined. Look out for further information. If you are not on the email list and would like to be, please email Shirley Flierl at [FBTWorld@aol.com](mailto:FBTWorld@aol.com).

New Mid-Week Bible Study with Rev. Dan England  
Will Continue on *Thursday, April 18*

Don't forget the new Mid-Week Bible Study for beginners which will continue on *Thursday, April 18* at 10:15 am in Room 104. It is a basic Bible Study for those who come with questions that they didn't dare ask before because they didn't quite know where to start. It is gentle, and geared to people who would like to know more about the Bible than they do now. One hour, led by Dan England. No further commitment.



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## NEWS AND NOTICES

### Wonderful Wednesday Returns for the Spring

Our next Wonderful Wednesday is coming up on *April 24* so mark your calendars for this “wonderful” spring event! Join us for dinner, fellowship, learning, fun and prayer. Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm and then we will break into groups led by Rev. Montgomery, Rev. Collins, Rev. England and Sue Asselin, Parish Nurse with some fun activities for the kids. (Please see the [April Meetinghouse Monthly](#) for descriptions of these groups.) The evening will conclude by 8:00 pm. **RSVP to Barbara Wilkov at [barbaraw@fccog.org](mailto:barbaraw@fccog.org) or call 203-637-1791 ext. 24 to let us know if you plan to attend.**

### New Members Wanted: Come Learn About First Church!

Our next new member class will be held on *Sunday, April 21, 2013* at 11:15 am in the Senior Pastor's Office. It will last approximately 2 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, April 28. 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](mailto:ginnyb@fccog.org) or 203-637-1791 ext. 26.

## Silver Lake Summer Programs

Silver Lake Summer Programs are filling up! Information about this wonderful camp experience in Sharon, CT, sponsored by the CT UCC churches, is on the bulletin board outside the Lounge. The programs are for children going into the 4th grade right through high school. For more info, talk to Mark Montgomery or Rosemary Lamie or any of the 12 or so children from our church who have gone and keep going back!



## News from The Rummage Room

*191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich*

### APRIL EVENTS CALENDAR:

**Monday, April 8:** Manager Maria will have 4 or 5 categories of clothing and other items at 50% off for the week.

**Thursday, April 11:** As part of the **Faiths United To Prevent Violence** movement, there will be a meeting at 6:30 pm at FCCOG in order to start a grassroots conversation regarding gun violence and gun control. This is an important meeting and it is hoped that you will attend. One of the mission goals of the Women's Fellowship is the giving of yearly proceeds from The Rummage Room to help support world organizations for Women and Children's causes in order to prevent violence.

**Monday, April 15:** Manager Maria will have 4 or 5 categories of clothing and other items at 50% off for the week.

**Tuesday, April 16:** Annual "*Thank You Breakfast*" for the 75 Rummage Room Volunteers, hosted by The Rummage Room Committee and Maria Drieghe, manager. The event will be held in the Church Auditorium and breakfast will be served at 9:00 am.

**Volunteers:** please note this date on your calendars and come join in the fun, fellowship and good food. Make your reservations either on the sign-up sheet at The Rummage Room or call Maria at 202-637-1875.

**Monday, April 22: Earth Day** - Earth Day is one of the causes embraced by The Rummage Room. All 'gently used' donations are cycled in and recycled right back out again. Then the yearly proceeds are recycled from The Rummage Room to the Allocations Committee and on to the many women, children, and family organizations sponsored by the Women's Fellowship.

**Monday, April 29:** Manager Maria will have 4 or 5 categories of clothing and other items at 50% off for the week.

**Shopping Hours:** Monday through Friday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and on Saturday, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

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

**Manager's Wish List:** Gift donations for Mother's Day; hats; bridal dresses; mother-of-the bride dresses (need two in size 6); all sizes of bikes; small furniture; prom dresses; jewelry (always jewelry); Gift Certificates are available in any amount for your Mothers and Mother-in-laws so that they may select their own gifts.

