

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

**Third Sunday of Easter**  
**15 April 2018**  
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.



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**

Introduction and Minuet

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organist

Leon Boellmann (1862-1897)

#### **CALL TO COMMUNITY**

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

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

### **PRAISING GOD**

#### **\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

Leader: God of Hope, we come into your presence this morning with confidence that you will meet us here.

**People: Where there is sadness, bring joy; where there is tiredness, bring refreshment; where there is despair, bring a renewed sense of hope.**

Leader: Let this place be a sanctuary, a safe haven for us, a home for holy words and songs and prayers as we devote ourselves to you.

**All: We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

#### **\* PASSING OF THE PEACE**

#### **\* HYMN**

For the Beauty of the Earth

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 66

## **GATHERING PRAYER**

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

**Holy One, through the call of birds in the early morning dawn, we hear your voice singing today.**

**Through the rhythm of the seasons, the ebb and flow of the tide, we feel your melody.**

**From dawn until dusk, your heartbeat harmonizes the universe and births music in our hearts stirring us to sing a new song: a song of abundance, a song of hope, the song of life.**

**For this, and so much more we offer you our thanksgiving and praise. Amen.**

## **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.**

(At this time, the Rotation Workshop classes begin in the Lounge and then go to their classrooms where they will be after church. Kindergarten and 1st graders go to the Preschool Red Door; 2nd to the Gold Door, 4th and 5th graders in the Lounge. Other children go directly to their classes: 3rd graders go the Rainbow Door. 6th graders to Patrick's office on the 3rd floor and 7th & 8th graders go to the Woodman Youth Room just past the Lounge.)

## **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

### **FIRST LESSON**

Pat Mendelsohn

#### **Philippians 4: 4-8**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the

peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.  
—New Revised Standard Version

**ANTHEM**

The Stone Is Rolled Away

The Chancel Choir

Don Besig

**SECOND LESSON**

**Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8**

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

a time to tear, and a time to sew;

a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

a time to love, and a time to hate;

a time for war, and a time for peace.

— New Revised Standard Version

**SERMON**

The Seasons of Life

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

**\* HYMN**

In the Bulb, There Is a Flower

New Century (black) hymnal 433

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

Rev. Patrick Collins

## RESPONDING TO GOD

### CALL TO OFFERING

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Arr. Lloyd Larson  
Carol Woodman, soprano  
Thomas Woodman, bass

### \* 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 Our Life,  
Through All the Circling Years

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 97

### \* BENEDICTION

### \* CHORAL RESPONSE

### POSTLUDE

Psalm 19

Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

\* \* \*

The flowers in the Meetinghouse today are given by Jenny and Clem Lepoutre in celebration of their 30th wedding anniversary and with thanks to everyone at FCCOG for their love and support over the years.

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. For toddlers and preschoolers who stay in church, there is a PrayGround in front of the chapel with a rug and a few quiet play things. The first pew of the chapel is reserved for parents to supervise their children if you do not need to be on the rug with them. There are also additional children's books on the bookshelves near the back of the chapel.

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**

Regular Church School resumes today.

Attention 4th and 5th grade families! We will be making our last visit to Pilgrim Towers on Earth Day, April 22, when we will be helping to plant their gardens. A perfect activity for Earth Day! Anyone else who would like to join is welcome. We will meet in the Lounge and leave after church.

## **Blood Pressure Screening**

Betsy Kreuter, PT, is available for blood pressure screenings in the Parish Nurse office, during Community Hour, following today's worship service.

## **Choir Rehearsals**

The following choirs will meet today in their normal places/times:

- Cherub Choir: Rainbow Room (basement) 11:15-11:45
- Children's Choir: Music Room (3rd floor) 11:15-12:00
- Youth Choir: Choir Room (3rd floor) 11:15-12:15

## **UPCOMING**

### **Please Join Us for a Quarterly Meeting of Members after Worship, April 22**

The chairpersons of many standing committees will give an update, answer questions and hear comments relating to church matters and operations. The meeting will immediately follow the Sunday Service on April 22 in the Meetinghouse at 11:00.

