

*Old Greenwich,  
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

*United Church  
of Christ*

*Founded in 1665*

## The First Sunday in Lent

17 February 2013

10 o'clock in the morning



Artwork credit: *Jesus the Temptation*, by Rosetta Jallow  
<http://rosettaartist.weebly.com/>

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*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 Worship on this first Sunday in Lent. May this pilgrimage of 40 days have special meaning for you and us, that we may grow in grace and wisdom as a worshipping and witnessing community of faith. Thank you for joining us this morning.

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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**

*Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ*  
*Prelude & Fugue in A Minor* Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

#### **CALL TO COMMUNITY**

*Please sign and pass the red book.*

*Rev. John W. Collins*

#### **MOMENT OF OPPORTUNITY – “Keep the Faith”**

### **PRAISING GOD**

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Gather to remember and share stories of faith;

Rejoice in the goodness of the loving God.

*Before our stories began, there was God;*

*Through all our days, God walks with us.*

Worship the one who gives and sustains life;

Sing praises to the one who is our refuge.

*There is no place we can go where God is not;*

*Amid life's terrors, God's promises hold true.*

Delight in God, whose protection we enjoy;

Dance with the God, who frees us for new possibilities.

*We call out to God, expecting to be heard;*

*We listen, knowing there is truth to be received.*

#### **\*‡HYMN**

*God Is Truly With Us*

New Century (black) Hymnal 68

## OPENING PRAYER *(in unison)*

God of history, whose Word is alive in us, write your truth into our lives this day. Work your signs and wonders in our midst. Show us your salvation. Be present in our troubles and in our triumphs. Lead us away from bondage to things that do not matter. Show us the better land you intend for us, where barriers no longer divide and true community is born. We pray these things in the name of the one who taught us to 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.

## \*GLORIA

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 513

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*Rosemary Lamie*

*(After the Children's Message, the children will go with Rosemary to Room 104 for a Big Event. Parents should meet their children in Room 104 after worship.)*

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

## FIRST LESSON

*Peter Schay*

### Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Once you enter the land that God, your God, is giving you as an inheritance and take it over and settle down, you are to take some of all the firstfruits of what you grow in the land that God, your God, is giving you, put them in a basket and go to the place God, your God, sets apart for you to worship him. At that time, go to the

priest who is there and say, “I announce to God, your God, today that I have entered the land that God promised our ancestors that he’d give to us.” The priest will take the basket from you and place it on the Altar of God, your God. And there in the Presence of God, your God, you will recite:

A wandering Aramean was my father,  
he went down to Egypt and sojourned there,  
he and just a handful of his brothers at first, but soon  
they became a great nation, mighty and many.  
The Egyptians abused and battered us,  
in a cruel and savage slavery.  
We cried out to God, the God-of-Our-Fathers:  
He listened to our voice, he saw  
our destitution, our trouble, our cruel plight.  
And God took us out of Egypt  
with his strong hand and long arm, terrible and great,  
with signs and miracle-wonders.  
And he brought us to this place,  
gave us this land flowing with milk and honey.  
So here I am. I’ve brought the firstfruits  
of what I’ve grown on this ground you gave me, O God.

Then place it in the Presence of God, your God. Prostrate yourselves in the Presence of God, your God. And rejoice! Celebrate all the good things that God, your God, has given you and your family; you and the Levite and the foreigner who lives with you.

*From The Message*

SCRIPTURE SOLO  
*Give Me Jesus*

*Hanna Golodinskii, soprano*  
Arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

SECOND LESSON

*Olivia Hartwell*

**Luke 4:1-13**

**N**ow Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wild. For forty wilderness days and nights he was tested by the Devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when the time was up he was hungry.

The Devil, playing on his hunger, gave the first test: “Since you’re God’s Son, command this stone to turn into a loaf of bread.”

Jesus answered by quoting Deuteronomy: “It takes more than bread to really live.”

For the second test he led him up and spread out all the kingdoms of the earth on display at once. Then the Devil said, “They’re yours in all their splendor to serve your pleasure. I’m in charge of them all and can turn them over to whomever I wish. Worship me and they’re yours, the whole works.”

Jesus refused, again backing his refusal with Deuteronomy: “Worship the Lord your God and only the Lord your God. Serve him with absolute single-heartedness.”

For the third test the Devil took him to Jerusalem and put him on top of the Temple. He said, “If you are God’s Son, jump. It’s written, isn’t it, that ‘he has placed you in the care of angels to protect you; they will catch you; you won’t so much as stub your toe on a stone?’”

“Yes,” said Jesus, “and it’s also written, ‘Don’t you dare tempt the Lord your God.’”

That completed the testing. The Devil retreated temporarily, lying in wait for another opportunity.