**Thought for the Month:**

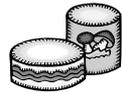
*The secret of health for both mind and body is not to mourn for the past, worry about the future, or anticipate troubles, but to live in the present moment wisely and earnestly. ~Buddha*

**Tai Chi Fitness with Luis Duarte**

Improve your balance, health and well being. Come and experience the many wonderful benefits of Tai Chi and Qi Gong. Classes are held on **Wednesdays** at 8:00 am and **Thursdays** at 9:00 am. Only \$7 per class if paid by the month, and \$8 per class for “drop ins.” Join us! **Good for all levels.** **NOTE:** The Wednesday morning class needs more attendees or it will no longer be available. Please pass this information along to anyone you think might be interested.

**Food Collection**

There continues to be great need for food at Neighbor to Neighbor. Please remember to contribute food each week. The Food Collection Barrel remains in the back of the Meetinghouse. Adding a few items to your weekly grocery store visit will continue to make a significant difference at Neighbor to Neighbor. If you've forgotten your food items this morning, feel free to email [fccoghungermision@gmail.com](mailto:fccoghungermision@gmail.com) with your contact information and someone will pick up the food from your home.



*Next Week at First Congregational Church*

**10:00 am Worship Service – Meetinghouse**  
**Choral Music by The Chancel Choir:**  
*Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether* by Harold Friedell  
*The Best of Rooms* by Peter Matthews  
**Rev. Mark Montgomery, preaching**

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**linc Worship Service 5:00 pm in the Auditorium.**

Rev. Mark Montgomery will lead this service with conversations and activities focusing on what it means for us to be a resurrected people. Even if you attend the 10 am service, come hear a different perspective on Saul.

***linc* worship is casual and appropriate for all ages, so just come as you are and bring the whole family!**



## ***First Music and Arts 2012-2013 Series Continues***

***Friday, April 26 through Sunday, April 28***

First Music and Arts will add visual arts to their community offerings when they partner with *The Art Society of Old Greenwich* who will have artwork on display in the Auditorium and a few pieces in the back of the Meetinghouse. One hour before and after each performance throughout the weekend, you will have a chance to view artwork from the membership of the Art Society. Be sure to tell your friends and neighbors about this wonderful opportunity to experience the talents of our local artists.

***Friday, April 26, 8:00 pm – Organ Recital***

Our wonderful Austin pipe organ will be heard in an organ recital by many Greenwich organists, including Jamie Hitel, Craig Scott Symons, Jon Hunt, Frederick Tripodi, Alistair Reid, and Sean Jackson. Suggested donation is \$20 per person.

***Sunday, April 28, 4:00 pm – Requiem by Johannes Brahms***

The First Church Festival Chorus will be using Brahms' own 4-hand piano version, with Jayson Engquist and Jon Hunt at the keyboard. Our soloists will be soprano Hanna Golodinskii and bass Samuel Hepler, all under the direction of Craig Scott Symons. Suggested donation is \$20 a person.

***Looking Ahead:***

***Sunday, May 19, 7:00 pm – Jubilate Ringers***

The Meetinghouse will be filled with the sounds of bells as we welcome the Jubilate Ringers from Wilton. This group is conducted by Ellen Dickinson, Director of Music at Norfield Church in Weston. Jubilate Ringers is comprised of ringers from the Norfield Church and the Unitarian Church in Westport as well as the surrounding community.

Find us on [Facebook](#) and LIKE the page!  
(help us get to 200 “likes”!)

We're now on [Twitter](#) @FCCCOGCT

Check out our [YouTube](#) page, too!



## *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

Interim Senior Pastor: Rev. John W. Collins

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

Associate Pastor for Communication/Adult Education: Rev. Daniel B. England

Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Director of Music: Dr. Craig Scott Symons

Director of Church School: Rosemary Lamie

Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister

Director of Communications: Barbara Wilkov

Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin, RN

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

Director of Music Emeritus: Dr. John Stansell