

*The First Congregational Church  
of Greenwich*



*March 24, 2013  
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.*



**I**t is such a pleasure to begin Holy Week in worship and we are glad you are here! As we celebrate Palm Sunday today at First Congregational Church, may God's graceful love fill your Spirit with courage and with joy.

## ***Palm Sunday***

24 March 2013  
10 o'clock in the 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**

*Prelude and Fugue in C Minor*

*Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ*

Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901)

#### **CALL TO COMMUNITY**

*Please sign and pass the red book.*

*Rev. John W. Collins*

#### **CALL TO THE SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

#### **MOMENT OF OPPORTUNITY – Lenten Offering Appeal**

### **PRAISING GOD**

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Rev. Mark D. Montgomery*

*Leader: From the first Palm Sunday and through all generations, we shout, Hosanna!*

*People: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!*

*Leader: Blessed is the coming of the kingdom of David.*

*People: Hosanna in the highest heaven!*

*Leader: Behold our God who comes to us riding on a donkey.*

*People: Hosanna, praise be to God!*

\*‡HYMN

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 155

OPENING PRAYER (*in unison*)

Merciful God, as we enter Holy Week we turn our hearts again to that triumphant day in Jerusalem. As we hail Christ's entry into the city, may we be willing to walk with him in sacrifice and service. Keep from our hearts the fear that stops us from caring as we should. Help us to be inspired by our Lord's courage to work tirelessly for peace and justice in our troubled world. As we wave our Palm branches, let our commitment to be compassionate and loving Christians grow ever stronger. We pray as Jesus taught us,

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.

\*RESPONSE

New Century (black) Hymnal 208 (verse 1)

*God loved the world, and loving gave a wondrous gift, the lost to save, that all who would in Christ believe should everlasting life receive.*

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*Rev. Avery C. Manchester*

*Conor Allard Doyle,*

*son of Susan Bonney Doyle and Sean Wagstad Doyle*

BAPTISMAL RESPONSE

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise* (verse 1)

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.*

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### FIRST LESSON

*Barbara Norrgard*

#### Zechariah 9:9-10

**R**ejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. *From NRSV*

### SCRIPTURE ANTHEM

*Wave Your Branches*

*The Children's Choir*

Thomas Pavlechko (b. 1962)

*Vance Briceland, accompanist*

### SECOND LESSON

*Peter Schay*

#### Matthew 21:1-11

**W**hen they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is

this?” The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.” *From NRSV*

**\*‡HYMN**

*“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”* New Century (black) Hymnal 213

*(As the hymn begins, children may leave with Rosemary to go to the Lounge to watch an Easter video. Children are also welcome to stay in worship with their families.)*

**SERMON**

*The Awful Daring*

*Rev. John W. Collins*

**RESPONDING TO GOD**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

*Rev. Daniel B. England*

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*The Chancel Choir*

*Gregorian Chant*

*Hosanna to the Son of David*

Tomas Luis de Victoria (1548-1611)

**\*DOXOLOGY**

New Century (black) 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**

*The Palms* (words and music on next page)

# The Palms



O'er all the way green palms and blos - soms gay  
His word goes forth, and peo - ple by its might.  
Sing and re - joice, O blest Je - ru - sa - lem.



Are strewn this day in fes <sup>3</sup> - tal prep - a - ra - tion.  
Once more re - gain free - dom from de - gra - da - tion.  
Of all thy sons sing the e - man - ci - pa - tion.



Where Je - sus comes to wipe our tears a - way  
Hu - man - i - ty doth give to each his right  
Through bound - less love the Christ of Beth - le - hem



E'en now the throng to welcome him pre - pare, Join all and sing, His  
While those in dark - ness are restored to light.  
Brings faith and hope to thee for - ev - er - more.



name de - clare, Let ev' - ry voice re - sound with ac - cla - ma - tion, Ho



san - na! Praise to the Lord! Bless him who cometh to bring us sal



va - - - tion!