*From The Message*

\*‡HYMN

*Great Is Your Faithfulness*

New Century (black) Hymnal 423

SERMON

*How’s Your GPS?*

*Rev. Avery C. Manchester*

## **RESPONDING TO GOD**

PASTORAL PRAYER

*Rev. Daniel B. England*

## CALL TO OFFERING

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*The Chancel Choir*

*We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace*

Arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

### \*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

*Lord, Make Me More Holy*

New Century (black) Hymnal 75

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*CHORAL RESPONSE

### POSTLUDE

*If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee*

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

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



### Music Notes:

Moses Hogan was a rising star in the world of African-American spirituals and his life was cut short with the sudden discovery of a brain tumor in 2003, which led to his untimely death. Moses was awarded a full scholarship to the Oberlin Conservatory of Music

where he studied piano and graduated in 1979 with a Bachelor of Music Degree. In 1980, he started his graduate studies at Juilliard School of Music, and later went to study classical music in Vienna, Austria. During his piano solo years, he won several competitions including first place at the 28th Annual Kosciuszko Foundation Chopin Competition in New York. The anthem "We shall walk..." was commissioned by the Calvin College (Michigan) Alumni Choir and gives us the eternal hope of "...see[ing] our loved ones there," for "Jesus himself will be our leader."

Mark Hayes has created a sumptuous arrangement of the classic spiritual "Give me Jesus." He resides in Kansas City where he composes full-time, in between guest spots directing, accompanying, or presenting workshops of his music. He has published over 850 compositions, including special arrangements for over 50 recordings. The text is a simple one: "In the morning when I rise...give me Jesus. You may have all this world...give me Jesus."

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Please keep our Youth Mission Delegates in your prayers this week while they are in Managua, Nicaragua working with the agency, NicaHOPE. While there they are providing hands-on side-by-side work with those who are part of the NicaHOPE program. Our Youth Mission Delegates and their Group Leaders include:

### **Youth Mission Delegates**

Matt Ambrose  
Jadesola Arryibi  
Sarah Barnaby  
Emily Carlo  
Sarah D'Oliveria  
Josh Erickson  
Lindsay Erickson  
Emily Harris  
Chelsea Hetherington  
Lorisa Ivanaj  
Charlotte Lorthior  
Isabel Meskers  
Victoria Meskers



Astrid Rydevik  
Jake Schinto  
Henry Snyder  
Jack Taylor  
Ingrid Thalheim  
Kendall Thompson  
Gillian Woodman  
Stephanie Woodman

### **Youth Mission Leaders**

Debbie Bocchino, Youth Ministry Staff  
Peter Griffin, Adult Advisor  
Donald Haviland, Youth Ministry Staff  
Mark Montgomery, Pastor  
Darren Ornitz, Photographer  
Dawn Tutje, Adult Advisor

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The flowers in the Meetinghouse this morning are given in loving memory of Cyrus Edward "Bill" Ridenour III, a wonderful husband, father and grandfather.

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**

There are no Church School classes today BUT there is a Big Event (a one room schoolhouse program) in Room 104. The children will leave worship with Rosemary after the Children's Message. The program is on how the Church School can help participate in the

Lenten Offering. Next week regular Church School classes will resume.

### **New for Bible Study – An Authorized Sampler!**

We will meet for Bible Study today as usual at 11:20 am in the Lounge. However, there is a new wrinkle. Bible Study personnel have learned that there are choir rehearsals for children taking place until noon on Sundays, resulting in a considerable number of parents left to wander the halls or gather to chat, which might very well be



amusing to a certain extent, but might also be considered by the more purposeful among them as, well, unproductive. The solution? Come to Bible Study right after dropping off your charges to the appropriate choir gathering place and stay until 12 o'clock or so, when the leader will announce a brief

intermission. You will be able to leave without the least embarrassment or apology, having learned something rather than nothing. (Note to those without child singers: do not try to take advantage of this new liberal policy by sloping off with the parents. This will be noted.) Since Children's Choir is the only one rehearsing today, this invitation is extended to these parents today. Since this is actually the last week for Bible Study for a while, the same offer will also be available during Bible Study after Easter when we pick up again. Today we will feature the famous Daniel-time-line for any newcomers. We're going to polish off James, finally, and anticipate a brand new series after Easter that will involve the Bible, broadcasts from NPR and a New York Times Editorial.

### **Choir Rehearsals**

There is no Cherub or Youth Choir rehearsal today, but Children's Choir will be rehearsing from 11:15 am to 12:00 noon in Room 303 (Craig's office).

