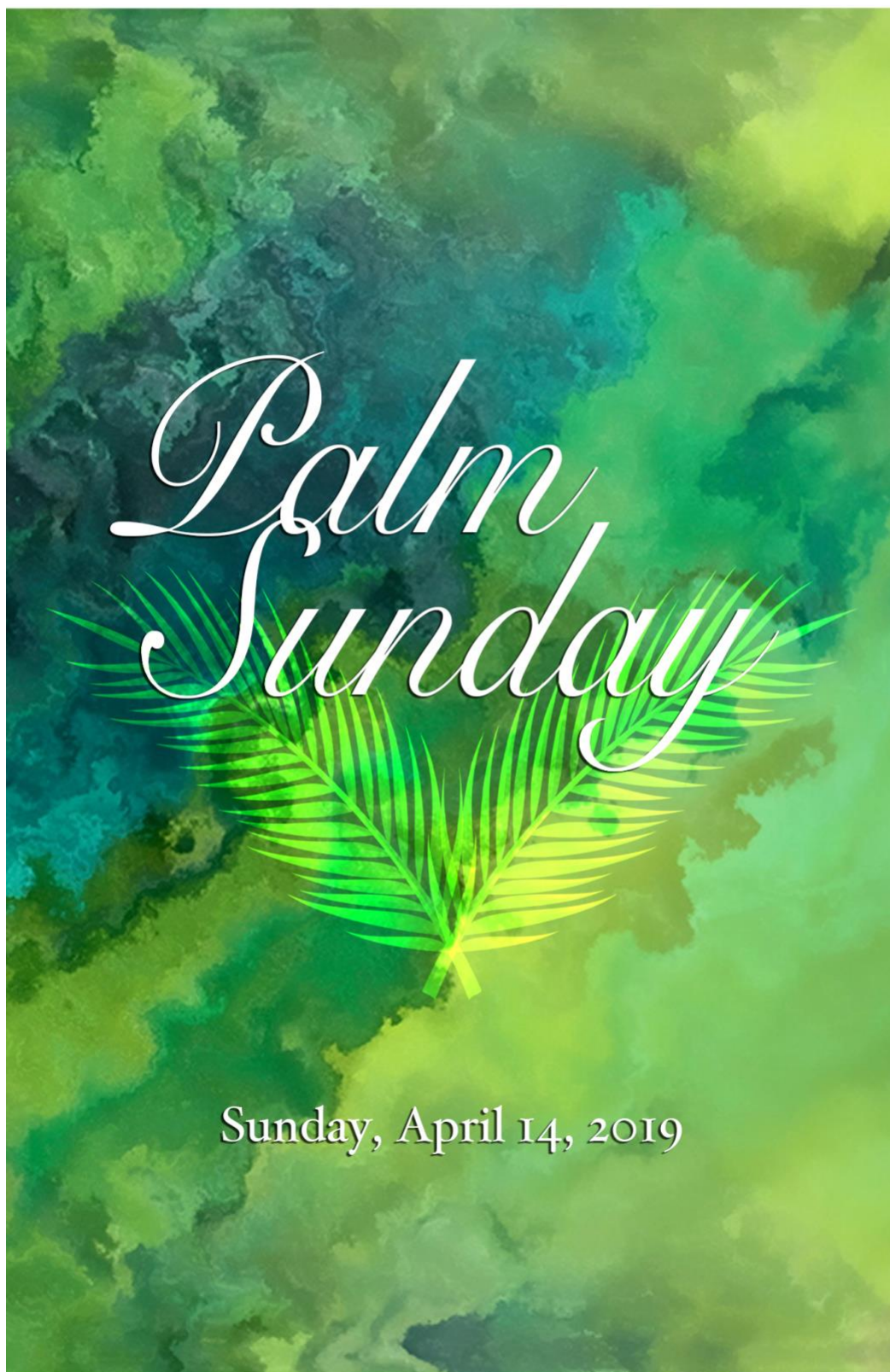


*The First Congregational Church of Greenwich*

*Founded in 1665*



Sunday, April 14, 2019

**First Congregational Church of Greenwich** declares itself to be open  
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.

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*Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.*

## **Holy Week Schedule**

### **Maundy Thursday April 18<sup>th</sup>**

6pm Potluck dinner

7pm Solemn Service

### **Good Friday April 19<sup>th</sup>**

12pm Cross Walk to Tod's Point

7:30pm Readings and Music Service

### **Holy Saturday April 20<sup>th</sup>**

10am-12pm Family egg dyeing

10am-12pm Labyrinth and Tomb in Auditorium

### **Easter Sunday April 21<sup>st</sup>**

6am Sunrise Service at Tod's Point

9am and 11am Easter Worship Services

*Child Care Provided – Family-Friendly Services*

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## Palm Sunday!