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

## POSTLUDE

*Lo, the Winter is Past*

*Jayson Engquist, organ*  
Marcel Dupré

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

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The calla lilies in the Meetinghouse on this Palm Sunday are given in loving memory of our parents, Margaret and Carleton Gisborne, by Claire Henry and Ruth Reed and our families.

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 regular Church School classes today but children will have the option to come to the Lounge before the sermon and watch an Easter video. They are also welcome to stay in the Meetinghouse for the entire service. After church, there is a special church meeting and there will be child care (in the preschool) and snacks for children during that time.

#### **Choir Rehearsals**

Choir rehearsals today are: Cherub Choir from 11:15 am to 12 Noon in Room 104 and Youth Choir from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm in the Choir Room. There is no Children's Choir rehearsal today.

#### **Parish Nurse**

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

## 2013 Church Telephone Directory

*The Telephone Directory of Members and Friends 2013* continues to be available at Coffee Hour. Please pick up your copy today. If you prefer to have it mailed, please contact Donna White at 203-637-1791 ext. 14 or [donnaw@fccog.org](mailto:donnaw@fccog.org).

### Call to a Special Congregational Meeting

A Special Congregational Meeting of The First Congregational Church of Greenwich, Old Greenwich, Connecticut, is hereby called for *today, Sunday, March 24, 2013*, immediately following the worship service. The meeting will be held in the Meetinghouse to adopt the budget for 2013. (Child care and a snack will be available in Room 104). **Note:** After the adjournment of the Congregational Meeting a Church Hall Meeting will be held.

*Kathleen McLennan, Church Clerk*



At our *linc* service today Mark Montgomery will be leading the service! Join us at 5:00 pm in the Auditorium. This is a casual worship service good for all ages, so come as you are and bring the whole family!

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## THIS WEEK

### *Nights Off Women's Group - RESCHEDULED*

*Nights Off* had to reschedule our meeting from last week due to the inclement weather. We are now meeting tomorrow, **Monday, March 25** at 6:30 pm at the home of Sue Asselin. We will be watching the movie, *Get Real, Wise Women Speak* with a short discussion to follow. Please bring a snack to share and whatever you would like to drink. Any questions or to be added to the email list, call Shirley Flierl at 203-629-4939 or email her at [FBTworld@aol.com](mailto:FBTworld@aol.com). All women of the church are invited to attend. Call a friend and invite them to join us!



### *First Music and Arts Series Continues with Good Friday Program*

This year, the First Church Chancel Choir presents their Good Friday Program on **March 29 at 8:00 pm**. Over the past few years, a

major work has been presented to commemorate the passion and death of Jesus. Our program this year will include many favorite anthems and solos of the Lenten season, interspersed with readings that reflect on the events of Holy Week: works by John Ireland, Johannes Brahms, Edgar Bainton, Maurice Duruflé, and others. NOTE: The March Meetinghouse Monthly stated there was a ticket price for this program. There is not. I (Craig) got in the habit of typing \$20 for our Sunday Afternoons Live concerts, that it just happened subconsciously and I apologize. There will be a free will offering received that evening.

### Easter Saturday Family Event

On *Saturday, March 30*, the Church School Task Force invites you and your children/grandchildren to our **Annual Egg Dyeing Event**



from 10:00 am - 12 Noon. Just bring your hardboiled eggs ready to color; we have all the supplies. As is customary, this event includes an Easter message for children and this year we will have an activity in the Meetinghouse for families to "search the church" for signs of the Easter story.

Please sign up on the easel today - in either Coffee Hour or on the way into the preschool.

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## NEXT WEEK

### New Mid-Week Bible Study with Rev. Dan England Continues *Thursday, April 4 and Thursday, April 18*

Don't forget the new **Mid-Week Bible Study** for beginners which will continue on *Thursday, April 4 and 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 will be 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

## **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.

## **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!



## **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.

## Current and Former Ushers Still Needed for Easter Services

We need a total of 8 ushers for the two Easter services in the Meetinghouse (9:00 and 11:00 am). If you will be able to help at either service, please call Bobby Littlefield at 203-967-3341 or email her at [bobbylitt@aol.com](mailto:bobbylitt@aol.com). Your help will be much appreciated!