### **Parish Nurse**

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

### **Sunday Afternoons Live: *February 17, 4:00 pm***

The focus of our *Sunday Afternoons Live* series this year is *The Greenwich Connection*. All the performers have a connection to our

church, either current or past. Our *February* 17 performance features *The Cypress Piano Quartet*. This chamber ensemble consists of musicians from Fairfield County: Nina Crothers, violin; Suzanne Corey-Sahlin, viola; Gunnar Sahlin, cello; and Patricia Grimm, piano. In addition to concerts in the area, the group has performed at the prestigious concert series at Trinity Church, Wall Street in New York City. The program consists of some of the staples of the piano quartet literature by Beethoven and Brahms. Held in the acoustical splendor of the First Congregational Auditorium, admission to this program is \$20 per person (\$5 for students; children are free) and coffee, tea, and sweet treats will be served.



Our 5 pm *linc* service is **suspended for the month of February** so that all may attend our very special *Sunday Afternoons Live* series each Sunday throughout the month. *Linc* will return on March 3.

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## THIS WEEK

### Nights Off

The *Nights Off* women's group will be meeting for a Valentine's celebration and get-together tomorrow, **Monday, February 18** at the home of Kathy Riley. Dessert will be provided. Please bring a snack to share and whatever you would like to drink. Also, please bring along a sweet item of food to be donated to the food pantry. It can be cake or brownie mix, chocolate chips, packages of Jello or cookies. What-ever is given is appreciated. All women of the church are invited to join in this celebration. Call a friend and invite them to come along. All some people need is that invite. Any questions please call Shirley Flierl at (203)629-4939 or email [FBTWorld@aol.com](mailto:FBTWorld@aol.com).



### Parenting 411 Workshop:

Co-Sponsored by First Church Preschool and Church School

Join us for a special parenting workshop entitled, "*Support and Strategies for Coping with Your Child's Challenging Behavior*,"

this *Thursday, February 21*, 6:30 to 8:30 pm in Daniels Center. The workshop will bring together a panel of experts, each of whom offers a unique approach to helping parents become more effective in relating with and parenting their children. Come at 6:30 pm and have dinner first; the panel discussion will begin at 7:00 pm. There will be child care available. RSVP to Darla Kohler, First Church Preschool Director at [darlak@fccog.org](mailto:darlak@fccog.org) or 203-637-5430. We need to know the number of people attending, including the number of children, by **Tuesday, February 19**.



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

*Hats Off* continues "traveling" with their newest selection which began just last week - *Innocents Abroad* by Mark Twain. Here is a review - *"The Innocents Abroad" is a travel book by American author Mark Twain published in 1869 which humorously chronicles what Twain called his "Great Pleasure Excursion" on board the chartered vessel "Quaker City" through Europe and the Holy Land. It was the best selling of Twain's works during his lifetime and one of the best selling travel books of all time.* Join our book study group on Thursday mornings in the Lounge from 10:00 -11:30 am. Any questions please call Debbie Berner at 203-629-1110.

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## **NEWS AND NOTICES**

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

#### **February Events Calendar:**

**Monday, February 18:** President's Day sale with 50% off EVERYTHING in the shop.

**Monday, February 25:** Three day store-wide 50% off clearance sale through Wednesday, February 27.

**Thursday, February 28:** First day of bag sale. Each filled bag will sell at \$12 per bag.

**Friday, March 1:** Second day of bag sale; \$8 per filled bag.

**Saturday, March 2:** Third day of bag sale and the price drops to \$1 per bag. Everything MUST go.

**Monday, March 4:** THE RUMMAGE ROOM REOPENS AT 1:00 pm with all "new" Spring clothing and accessories. Everything in the shop will be "new."

**Wish list for February:** The Rummage Room is in need of good bric-a-brac, so please check your cabinets for all the stuff you never use and bring it by. We are also in need of Spring clothing, shoes, handbags, jewelry, bikes, strollers and small furniture.

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

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

### 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 exercises. 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! You'll love it! **All are welcome. 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. Here is a quote from a very happy participant: *Luis is an outstanding instructor. I always leave feeling refreshed, invigorated in a gentle way, and my body is grateful. Every joint is gently moved and soothed. It is so wonderful.* Come to Tai Chi and see the benefits for yourself!

### 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. Items in need include:



- Cereal
- pasta sauce
- dried beans
- canned tomatoes
- smaller size peanut butter

- jelly
- 100% juice.

If you've forgotten your food items this morning, feel free to email [fccoghungermission@gmail.com](mailto:fccoghungermission@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:**

*Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit*, arr. William Dawson

*He Never Failed Me Yet*, Robert Ray

**The Children's Choir:**

*O Give Thanks and Sing*, Harriet Willoughby

**Special guest: Maureen Matthews, preaching**

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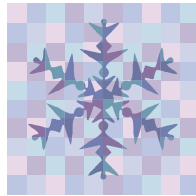
Our 5 pm *linc* service is **suspended for the month of February** so that all may attend our very special *Sundays Afternoon Live* series each Sunday throughout the month. *Linc* will return on March 3.

Find us on [Facebook](#) and LIKE the page!

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

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

And visit our [Forum](#) and start a conversation.



## *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