

*Old Greenwich,
Connecticut*

**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF GREENWICH**

*United Church
of Christ*

Founded in 1665

Fifth Sunday in Lent

13 March 2016

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.



We welcome you to worship here this morning at The First Congregational Church of Greenwich as we worship God in the sacred season of Lent. As the Easter miracle draws ever closer, we hope that your soul will be inspired by our time together and that your life will be touched by God's grace. Please join us when the service is over for a time of fellowship in our Auditorium.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.
*All who are able please stand.

PRELUDE

Prelude on "Flavian"

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

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

FIRST CHURCH FLASHBACK

Colleen Alfano

PRAISING GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

*Leader: Great God of creation, you have turned your face earthward
and opened your heart to your children,*

People: And so do we turn to you now.

Leader: We turn to you for purpose and correction.

People: For safety and peace.

Leader: For assurance and forgiveness.

People: For acceptance and love.

All: Let us worship God.

CHORAL INTROIT

*HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth

Pilgrim Hymnal 66

UNISON PRAYER

Rev. Meghan D. Young

Creator God,
May we always walk gently upon the Earth,
in right relationship,
nurtured by your love,
open to the wind of the Spirit,
taking only what we need,
always open to the needs of others,
making choices that bring wellbeing,
living with generosity,
striving for justice,
loving our neighbors,
reconciling and peacemaking,
mindful of those who will come after,
recognizing our proper place as part of your creation.

Grant us the strength and courage, Lord,
in the name of Christ who taught us to 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Meghan D. Young

(As we begin singing Jesus Loves Me, Church School children and teachers will leave for their classrooms.)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong; they are weak, but He is strong.

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me still today, walking with me on my way,

Wanting as a friend to give light and love to all who live. (Refrain)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Stuart McCalley

Psalm 8

O Lord, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.
Out of the mouths of babes and infants
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,
to silence the enemy and the avenger.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;
what are human beings that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than God,
and crowned them with glory and honour.
You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet,
all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

O Lord, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

From New Revised Standard Version

ANTHEM

O, deliver me

The Chancel Choir

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1766-1837)

Hanna Golodinskii, soprano

Linnea Conley, mezzo soprano

*Oh deliver me, for I am poor, helpless and poor,
and my heart is wounded within me.
Turn Thee again, O Lord, O turn Thee,
and be gracious unto Thy servants;
Turn, Oh turn Thee, O Lord, at the last
and be gracious unto Thy servants.*

SECOND LESSON

Carolyn Paulus

Mark 12: 28-34

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, ‘Which commandment is the first of all?’ Jesus answered, ‘The first is, “Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.” The second is this, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” There is no other commandment greater than these.’ Then the scribe said to him, ‘You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that “he is one, and besides him there is no other”; and “to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength”, and “to love one’s neighbor as oneself”,—this is much more important than all whole burnt-offerings and sacrifices.’ When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, ‘You are not far from the kingdom of God.’ After that no one dared to ask him any question.

From New Revised Standard Version

*HYMN

Dear God, Embracing Humankind

New Century Hymnal 502

SERMON

The Forgotten Virtue

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Meghan D. Young

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

Wendy Reynolds

ORGAN OFFERTORY

Pavane

Paul Drayton (b. 1944)

***DOXOLOGY**

New Century Hymnal 776

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures
Here below; Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter; One God, Triune, whom
we adore. Amen. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

*** HYMN**

O How Glorious, Full of Wonder

New Century Hymnal 558

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE

Toccata in 7

John Rutter (b. 1945)



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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.

The flowers in the Meetinghouse this morning are given in loving remembrance of Catherine G. Weigner on the occasion of her

birthday by her late husband, Arthur C., and sons Stephen A. and Ronald C. Weigner.

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. We also now have two rows in the back of the chapel reserved for parents with infants or little ones who are not ready for the Nursery where the parents can be comfortable *and* still be part of worship. Please see an usher if you need help finding either of these locations.

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.

Calendar

TODAY

Church School

The Kindergarten, 1st, 2ND, 4th and 5th graders will conclude their Holy Week Rotation curriculum today. When we leave the sanctuary, these classes will gather in the Auditorium for a worship/storytelling time after which the children will be "shepherded" to their classrooms. K & 1st will be in the Daniels Center and Kitchen. 2nd Grade will be in the Preschool Green Door. 4th and 5th graders will be on the stage in the Auditorium. This week's storytelling topic is "Easter!" 3rd grade will be in their Room 104 and "678" will be in the Binney Conference Room.

Saturday, March 26 is Easter Saturday. Bring the whole family (grandchildren, friends, cousins) from 10:00 am-12:00 pm in the Daniels Center for Easter egg dyeing (you bring the hard boiled eggs ready to decorate and we'll supply the rest!) and other fun family activities. Please sign up on the easels in the auditorium or the Preschool. All are invited!

