

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

Founded in 1665

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 3, 2019

10 am

YOUTH SUNDAY

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. Please join us in the auditorium after worship for our Community Hour.

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

YOUTH SUNDAY

Ushers/Greeters

Lola Dellascenza
Robbie Finch
Kelsey Fong
Tyler Fong
Max Krueger
Tessa Laffan
Marcus Lotufo
Gwyneth Mair
Lara Olmsted
Madeleine Phillips
Kylie Schneider
William van Rhyn

Communion Servers

Victoria Bradford
John Freeman
Kody Fong
Darin Jacks
John Russell
Kendall Schrohe
Anna Weiksner

Youth Choir

Lola Dellascenza
Parker Freeman
Tessa Kurtz
Mariel Laffan
Tessa Laffan
Lauren Mickley
Sarah Mickley
Elizabeth Mohn
JQ Norrgard
Emma Olmsted
Lara Olmsted
Olivia Pfetsch
Wenhao Ruan

Director: Carolyn Paulus

Instrumentalists

Piano: Vance Briceland
Bass: Greg Robbins
Drums: Peter Hohmeister

- ORDER OF SERVICE -

PRELUDE

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, *Organ*

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Patrick Collins

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

DUET

Parker Freeman & John Freeman, *Guitar & Violin*

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Jill Jackson-Miller and Sy Miller

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Mariel Laffan

(Prepares us for the purpose of service and sets the tone, orienting us toward a worship mindset.)

Leader: Come, children of God, rejoice in your Maker! Sing songs and hymns, old and new; celebrate with voices and instruments, with praise and prayers! Open your eyes to the life-giving presence of Jesus Christ. For God is already here, among us and within us, bringing new life to all who believe.

All: **Let's praise God together!**

OPENING HYMN*

You Are Salt for the Earth, O People

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "You Are Salt for the Earth, O People". It features a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/2 time signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. Above the staff, the chords D, G, D/F#, A7, and D are indicated. Below the staff, the lyrics are written in four lines, each corresponding to a line of the melody. The lyrics are: 1 You are salt for the earth, O peo-ple: salt for the reign of God! 2 You are a light on the hill, O peo-ple: light for the Cit - y of God! 3 You are a seed of the Word, O peo-ple: bring forth the reign of God! 4 We are a blessed and a pil - grim peo-ple: bound for the reign of God!

**All who are able, please stand.*

G D/F# A7 D G D A7 D

Share the fla - vor of life, O peo - ple: life in the Cit - y of God!
 Shine so ho - ly and bright, O peo - ple: shine for the Cit - y of God!
 Seeds of mer - cy and seeds of jus - tice, grow in the Cit - y of God!
 Love our jour - ney and love our home - land: love is the Cit - y of God!

Refrain
 G D/F# A7 D G D/F# A7 D

Bring forth the reign of mer - cy, bring forth the reign of peace;

G D/F# A7 D G D/F# A7 D

Bring forth the reign of jus - tice, bring forth the Cit - y of God!

GATHERING PRAYER

Emma Olmstead

(Opening Prayer: We call on God for help & presence. We call on the living God who has made a covenant with us through Jesus the Christ.)

Holy God, You call us into a life that others have told us is easy, but it is not. You challenge us to forgive, to love our enemies, to bless those who curse us. We want the easy way, but You have given us the hard path. Grant us the patience and endurance to journey with You, to allow ourselves at times to stumble, to live into the hard way so that we might fully experience Your love, grace and peace

in this world, by becoming a people full of love and grace and forgiving others. We gather together this morning and in Your name we pray. Amen.

DUET

You Love Who You Love

Lauren and Sarah Mickley
Frank Wildhorn

Now children and teachers will go to their classrooms in the Preschool, except 6th graders who are in Rick's Room. Child Care is in the Red Door.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Elizabeth Mohn

Romans 12:9-21 (NRSV)

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

SENIOR SERMONS

Parker Freeman, Olivia Pfetsch

ANTHEM

Humble and Kind

Youth Choir
Arr. Roger Emerson

Vance Briceland, *Piano* and Carolyn Paulus, *Director*

RESPONSIVE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Reverend Patrick Collins
(Praise for who God is, with thanksgiving for what God does and with requests for God to heal, transform, renew us and help us work out the complications of our lives.)

HYMN*

Goodness is Stronger

Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;

light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death.

Vic - tory is ours; vic - tory is ours
Oh, vic - tory is ours; vic - tory is

through God who loves us. us.
ours through God who loves us. us.