### News from The Rummage Room

*191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich*

**Monday, March 25:** All Easter decorations, plus 4 or 5 categories of Spring merchandise will be 50% off for the week.

**Friday, March 29:** THE RUMMAGE ROOM WILL BE CLOSED FOR GOOD FRIDAY.

**Saturday, March 30:** The shop will be OPEN for last minute Easter shopping from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

**Sunday, March 31:** Easter Sunday.

**Monday, April 1:** The Rummage Room will celebrate April 1st and April's Fool's Day with live mannequins in the windows throughout the day. The windows are always entertaining to both our customers and those driving by. Be sure to wave "hello."

**Manager's Wish List:** Spring clothing; Mother's Day Gifts and hats; double and single strollers; bikes for all ages; good handbags; Mother-of-the-bride dress, size 6; flower girl dress for a two year old; Men's and boys' ties; sunglasses.

**Shopping Hours:** 10:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday, and on Saturday, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. (*CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY*).

**Donor Hours:** 9:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Thursday, and on Friday and Saturday, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. (*CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY*.)

*May we always remember the teachings of our Lord, so that when we shop and donate at The Rummage Room, we are supporting those in need from the funds which go to the Allocations Committee for their careful disbursement.*

### Tai Chi Fitness with Luis Duarte

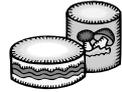
Improve your balance, health and well being. Come and experience the many wonderful benefits of Tai Chi and Qi Gong. Classes are held on **Wednesdays** at 8:00 am and **Thursdays** at 9:00 am. Only \$7 per class if paid by the



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.

### Food Collection

There continues to be great need for food at Neighbor to Neighbor, especially **canned fruit, canned meat (i.e. chili, spam), peanut butter (small 18 oz), jelly (small 18 oz), cereal and soup.** Please remember to contribute 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.



### Easter Memorial/Honor Flowers and Brass

The Chancel Committee invites contributions for flowers in the Meetinghouse this Easter and, for the first time this year, 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 ***TODAY, Sunday, March 24.*** Thank you.

Please accept my contribution to (check 1 or both):

\_\_\_\_\_ Easter Flower Fund    \_\_\_\_\_ Easter Brass

In Memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

By:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Next Week at First Congregational Church*

*Easter*

Celebration of the Resurrection:

*Festival Services at 9:00am and 11:00 am  
in the Meetinghouse*

Organ and Brass

Music from:

**The Chancel Choir:**

*Ye Choirs of New Jerusalem* by C.V. Stanford

*Christ Our Passover* by Will MacFarlane

**The Youth Choir (9:00 am service):**

*Crown Him Now with Alleluias* by James Brighton

**The Cherub Choir (11:00 am service):**

*Happy All the Time*, Traditional

*Also, 6:30 am Sunrise Service at Greenwich Point*

6:30 am Sunrise: Rev. John Collins, preaching

9:00 am Service: Rev. Avery Manchester, preaching

11:00 am Service: Rev. Dan England, preaching

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No 5:00 pm linc Worship Service on Easter Sunday.

Please join us at one of the other Easter Services.

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## Holy Week Schedule

### March 28: Maundy Thursday

*6:00 pm* Supper and *7:00 pm* Tenebrae Service

### March 29: Good Friday

*12:00 pm* Cross Walk to Greenwich Point

*8:00 pm* Service featuring First Church Chancel Choir and soloists

### March 30: Easter Saturday

10:00 am to 12 Noon Egg Dyeing and Scavenger Hunt

### March 31: EASTER

*6:30 am* Sunrise Service at Greenwich Point (in lieu of *linc* service)

*9:00* and *11:00 am* Festival Services in the Meetinghouse  
with choirs, brass and timpani; child care available.

No *5:00 pm linc* service

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(help us get to 200 “likes”!)

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

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

And visit our [Forum](#) and join 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