Next Week

Maundy Thursday Dinner and Service

Please join us Thursday, March 24 at 6:00 pm for a supper including soup, bread and beverages provided by the Parish Life committee. This year we asking folks to bring a side dish to share – bean salad, mac & cheese, veggie platter, etc. Dinner will end with a Communion service and then we will silently enter the sanctuary for a Tenebrae service

Parish Nurse

Sue Asselin, RN, is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations during Fellowship Hour.

THIS WEEK

Refugee Co-Sponsorship Task Force

Many have expressed interest in continuing the conversation to learn more and assess the feasibility of FCCOG co-sponsoring a refugee family. If you are interested in moving this conversation forward, please consider being part of our task force. We will meet this Monday, March 14 at 7 PM in the Binney Conference Room. For more information please email meghany@fccog.org.

Food for Thought:

Using Food Labels to Make Healthy Choices

Denise Addorisio, a Registered Dietitian from Greenwich Hospital, will be speaking about interpreting food labels on **Tuesday, March 15, 10:00 am to 11:15 am**. Learn which fats are the healthiest, what "percent of daily value" means, which carbohydrates are more desirable, and much more. The Wellness Committee will be hosting this event in the Auditorium. To help us plan for our healthy snack, please RSVP to Sue Asselin, your Parish Nurse, at extension 21.

NEWS AND NOTICES

Youth Mission Trip: Help us get there!

The FCCOG high school youth group is headed to West Virginia with the Appalachian Service Project (ASP) to repair homes for low-income family in the heart of Appalachia. We believe that God calls us to love our neighbors, and so we're doing just that. Please consider becoming a sponsor and donating to our trip. For more information visit: j.mp/YouthMissionTrip or stop by our table during coffee hour.

Walk The Labyrinth!

Labyrinths have been used in worship by churches for centuries. Labyrinths are often used as a way to intentionally pray, discern, and meditate. During the season of Lent our 678 grade church school class has been designing and painting a labyrinth. We are excited to reveal the Labyrinth to the entire congregation! **After church on March 20, Palm Sunday**, you are invited to stop by the Daniels Center and spend some quiet moments in prayer walking the Labyrinth. Stay tuned for more dates this Lenten Season when the Labyrinth will be available for prayer.

Recommended Reading

Looking for your next good read? Rev. Avery C. Manchester has recommended some thought-provoking books that are available for sale in the Church Office. These books include: *What the Mystics Know: Seven Pathways to Your Deeper Self*, and *Things Hidden: Scripture as Spirituality*, both by Richard Rohr; and *On America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America*, by Jim Wallis.

Read Scripture at FCCOG

One of the ways we experience the holy is through the reading and receiving of scripture. Help us bring the stories of our faith to life and consider sharing your gifts in worship by reading our weekly scripture lessons. For more information and to sign-up, please email Pat Larrabee.

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

Sunday, March 13: Daylight Savings Time Begins - If you are not reading this in church, you've overslept!

Monday, March 14: See the website for weekly sale items.

Thursday, March 17: St. Patrick's Day. Wear something green and get 50% off for the day. May you be in Heaven an hour before the Devil knows you're dead. (An Old Irish Toast).

Leanne's Wish List: Spring clothing for all ages; good handbags; good bric-a-brac; and shoes.

Shop Hours: 10 am-5 pm Monday-Friday & 10 am-1pm Saturday.

Donation Hours: 9:30 am-4:30 pm Monday-Thursday & 9:30 am-12:30 pm Friday and Saturday.

Thought for Spring: The Rummage Room has been prosperous for 51 years; we owe our success to all those who've been supportive throughout the many years that we've been in business! Our Maker has been making a difference in our lives for over 2000 years, so the least we can do is to try and continue to make a difference in the lives of those who are in need. Thank you one and all!

Tai Chi Classes

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 \$10 per class. Drop-ins are welcome.

**Neighbor to Neighbor:
Collection Barrel at Entrance to Church**

Please don't forget those in need this winter. **Items especially needed are dry beans (kidney, garbanzo, etc.)** Also, cereal, canned fruit, pasta, peanut butter, jelly, sheets & towels. Tuna is **not** needed at this time.



WHERE TO FIND US:

WWW.FCCOG.ORG

[FACEBOOK](#)

[TWITTER](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)

[INSTAGRAM](#)

Easter Memorial/Honor Flowers & Brass

The Chancel Committee invites contributions for flowers in the Meetinghouse this Easter and the Church Committee also invites contributions for Easter Brass. You may give to one, the other or both. Any amount is welcome. Please deliver the completed form with your check to the Church Office (payable to *The First Congregational Church of Greenwich*) by Sunday, March 20. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. Thank you!

Please accept my contribution to (check one or both):

_____ Easter Flower Fund _____ Easter Brass

In MEMORY of:

In HONOR of:

By:

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$_____

(Please print names legibly to minimize spelling errors.)