

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665

1 July 2018

10 o'clock in the morning

*All that patriotism requires,
and all that it can be,
is eagerness to maintain
intact and incorrupt
the founding principles of the nation,
and to preserve undiminished
the land and the people.
If national conduct forsakes these aims,
it is one's patriotic duty
to say so and oppose.
What else do we have to live for?*

-Wendell Berry, "Given"

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.

PRELUDE

Brass Ensemble

Mike Carolan, Christopher Doney, trumpets

Ray Guier, French horn

Cliff Haynes, trombone

Vasil Golodinskii, tuba

Arr. William Ryden

Three American Songs

When Johnny Comes Marching Home

Yankee Doodle Dandy

You're a Grand Old Flag

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

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

*** NATIONAL ANTHEM**

O say can you see, by the dawn's early light, what so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming, Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight, O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?

And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air, Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there; O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

PRAISING GOD

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Leader: In this land of freedom and beauty, let us give thanks to God.

People: **Let us praise the holy one who created the blue lakes and grassy prairies, the vast desert lands, and the breathtaking mountains of our homeland.**

Leader: Let us unite in worship of the Creator who formed all lands and all people,

People: **Who declared, with loving affirmation, "It is good!"**

All: **Come, let us worship God!**

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*** HYMN**

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 437

UNISON PRAYER FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY

We lift up our hearts, O God, on this weekend of celebration in gratitude for the gift of being Americans. We rejoice with all those who share in the great dream of freedom and dignity for all. With flags and feasting, with family and friends we salute those who have sacrificed that we might have the opportunity to bring to fulfillment our many God-given gifts. Come, O gracious God, bless our country and join our simple celebration that we may praise you, our Source of freedom, the One in whom we place our trust.

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

Psalm 130

Help, God—the bottom has fallen out of my life!

Master, hear my cry for help!

Listen hard! Open your ears!

Listen to my cries for mercy.

If you, God, kept records on wrongdoings,
who would stand a chance?

As it turns out, forgiveness is your habit,
and that's why you're worshiped.

I pray to God—my life a prayer—
and wait for what he'll say and do.

My life's on the line before God, my Lord,
waiting and watching till morning,
waiting and watching till morning.

O Israel, wait and watch for God—
with God's arrival comes love,
with God's arrival comes generous redemption.

No doubt about it—he'll redeem Israel,
buy back Israel from captivity to sin.

—The Message

ANTHEM

The Summer Choir

God Bless America

Irving Berlin (arr. Joseph Martin)

(Congregation join in singing after the choir sings)

God bless America, land that I love.

Stand beside her and guide her
through the night, with a light from above.

From the mountains to the prairies,
to the oceans, white with foam.

God bless America, my home sweet home.

God bless America, my home, my home sweet home.

SECOND LESSON

Mark 5: 21-34

After Jesus crossed over by boat, a large crowd met him at the seaside. One of the meeting-place leaders named Jairus came. When he saw Jesus, he fell to his knees, beside himself as he begged, “My dear daughter is at death’s door. Come and lay hands on her so she will get well and live.” Jesus went with him, the whole crowd tagging along, pushing and jostling him.

A woman who had suffered a condition of hemorrhaging for twelve years—a long succession of physicians had treated her, and treated her badly, taking all her money and leaving her worse off than before—had heard about Jesus. She slipped in from behind and touched his robe. She was thinking to herself, “If I can put a finger on his robe, I can get well.” The moment she did it, the flow of blood dried up. She could feel the change and knew her plague was over and done with.

At the same moment, Jesus felt energy discharging from him. He turned around to the crowd and asked, “Who touched my robe?”

His disciples said, “What are you talking about? With this crowd pushing and jostling you, you’re asking, ‘Who touched me?’ Dozens have touched you!”

But he went on asking, looking around to see who had done it. The woman, knowing what had happened, knowing she was the one, stepped up in fear and trembling, knelt before him, and gave him the whole story.

Jesus said to her, “Daughter, you took a risk of faith, and now you’re healed and whole. Live well, live blessed! Be healed of your plague.”

—The Message

SERMON

Patriotism: Can We Praise & Pray?

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

* HYMN

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

Pilgrim (red) hymnal 440

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Avery C. Manchester

RESPONDING TO GOD

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Summer Choir

Hymn to Freedom

Oscar Peterson (arr. Kirby Shaw)

Carol & Thomas Woodman, soloists

When every heart joins every heart and together yearns for liberty,
That's when we'll be free.

When every hand joins every hand and together molds our destiny,
That's when we'll be free.

