

*Old Greenwich,  
Connecticut*

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH OF GREENWICH

*United Church  
of Christ*

*Founded in 1665*

## Palm Sunday

20 March 2016

10 o'clock in the morning



BLESSED IS THE ONE  
*who comes  
in the name of the Lord!*

PEACE *in heaven, and* GLORY  
*in the highest heaven!*

+ LUKE 19:38

*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.*



**W**elcome to this Palm Sunday service of worship at The First Congregational Church of Greenwich. We hope that this time together offers you strength and encouragement for your faith journey.

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**PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

\*All who are able please stand.

**PRELUDE**  
*Promenade*

*Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ*  
*Edmund Haines (1914-1974)*

**CALL TO COMMUNITY**

*Rev. Meghan D. Young*

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

**FIRST CHURCH FLASHBACK**

*Barbara Kneen*

**PRAISING GOD**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Leader: We come to prepare for the holiest of weeks.*

*People: We will journey through praise, with joy on our lips;  
we will travel through betrayal and death,  
cradling hope deep in our hearts.*

*Leader: Jesus leads us through this week, and we will follow,  
for he is the life we long for, he is the Word who sustains us.*

*People: We wave palm branches in anticipation,  
we lay our love before him, to cushion his walk.*

*Leader: Setting aside all power, glory, and might, he comes:  
modeling humility and obedience for all of us.*

*People: Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!*

### CHORAL INTROIT

*He's got the whole world in his hands*

*The Cherub Choir  
Donald Haviland, director  
Debbie Berner, piano*

### \*HYMN

*All Glory, Laud and Honor*

*Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 155*

*(In the spirit of Palm Sunday, you are encouraged to wave your palm branches as we raise our voices to welcome and bless Jesus Christ in our midst. Children are invited to join the processional, please follow the Chancel Choir and then return to your seats at the end of the hymn.)*

### PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

*Rev. Avery C. Manchester*

*O Holy One, we are too distressed to notice  
that you join us in the parade.*

*We are too deeply grieved to be aware  
that you sit beside us at the table.*

*We are too busy sighing. We are too busy talking.*

*We have insisted upon our own answers.*

*We proclaimed our own knowledge  
about why the world feels so broken.*

*But, our lives are in your hands.*

*O Holy One, speak to us.*

*Fill our silences.*

*Comfort us with your love*

*so that we may find your understanding.  
Trust us to find your answers  
when we finally tire from our own.  
Save us, O Holy One, with your steadfast love.*

*(You are invited to make a silent prayer of confession to God  
in the community of God's people.)*

*God in Community, Holy in One,  
we open our hearts to you,  
as we pray as Jesus teaches 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.

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### FIRST LESSON

Luke 19:28-40  
The Entry Into Jerusalem

*Tessa Laffan  
Emma Olmsted  
Tyler Quake*

Narrator 1: Having said this, Jesus went ahead with the ascent to Jerusalem. Approaching Bethphage and Bethany, near what is called the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of the disciples with these instructions:

Jesus: “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’”

Narrator 2: They departed on their errand and found things just as Jesus had said. As they untied the colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you doing that?”

Narrator 1: They said, “The Lord needs it.” Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it.

Narrator 2: People spread their cloaks on the roadway as Jesus rode along. As they reached the descent from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples joined them and began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying:

**Crowd (Children):** “**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of Our God! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!**”

Narrator 1: Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus,

**Pharisees (Adults):** “**Teacher, order your disciples to stop!**”

Narrator 2: Jesus replied,

Jesus: “I tell you, if they were to keep silent, the very stones would shout out!”

## ANTHEM

*Sing Hosanna, Jerusalem's Song*

*The Children's Choir*

Robert J. Powell

*Dr. Craig Scott Symons, director*

*Vance Briceland, piano*

*Who is this man on the donkey?  
Who are these people with palms?  
Why does he ride to the Temple?  
Why should we follow along?  
It is Jesus who enters the city;  
Riding triumphantly on.  
Follow him on to the Temple,  
Sing Hosanna, Jerusalem's song.  
Is he the one we have prayed for?  
Is he King David's own son?  
Is he the promised Messiah?  
Is this our King who has come?  
When will he enter his kingdom?  
When will he sit on his throne?  
Israel, sing loud Hosannas;  
Our King comes to gather his own.*

## SERMON

*Learning to Shout*

*Rev. Meghan D. Young*



HYMN

# The Palms

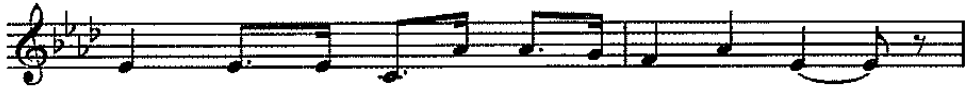
Jean-Baptiste Faure



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!

