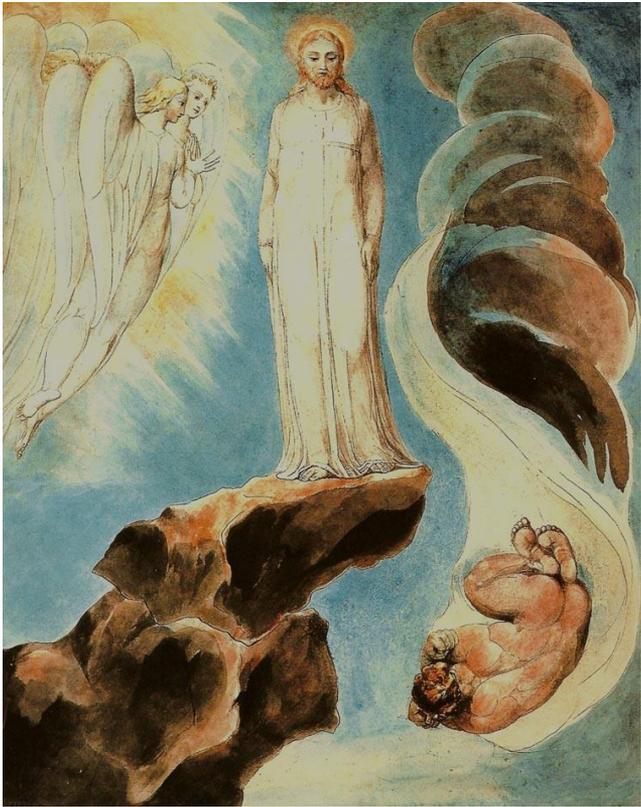


*The First Congregational Church of Greenwich*  
*Founded in 1665*

**18 February 2018**  
**First Sunday in Lent**  
10 o'clock in the morning



*Cover Painting by William Blake*



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 this service of worship at The First Congregational Church of Greenwich on this Sunday morning. Please join us after worship for our Community Hour in the auditorium.

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### **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

\*All who are able please stand.

**PRELUDE** Steven Russell, guest director/organist  
We Pray Now to the Holy Spirit Josef Rheinberger

**CALL TO COMMUNITY** Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.  
(Please sign and pass the red Fellowship Pad found at the end of your pew.)

### **PRAISING GOD**

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP** Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

Leader: The season of Lent calls us to journey into the wilderness, to anticipate that final trip to Jerusalem.

**People: Lent calls us to the cutting edge, when the wheat falls to the ground and new life comes forth.**

Leader: Lent not only calls us to give up something, but also invites us to participate in the mystery of God-with-us.

**ALL: Loving God, by your grace, call us from grief into hope, estrangement into right relations with each other and with the earth.**

**\* HYMN**

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Pilgrim (red) hymnal 363

## **GATHERING PRAYER**

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Loving God, we long for wholeness within and without. We are divided by race and wealth, by politics and religious beliefs. We hunger for healing and deep meaning within life. We thirst for peace in our families, our nation and our world. Emerging from the heart of Christ, you come to us in reassuring love. The power of your Spirit blesses our living with hope and feeds us in joy. In the unity of that Spirit we draw together to sing and pray as you own dear renewed children. Refresh us now as we open who we are to who we may yet become. We ask these things in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, 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.

## **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

### **FIRST LESSON**

Pat Mendelsohn

#### **Luke 4: 1-4**

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be

yours.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’” Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country.

—New Revised Standard Version

## **ANTHEM**

Thou Wilt Keep Him in Perfect Peace

The Chancel Choir

Charles Wesley

## **SECOND LESSON**

### **Exodus 20: 1-17 (selected versus)**

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin." Then the people stood at a distance, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.

—New Revised Standard Version

## **SERMON**

Temptation

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

## **\* HYMN**

O Love, How Deep, How Broad  
How Wide

Pilgrim (red) hymnal 150

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

## **RESPONDING TO GOD**

### **CALL TO OFFERING**

#### **OFFERTORY SOLO**

O Divine Redeemer

Hanna Golodinskii, soprano

Charles Gounod

#### **\* DOXOLOGY**

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 515

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## **\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

### **GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD**

#### **\* HYMN**

God of Grace & God of Glory

Pilgrim (red) hymnal 366

#### **\* BENEDICTION**

#### **POSTLUDE**

My Inmost Heart Now Raises

Johann Christoph Bach

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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.

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### **A Note to Parents**

Relax! God put the wiggle in children, do not feel you have to suppress it during worship. The presence of children is a gift to the church, which offers hope for all. Jesus said, "Let the children come to me." At First Church we believe that the way we welcome children in worship directly affects the way they respond to God, the church, and to one another. To the members of our congregation, please know that a smile of encouragement is always welcome to parents with small, active children.

For those who are interested, we do have child care available for babies and toddlers every Sunday, for the entirety of the church service, in the preschool classrooms.

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.

## NEWS AND NOTICES

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### TODAY

#### Church School

There is Child Care only today in the Church School. Many teachers and children are away due to school vacations or the long weekend. Regular classes resume next Sunday, February 25 until Palm Sunday. In the meantime, check out the Lenten Lending Library in the Auditorium. It has devotionals and reading for adults and families.