### PRELUDE

*Festal Trumpets*

Dr. Craig Scott Symons  
Noel Rawsthorne (b. 1929)

### CALL TO COMMUNITY

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

Reverend Carla Dietz

### CALL TO THE LENTEN PROJECT

Reverend Patrick Collins

### CALL TO WORSHIP\*

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

One: Have you heard? Jesus of Nazareth is coming to town!

**Right:** *The man who has been doing all the amazing things we have heard about?*

**Left:** Come, people are gathering from all over the place to see this Jesus.

One: Some are calling him the Messiah!

**Right:** *Some are calling him a king!*

**Left:** Wouldn't it be wonderful to see the Messiah – a savior for us! Wouldn't it be amazing to live with a different king – a king who ruled with love and compassion.

One: Perhaps this is the one!

**All:** Perhaps this is the one! Hosanna! Save us! Let's join the parade!

### HYMN and PALM PROCESSION\*

*All glory, laud, and honor*

Pilgrim (Red) Hymnal 155

*\*All who care to, please rise in body or spirit.*

## **OPENING PRAYER**

Reverend Carla Dietz

**We are not people of power, Holy Creator. We do not have our hands on the policies of the land. We do not have the resources to make a great difference in anyone's life today. But we are a people of resistance and hope, and today we raise our palms high in celebration of our Sovereign – the one who came in compassion and humility, and lived among us in radical welcome, and rode into town on a colt to remind us of these great strengths. Be with us as we worship. Ride into our hearts again and help us to remember your abiding presence, and that your love for us is our great and indomitable power. Amen.**

## **REFLECTION PRAYER**

Reverend Patrick Collins

*(When we admit that we have not always been our best. It's a chance to unburden our hearts)*

**We discover ourselves in this story, we confess. We know there have been times when we too have betrayed, abandoned, and denied our connections and love in order to feel safe. We sometimes lack the courage to confront or oppose the powers of empire, which offer lives full of privilege and ease while others languish in pain. We confess that we are as fearful and anxious about our lives as those disciples and ask your forgiveness in grace. Help us to have the courage to live our faith and to follow the Christ with confidence and true hopefulness, even into the places of pain. Forgive us, we pray. Amen.**

## **AFFIRMATION**

*(assurance you are forgiven)*

## **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.

## FIRST LESSON

Joe McBride

### *Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29*

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
his steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say,

“His steadfast love endures forever.”

Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter through them  
and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord;  
the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me  
and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord’s doing;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!

O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

We bless you from the house of the Lord.

The Lord is God,  
and he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches,  
up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;  
you are my God, I will extol you.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,  
for his steadfast love endures forever.

## ANTHEM

*Kyrie*

William Byrd (1540-1623)  
Hannah Golodinskii, *soprano*  
Linnea Conley, *mezzo soprano*  
Daniel Young, *tenor*  
Craig Scott Symons, *bass*

## GOSPEL

***Luke 19:28-40***

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

"Blessed is the king  
who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Peace in heaven,  
and glory in the highest heaven!"

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

## MESSAGE

*Palm Sunday*

## HYMN\*

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

Reverend Carla Dietz

New Century (Black) Hymnal 213

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*(praise for who God is, with thanksgiving for what God does and with requests for God to heal, transform)*

Reverend Patrick Collins

## CALL TO OFFERING

*For online offerings, please text FCCOG Donate to 73256*

Pat Larrabee

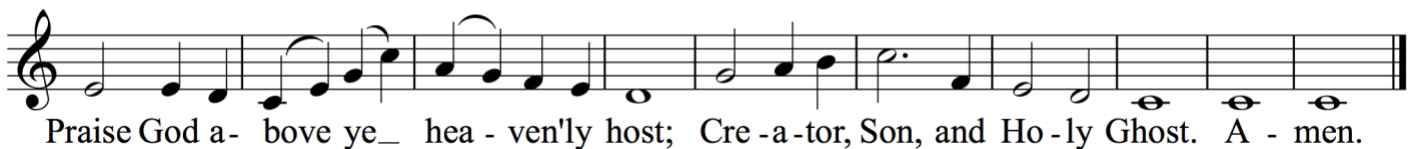
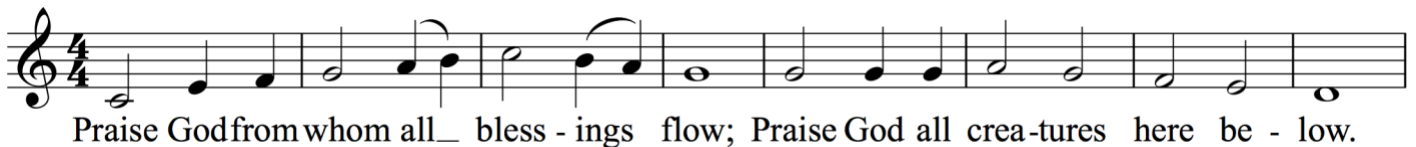
## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*The way to Jerusalem*