Any hour any day, the time soon will come when men will live in
dignity,

That's when we'll be free.

When every man joins in our song and together singing harmony,
That's when we'll be free.

* 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

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

We practice open Communion – all who wish to know the presence of Christ and
to participate in the community of God's people are welcome to receive
Communion, including children of all ages, and regardless of church membership
or denominational affiliation. All are welcome to the table of God.

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

Today's communion will be by intinction. Congregants are invited to come forward down the center aisle to one of the communion stations by the chancel, receive the bread (gluten-free), dip in the cup and partake. Those who need to stay in the pew should indicate their need to be served there to one of the ushers or greeters.

Someone will come to serve you.

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ.

Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in this power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

*** HYMN**

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

Pilgrim (red) hymnal 443

*** BENEDICTION**

*** CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE

The Stars & Stripes Forever

John Philip Sousa (arr. Don Patterson)

Brass Ensemble

Mary Fike, piccolo

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NEWS AND NOTICES

UPCOMING

Beach Services Resume Next Week

Our summer 8 am services by the Innis Arden Cottage will begin next Sunday July 8. Future services are July 29, August 5, August 19, and September 2. Remember, you don't have to be a Greenwich resident to attend these services; simply tell the attendant at the entry

point you're there for the church service. Don't forget to bring your beach chairs!

**Sign Up Today for the First Church Beach BYO Picnic:
Thursday July 12 5 to 8 pm**

The Welcoming Committee is pleased to invite everyone to the First Church Beach Bring-Your-Own Picnic! Pack a picnic dinner and beverages, dessert is on us! We will gather at the Clambake area from 5-8 pm on Thursday, July 12. This is an opportunity for those who do not live in Greenwich to enjoy our beautiful Greenwich Point. Tell the gatekeeper that you are here for the First Church picnic. Singles, couples, families are welcome, bring a friend! You can sign up online at My First Church, in the church office and in Community hour.

Summer Choir – All Welcome!

Please join us on Sunday mornings throughout the summer, at 9:00 a.m. in the Meetinghouse for a warm-up and rehearsal of the music being sung that morning. Head to the third floor, outside the choir room, to pick up the hymns, anthem, and bulletin, and a folder, then meet downstairs in the choir loft. Come any Sunday that you are available to help lead the congregation in worship, and it also gives you a chance to experience worship from the choir loft. Everyone is welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Craig Symons (ext. 822).

Save the Date: July 22 Guest Preacher Anthony Trujillo

A special thank you to Olga Hartwell for bringing us one of her colleagues at Yale to be a guest preacher on July 22. Anthony Trujillo is a student in the Master of Divinity program at Yale Divinity School (YDS) who is in the process to become an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Prior to attending YDS, he worked with the Peace Corps, first as volunteer in Mongolia and Ukraine with his wife Vita, then in recruitment management for the Northeast region. Anthony is originally from Okhay Owingeh, a Native pueblo in Northern New Mexico, and his academic interests center around the relationship between indigenous communities in North America and Christian churches. His ministry attends to the complex religious histories of the United States and he seeks to imagine theological and

interpretive strategies that affirm, indigenous lifeways. He and his wife, Vita, live in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Please come to hear Anthony's inspiring message and give him a warm welcome to Old Greenwich and First Church.

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

Please view 50% off items for the week at www.fccog.org/about-us/the-rummage-room.

Mgr. Leanne's Wish List: Ladies' handbags; table linens; fall scarves.

Monday, July 2 & Tuesday, July 3: The Rummage Room will be open 10 to 5:00 both days.

Wednesday, July 4: The Rummage Room will not be open. Enjoy Independence Day. Stay safe!

Thursday, July 5: Open 10 am to 5 pm.

Friday, July 6: Shopping hours are 10 am to 1 pm. (Note: During the month of July, The Rummage Room will close at 1 pm!)

Saturday, July 7: Shopping Hours: 10 to 1 pm.

Donations: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Monday through Saturday.

Summer Closing: The Rummage Room will close on Saturday, August 4 for painting and repairs and will reopen September 4—the day after Labor Day. Please do not leave donations while the Rummage Room is closed!

Thought for the Week: God said, "Let the Little Children come unto me". What God did not say: "Let the little children be separated from their parents."

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.

**Next Week at First Church
Sunday, July 8**

Rev. Patrick Collins, preaching

Music by the Summer Choir
Awake, My Heart—Jane Marshall

Music by Hanna Golodinskii, soprano
The Call—Ralph Vaughn Williams



The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

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www.fcog.org

Ministers: The Members of The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

Associate Pastor: Rev. Patrick Collins

Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Minister 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