#### Parish Nurse

Sue Asselin, RN will be available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations during Community Hour, following today's worship service. During the week, she is available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays by appointment, which can be made by calling extension 821.

#### Sunday Afternoons Live

Beginning today, February 18, our series returns with new and familiar faces, in the splendor of the First Church Auditorium. Each performance is \$25 for adults, free admission for school aged youth, and comes with coffee, tea, and homemade sweet treats, served by our Music Committee and friends. Our programs always offer something for everyone and this year is no exception.

#### TODAY: New York Kammermusiker

Immerse yourself in the unique sounds of The New York Kammermusiker, a double-reed (oboes, English Horns, bassoons) chamber ensemble that has attracted international attention for their extensive travels and recordings. The members of the group combine a unique repertoire of music from the Renaissance and Baroque through Contemporary eras with an informal stage manner, inviting the audience to know more about the works performed and the instruments used.

### **Sunday February 25: Andrew Armstrong, Piano**

Taking advantage of the cozy and friendly atmosphere in the First Congregational Church's auditorium we will try to evoke the old salon concerts of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Each piece will tell a story or paint a picture for the listener, starting with the main course, Beethoven's Sonata op. 81s, "The Farewell," in which the composer vividly depicts the parting of a dear friend in three movements titled The Farewell, The Absence, and The Return. From there, we will enjoy many shorter pieces, like a spontaneous string of encores, with personal remarks about each piece along the way.

### **Sunday March 4: A Two of Harps—Wendy Kerner and Teresa Mango**

A Two of Harps loves sharing the enchantment of their two magnificent instruments totaling 94 strings, and the fun of making music together. Their performances have taken them to diverse settings throughout the Northeast.

### **Sunday March 11: Ron Petrides Quartet**

Known for his blazing technique, jazz guitarist Ron Petrides joins forces with renown Austrian saxophonist and flutist Gottfried Stoger, bass virtuoso Ratzon Harris and a Grammy nominated drummer and producer Gerry Gibbs.

## **UPCOMING**

### **At-Home Dinners: Just for the Fun of It!**

The Welcoming Committee of First Church invites everyone to attend an at-home dinner . . . just for the fun of it! All are welcome! We are looking for six to eight folks who will be willing to host a group the size of your choosing in your home between the dates of March 9th to the 18th. The dinner will be pot luck or perhaps a wine and cheese gathering if you prefer. There is no charge. No agenda. It was suggested that we might encourage having a singles opportunity if there is interest. What a wonderful time to meet and greet friends who are not quite friends yet and folks from other generations. We would appreciate a quick response from hosts and hostesses so we can start signup sheets in the auditorium. Please contact Ginny Breismeister at [ginnyb@fccog.org](mailto:ginnyb@fccog.org) to volunteer to host, or with questions.

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

**Monday, February 26:** The BIG THREE DAY store-wide 50% off clearance sale starts today and runs through Wednesday, February 28th.

**Thursday, March 1st:** First Day of Bag Sale Bargains: Each full bag will be \$12 per bag.

**Friday, March 2nd:** Second Day of Bag Sale Bargains: \$8 per bag.

**Saturday, March 3rd:** Third and last day of Bag Sale Bargains: \$1 per bag. (Everything must go)

**Monday, March 5th:** The Rummage Room reopens at 1:00 pm with "new" Spring Clothing and Accessories.

**Mgr. Leanne's Wish List for February:** Everything for Spring.

**Shopping Hours:** Monday through Friday, 10 to 5 and 10 to 1 Saturday.

**Donation Hours:** Monday through Thursday 9:30 to 4:30 & Saturday 10 to 12:30.

**Thought for President's Day:** As George Washington said in defense of Free Speech and a Free Press: 'If freedom of speech were to be taken away ... we would be led, like sheep, dumb and silent, to the slaughter.'

**Caregivers Support Group**

Please join us for the Caregivers Support Group for those who currently are, recently have been, or no longer are, a caregiver for a family member or friend. The group offers a confidential place where participants can share experiences, learn new information, and receive emotional support and comfort from others in similar situations. The group meets on the second Sunday of the month from 11:15 am - 12:15 pm in the Binney Conference Room. Dorothy Mueller, FCCOG Stephen Minister, is the group facilitator. For more information, please call Dorothy at (203) 588-9896, or email: [dorothymueller1@gmail.com](mailto:dorothymueller1@gmail.com).

**Next Week at First Church  
Sunday, February 25**

Rev. Patrick Collins, preaching

Music by the Chancel Choir  
If We Ever Needed the Lord—Thomas Dorsey

Music by the Children's Choir  
For Love Shall Be Our Song—Douglas Wagner

Music by the Cherub Choir  
Halle, Halle—Traditional

Music by Thomas Woodman, Bass



## **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.

Associate Pastor: Rev. Patrick Collins

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

Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister

Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin, RN

Director of Preschool: Darla Kohler Steiner

Publications Coordinator: Vance Briceland

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