### **Photo Session Sunday for New Online Directory**

In these busy times, taking your own selfie is the best way to get your family together for this photo. Please upload your own selfie photo into the MyFirstChurch directory. You can find the instructions on the upper right hand side of the First Church home page. If such technology is not your thing, however, Pat Larrabee will be in the lounge Sunday, 9:00-9:50 am and after church to take photos of individuals or families for input into the new photo directory. It will only take a few minutes. Just bring your best smile!

Please contact Sue Wilder at [swilder102@gmail.com](mailto:swilder102@gmail.com) or [patlarrabee@hotmail.com](mailto:patlarrabee@hotmail.com) with any questions.

### **Sleep Well, Age Well - Get the Sleep You Need to Promote Well-Being**

On Sunday, April 22, 11:30-12:30 in the Auditorium after Worship, behavioral sleep psychologist Dr. Saul Rothenberg of the Greenwich Hospital Sleep Center will look at the importance of a good night's sleep to overall health, and provide advice for healthy sleep habits. He'll discuss common sleep disorders and the services offered at the



Sleep Center. Dr. Rothenberg is a psychologist and sleep specialist who evaluates and treats children, adolescents and adults with a variety of sleep conditions, including insomnia and sleep apnea.

### **News from the Rummage Room**

**191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich**

**Monday, April 16:** The Rummage Room's sales have been great despite the rain and snow. It is hoped that you are inspired by the warmer weather and have begun cleaning out your closets. We know the Rummage Room will never look like "Ole Mother Hubbard's Cupboards" ... but so that never happens, please bring in the goods you are giving away and then be sure and look at the things you might wish to buy. We certainly want our Rummage Room customers to be happy with the constant flow of "new" merchandise.

**Sunday, April 22nd is Earth Day:** Earth Day is one of the many causes embraced by The Rummage Room. All 'gently used' donations from the Rummage Room are cycled in and recycled right back out by our customers. The yearly proceeds from the Rummage Room go to the Women's Fellowship's Allocation Committee and then on to Organizations who help those in need around the world.

**Mgr. Leanne's Wish List:** Ladies' spring blouses; men's shoes.

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

**Donation Hours:** Monday through Thursday 9:30 to 4:30 & Saturday 9:30 to 12:30. Please do not leave donations outside when the Rummage Room is locked.

**Thought for Earth Day:** Thought for Earth Day: When one tugs at a single thing in Nature, they find it attached to the rest of the world!  
- John Muir

### **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.

### **Raffle Quilt on Display at Community Hour Next Sunday**

The 2018 Women's Fellowship Raffle Quilt is a queen-size Double Irish Chain in navy and off-white with a splash of red. The open spaces offer a chance to see the quilting patterns and the stitchers needlework skills. This 'double' quilt pattern is traditionally stitched with three fabrics: a light for the background and two medium to dark fabrics. Irish Chain quilts are a good place for beginners to learn to piece and stitch a quilt. They involve strips of fabric and squares - there are no triangles or bias edges to deal with. They are done as a single, double or triple Irish chain and it is one of the oldest and most popular quilt patterns. There are some examples of the pattern in Ireland but it mainly developed in America in the early 1800s with 1814 the earliest known date for this pattern. The quilt is currently featured in the Rummage Room window. Raffle tickets are available at the Rummage Room and in the church office. The winning ticket will be drawn at the Women's Fellowship Luncheon on Wednesday, May 16 at 12 noon. Winner need not be present to win. Tickets are \$5.00 and all proceeds benefit local, national and international charities that support women and children.

**Next Week at First Church  
Sunday, April 22**

Rev. Patrick Collins, preaching

Music by the Cherub Choir  
Inchworm—Traditional

Music by the Chancel Choir  
All Things Bright & Beautiful—John Rutter

Music by Drew Seigla, Tenor  
The Golden Pathway—Hamilton Gray

Music by Anna Weiksner & Paul Ghaffari, violins  
Allegro from Concerto for Two Violins—J. S. Bach



## **The First Congregational Church of Greenwich**

108 Sound Beach Avenue,  
Old Greenwich, Connecticut, 06870  
203-637-1791  
*[www.fcog.org](http://www.fcog.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

Cover Photo: Pat Larrabee