

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665

Trinity Sunday

27 May 2018

10 o'clock in the morning



Yoram Raana, "The Promised Land"

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 Memory Garden.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

*All who are able please stand.

PRELUDE
Processional

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ
William Mathias (1934-1992)

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: God, we know you are with us.

People: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

Leader: You have showered your love upon all generations, since the beginning of time.

People: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

Leader: Guide us now through this time of transition, and as we journey forward in the days and weeks ahead.

People: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*** HYMN**

God of Our Fathers,
Whose Almighty Hand

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 433

GATHERING PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Michael Ciba

Remember those who served before.

Remember those who are no more.

Remember those who serve today.

Remember them as we eat and pray.

Remember our protectors.

Who are not home today.

Remember them all on Memorial Day.

This we pray in remembrance of our Lord, who taught us to
pray....

(Emily Toma)

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

Jean Watkins

Acts 20 (selected verses)

Speaking to the elders of the Ephesian Church Paul said, "Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I have not coveted anyone's silver or gold or clothing. You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions. In everything I did I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" When Paul had finished speaking, he knelt down with all of them and prayed. They all wept as they embraced him and kissed him. What grieved them most was his statement that they would never see his face again. Then they accompanied him to the sailboat. —New Revised Standard Version

SOLO

Come, Thou Fount, of Every Blessing

Linnea Conley, mezzo soprano

Arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

SECOND LESSON**Deuteronomy 30, 34
(selected verses)**

When they had reached the plains of Moab, Moses looked out at his congregation and said: "I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Chose life so that you and your descendant s may live. Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo. When he reached the summit the Lord showed him the whole promised land. Then the Lord said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, I will give it to your descendants. I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there. Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord's command. He was buried in a valley opposite of Beth-pe'or. But no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died. His sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days. Then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

– New Revised Standard Version

SERMON

The Last Sermon

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

*** HYMN**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 93

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Michael Ciba

RESPONDING TO GOD**CALL TO OFFERING**

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Song Is Faith

The Chancel Choir
Alfred Fedak (b. 1953)

The song is faith: our wonder now professing,
we take up hymns that heav'n itself has sung
in praise of God, the giver of the blessing,
who comes in Christ to sing with human tongue.

Before all time, God sent the music sounding,
a seamless, flawless, endless melody,
a lilt of grace to set the spirits bounding
of all God's children made forever free.

Let God's good pleasure breathe in songs ascending
God's grace indwell the music we now lift,
a hymn of Christ, beloved and unending,
the earthly echo of a heav'nly gift.

The song is love: it sounds in all our living
as saints are fed, and struggling souls find rest.
A servant song becomes our high thanksgiving,
a canticle in work made manifest.

O Christ, sing on in every new endeavor,
enlightened music, glorious Godly dance,
that gives your people now, here, and forever,
a song of hope as our inheritance.

*** 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

March

R. S. Morrison
Craig Scott Symons & Vance Briceland, piano

* * *

Directly following the service, one of our pastors will remain in the Chapel to be available to anyone who has a pastoral care concern.

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. 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

TODAY

Welcome Rev. Dr. Michael Ciba

This morning we are pleased to welcome Rev. Dr. Michael Ciba, Senior Regional Minister of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ.

Farewell to Rev. DenUyl

Please join the Church Council, clergy and staff in saying goodbye to Richard, Barbara, and Sophie DenUyl today at a special Community Hour immediately following the service in the Memory Garden, weather permitting. We have a special treat! Come enjoy authentic Italian gelato from Gelato & Cioccolato's cart, a new business in Cos Cob.

Church School

There are no church school classes today but there is child care for babies, toddlers and preschoolers. All children are welcome to be in the service. For families who would like to try the PrayGround, it is in front of the chapel pews where the first pew is reserved for you.

Next Sunday is a Celebration Sunday for the entire congregation. Our theme is Psalm 100: "Make a Joyful Noise..." Our children come ready to join in community to praise God with joy and gladness, to thank our Lord for our many blessings and to ask for God's blessings on those who need them most at this time. There will be Communion, singing and blessings for our high school graduates who have taught church school.

Parish Nurse

Sue Asselin, RN, is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service. If our Community Hour is held outside, Sue will be in the Memory Garden. If held inside, due to weather, Sue will be available in her new office, to the right of the Auditorium stage.

UPCOMING

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 FCCOG home page. The quicker pictures are taken and uploaded, the quicker the directory will be more useful to folks, especially as we transition to an interim senior pastor. These pictures are invaluable to new staff and church members as they learn names and faces, and are able to greet everyone at church events. 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 or patlarrabee@hotmail.com with any questions.

Youth Mission Trip Car Wash Fundraiser

Next Sunday, June 3 following the Church Service, youth attending the Summer Mission Trip to Houston, Texas invite you to a car wash fundraiser in the parking lot. Any donations are accepted, appreciated, and will directly fund our efforts to help families who were devastated by Hurricane Harvey last summer.

Undie Sunday to Continue through June 3

The Undies Project will be receiving donations of underwear for men, women and children in need to help improve their lives, and will welcome donations of new women's panties, new men's boxers and briefs, and new children's underwear. All sizes and ages needed. All items donated will be distributed to local area organizations that help those in need. Underwear is the most under-donated, and most needed, item of clothing. No one should be deprived of the simple, daily necessity of clean underwear that many of us take for granted. Hygiene and physical comfort are only a part of this basic human need. New, clean underwear also provides dignity and self-esteem. The Undies Project Inc. was started to fulfill this need. For more information, visit www.theundiesproject.org.

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

Monday, May 28: “The Rain in Spain stays mainly in the Plain.” That doesn’t seem to be quite true this spring! However, Father’s Day; graduations; weddings, and Memorial Day will be coming up soon so now is the time to come in and shop while the items you will be looking for are still plentiful. Also, if you have not gone through your closets this spring, it is hoped you will do that soon. And remember, as soon as skies are blue and the temperature is up, you will want to have shopped at the Rummage Room and be very happy that you enhanced your summer wardrobe early. And each week, Mgr. Leanne has great items on sale.

Mgr. Leanne’s Wish List: Children’s clothing; summer shoes for all; ladies’ hand bags.

Shopping Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 to 5 and 10 to 12:30 Saturday.

Donation Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:30 to 4:30 & Saturday 10 to 12:30. Please do not leave donations outside when the Rummage Room is closed.

Thought for the Week: Thanks to all the wonderful quilters who lovingly make such beautiful quilts year after year. We are so fortunate to have you.

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. There will be no meeting in the month of May; we will resume on June 10. Dorothy Mueller, FCCOG Stephen Minister, is the group facilitator. For more information, please call Dorothy at (203) 588-9896, or email: dorothismueller1@gmail.com.

Kettle Quilters Quilt Raffle Winner

The Kettle Quilters congratulate Pat Geismar, winner of the 2018 Women’s Fellowship Annual Raffle Quilt. Thanks to all who bought tickets and supported this effort.

**Next Week at First Church
Sunday, June 3**

Music by the Chancel Choir
How Shall I Sing that Majesty?—J. R. Daniels

Music by the Cherub Choir
Angels Watching Over Me

Music by the Children's Choir
God Bless Families—Natalie Sleeth



The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

108 Sound Beach Avenue,
Old Greenwich, Connecticut, 06870
203-637-1791
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