PASTORAL PRAYER

*Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.*

**RESPONDING TO GOD**

CALL TO OFFERING

*Mary Fike*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*The Chancel Choir*

*Arise, the kingdom is at hand*

Philip M. Young (b. 1937)

*Arise, the kingdom is at hand, The King is drawing nigh;  
Arise with joy, O faithful band, To meet the Lord most high!  
The King is very near; Look up, you drooping hearts, today,  
O cast your griefs and fears away, For, lo, your help is here!  
Look up, ye souls weighed down with care, Salvation is not far;  
Look up, faint hearts, from your despair, Behold the Morning Star.  
The Lord is with us now, who shall The sinking spirit feed  
With strength and comfort at its need, To Whom e'en death shall bow.  
Arise, the kingdom is at hand, Foretold in ages past,  
Arise with joy, O faithful band, The King has come at last.  
For this to God alone we raise on high a gladsome voice,  
And evermore with thanks rejoice Before God's glorious throne.*

**\*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

### WORDS FOR THE JOURNEY

*Luke 19:41-45a*

### HYMN

*My Song is Love Unknown*

New Century (black) Hymnal 222

### BENEDICTION

Leader: We remember that Jesus was ahead of his disciples who were filled with alarm. The people who followed behind were afraid. So Jesus took the twelve aside and said to them, “we are going up to Jerusalem, where the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests, and teachers of the Law. They will condemn him to death and then hand him over to the Gentiles, who will mock him, spit on him and kill him; but three days later, he will rise to life.” Come, let us go forward.

**ALL: We are going on a journey. Let us go forward.**

Leader: Where Christ walks,

**ALL: We will follow.**

Leader: Where Christ stumbles,

**ALL: We will stop.**

Leader: Where Christ cries,

**ALL: We will listen.**

Leader: When Christ suffers,

**ALL: We will hurt.**

Leader : When Christ dies,

**ALL: We will bow our heads in sorrow.**

Leader: When Christ rises again in glory,

**ALL: We will share his endless joy.**

Leader: Come, let us go forward.

*(You are invited to depart in silence or remain in the sanctuary to prepare yourself to enter Holy Week in quiet reflection and contemplation.)*

\* \* \*

*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.*

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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 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](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 as we will worship together in the Meetinghouse. Even our three and four year olds are welcome in worship but if necessary, they are also welcome in child care. Next week we will all worship together once again as we celebrate the joy of Easter!

There is a sign-up easel in the Auditorium for next Saturday's Egg Decorating event. We hope to see you there and at other Holy Week events. Check the online calendar at [www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org) for all of the Holy Week Services. Church School will resume on April 3.

#### **Bible Study**

Bible Study will meet today at 11:15 am in the Binney Conference Room. Please join us. All are welcome.

#### **Parish Nurse**

Sue Asselin, RN, is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations during Fellowship 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 today** you are invited to stop by the Daniels Center and spend some quiet moments in prayer walking the Labyrinth. Additionally, for Holy Week the Labyrinth will be open for prayer in the Auditorium this Wednesday, March 23, from 4 PM to 8 PM.

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## THIS WEEK

### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

#### Maundy Thursday Dinner and Service

Please join us this **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 at 7:00 pm.

#### Good Friday Cross Walk

Starting at 12:00 noon on Friday, come join our Youth for our annual **Cross Walk** and prayer service, down Sound Beach Avenue to Greenwich Point where the cross will be positioned in the sand on the beach in preparation for the Easter Sunrise Service.

#### Good Friday Concert

The Chancel Choir will be presenting their annual Good Friday Service of Readings and Anthems on March 25 at 8:00 pm. This service is one of the most poignant and moving moments during Holy Week. Music by Bach, Rutter, Duruflé, Brahms, and others will be offered with readings to help us reflect on the final moments in Christ's life.

#### Easter Saturday Family Fun

**Saturday, March 26** is **Easter Saturday**. Bring the whole family 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!) as well as other activities to teach the meaning and joy of Easter. Please sign up on the easels in the auditorium or the Preschool. All are invited.

#### Easter Sunday Services

Join us on Easter for these very special services: **6:15 am** Sunrise Service at Greenwich Point; **9:00 am & 11:00 am** Festival Services in the Meetinghouse with choirs, brass and timpani; child care available.

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## 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](http://j.mp/YouthMissionTrip) or stop by our table during coffee hour.

### **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.

### **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.

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

**Sunday, March 20:** Palm Sunday & First Day of Spring

**Monday, March 21:** We have a great selection of spring clothing for all members of the family. Go to [www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org) to check out what's on sale for this week.

**Friday March 25:** Closed for Good Friday

**Saturday March 26:** Open 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

**Leanne's Wish List:** Spring/Summer dresses; jewelry; handbags; Spring/Summer 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 the Week:** "A nation or civilization that continues to produce soft-minded citizens, purchases its own spiritual death on the installment plan." Martin Luther King (1929-1968)

**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.

**Night's Off** is meeting on Monday, March 28th, 6:30 PM at the home of Kathy Riley for an evening full of fellowship and jeopardy. Please bring whatever you would like to drink and a contribution to our potluck dinner. If you plan on attending rsvp to Shirley Flierl, [fbtworld@aol.com](mailto:fbtworld@aol.com), or Kathy Riley, [rhrole@optonline.net](mailto:rhrole@optonline.net). As always, all are welcome- "walk-ins" and guests appreciated!

# WHERE TO FIND US:

[WWW.FCCOG.ORG](http://WWW.FCCOG.ORG), FACEBOOK,  
TWITTER, YOUTUBE, INSTAGRAM



## *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

Senior Pastor: Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

Transitional Associate Pastor: Rev. Meghan D. Young

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

Administrative Assistant - Operations: Donna White

Administrative Assistant - Communications: Rachael Schuster

Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister

Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin, RN

Director of Preschool: Darla Kohler Steiner

Youth Coordinator: Donald Haviland

## 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:

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In HONOR of:

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By:

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

(Please print names legibly to minimize spelling errors.)