**All who are able, please stand.*

CALL TO OFFERING

Sarah Mickley

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Seasons of Love

Youth Choir
Jonathan Larson

DOXOLOGY*

Pilgrim (Red) Hymnal 515

(Offering praise and thanksgiving for meeting our needs and for using us to bring God's mission to the world.)

**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*

Lauren Mickley

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.)

MUSIC

Allegro

Tessa Laffan, *Flute*
Jean Baptiste Loeillet

**All who are able, please stand.*

THE 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.

CLOSING HYMN*

Blessed Assurance

1 Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a
2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, vi - sions of
3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest; I in my

fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion,
rap - ture now burst on my sight; an - gels de - scend - ing,
Sav - ior am hap - py and blest, watch - ing and wait - ing,

pur - chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.
bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

**All who are able, please stand.*

Refrain

This is my sto - ry; this is my song, prais-ing my Sav - ior
all the day long; this is my sto - ry; this is my
song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

BENEDICTION*

Reverend Patrick Collins

POSTLUDE

Arr. Sally Mossing

I Come with Joy

**All who are able, please stand.*



The flowers in the Meetinghouse this morning are given in memory of Robert A. Ferry by Mary, Allan and Thomas Ferry

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 about Welcoming Children

To our 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 the back of the chapel with a rug and a few quiet play things. Chairs and rocking chairs are 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.



Radio Ministry

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 is there as well as a link to the live broadcast. Previous sermon recordings are also available.

NEWS & NOTICES

TODAY



Church School

Regular Church School classes resume today. Next Sunday is Youth Sunday and children in the 2nd grade and older will remain in worship. Just a quick look ahead:

Sunday, Feb. 10:

Big Event! Valentine making for special people

Sunday, Feb. 17:

No Church School, all in church

Sunday, Feb. 24:

9 am Intergenerational Breakfast

10 am Regular Church School & Communion Class

Sunday, Mar. 3: Regular Church School

Church School Communion Sunday

4th & 5th graders cook chili

Saturday, Mar. 9: FCCOG Volunteer Day at Neighbor to Neighbor
Sunday, Mar. 10: Regular Church School



Choir Rehearsals Today

Cherub Choir:

Rainbow Room (Lower Level) 11:15-11:45

Children's Choir:

Music Room (3rd floor) 11:15-12:00



Parish Nurse

Sue Asselin, RN, is available for blood pressure screenings and health consultations following today's worship service, in her office to the right of the Auditorium stage. During the week, she is available by appointment by calling 203-637-1791 ext. 821.



Today Is "Souper Bowl" Sunday Soup Sale!

The Women's Fellowship fundraiser takes place today immediately following the service in the auditorium. Quarts of homemade soup and chili will be for sold for \$10.00 each. You may pay with cash or check.

Time: 11 am to 1 pm

Location: Auditorium



Caring Ministries – Coffee hour today

Please visit the Caring Ministries table at coffee hour to see all our activities.

- Soup for the Soul
- Prayer shawl knitting
- First Church's prayer group
- Card ministry – adults and children
- Visiting committee (visiting flower delivery)
- Wellness committee
- Caregiver support group

UPCOMING

Interested in Learning About Joining First Church?

Feel free to join us at the **New Member Information Gathering!**

Date: Sunday, February 24th

Time: 11:20 am

Location: Senior Pastor's office

Duration: 1 ½ hours, lunch included

Come hear about the history and faith of our denomination, the United Church of Christ, and our church. Attending does not obligate you to join but we hope that this time together will strengthen you on the journey of faith. New members will then be received on Sunday, March 3rd. Child care will be provided at both times. Please feel welcome to join us. For more information, please contact Ginny Breismeister at ginnyb@fccog.org or 203 637-1791 x 826.

NEWS FROM THE RUMMAGE ROOM



- *Men's shirts
- *Women's skirts
- *Hats
- *Sporting equipment
- *Books

Specials for this week

Shopping Hours:

Monday-Friday 10 am - 5 pm

Saturday 10 am - 1 pm

Donation Hours:

Monday-Thursday 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

Friday & Saturday 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Manager Leanne's Wish List:

Spring Clothing for all. Ladies handbags, Men's ties, Children's Clothing
Come on over to 191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich!



The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

108 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich, Connecticut, 06870

203-637-1791 www.fccog.org

Ministers: The members of The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

Interim Senior Pastor: Rev. Carla Dietz

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 and Finance: Steve Summerton

Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister

Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin, RN

Director of Preschool: Darla Kohler Steiner

Administrative Assistant: Wendy Spezzano

Communications Specialist: Dalinda Rioseco

Database Administrative Assistant: Sue Wilder

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