The Chancel Choir  
Harold Friedell (1905-1958)  
Thomas Woodman, *bass*

## DOXOLOGY\*

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



## PRAYER OF DEDICATION\*

*\*All who care to, please rise in body or spirit.*

**HYMN\***

*The Palms*



O'er all the way green palms and blos - soms gay  
His word goes forth, and peo - ple by its might.  
Sing and re - joice, O blest Je - ru - sa - lem...



Are strewn this day in fes <sup>3</sup> - tal prep - a - ra - tion.  
Once more re - gain free - dom from de - gra - da - tion.  
Of all thy sons sing the e - man - ci - pa - tion.



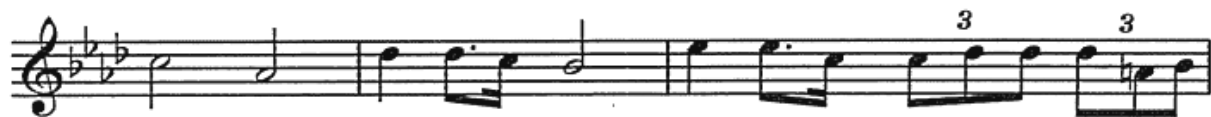
Where Je - sus comes to wipe our tears a - way...  
Hu - man - i - ty doth give to each his right...  
Through bound - less love the Christ of Beth - le - hem...



E'en now the throng to welcome him pre - pare, Join all and sing, His  
While those in dark - ness are restored to light.  
Brings faith and hope to thee for - ev - er - more.



name de - clare, Let ev' - ry voice re - sound with ac - cla - ma - tion, Ho



san - na! Praise to the Lord! Bless him who cometh to bring us sal



va - - - - tion!

**BENEDICTION\***



## CHORAL RESPONSE

The Chancel Choir

## POSTLUDE

Stanley Vann (1910-2010)

*Note: Instead of discarding your palm today, consider putting it in the basket on your way out to be used to make ashes on Ash Wednesday 2020.*

*The calla lilies in the Meetinghouse are given in loving memory of our parents, Margaret and Carleton Gisborne by Claire Henry and Ruth Reed and our families.*

*The flowers in the Chapel and the Narthex this morning are given by Catherine R. Fancher and William G. Ridenour and their respective families in memory of their beloved mother and grandmother, Virginia G. Ridenour.*

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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 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](http://www.fccog.org). A bulletin is there as well as a link to the live broadcast. Previous sermon recordings are also available.



All services are now livestreamed on [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com). Search for First Congregational Church of Greenwich and subscribe to our channel.

## NEWS & NOTICES

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### TODAY



#### CHURCH SCHOOL

There are NO church school classes today so that we may all celebrate Palm Sunday together. Child Care is available as always in the Preschool Red Door. Church School resumes on April 28, the Sunday after Easter, when we participate in the activities of Service Sunday. Be sure to come to the special event on Easter Saturday, April 20 from 10 am to noon in the Daniels Center, the Lounge and the Auditorium.



#### CHOIR REHEARSALS TODAY

**Cherub Choir:** Rainbow Room (Lower Level) 11:15-11:45

**Children's Choir:** Music Room (3rd floor) 11:15-12:00

**Youth Choir:** Choir Room (Daniels Center) 11:15-12:15



#### 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.



#### RAFFLE TICKETS for the Women's Fellowship

Annual Quilt will be on sale today after church and will resume after Easter. Tickets are \$5 each (check or cash is accepted). View the quilt is on display in the auditorium.

Monday, April 15 the quilt will be displayed in the Rummage Room window. Tickets also on sale at the **Rummage Room** and **Nimble Thimble** in Port Chester. All proceeds benefit local, national and international charities that support women and children.



#### MAUNDY THURSDAY April 18<sup>th</sup>

**Community Potluck Dinner 6:00 – 7:00 pm**

Vegetable and lemon chicken soups will be served. Please bring a side dish for 8-10 people.

**Solemn Service at 7:00 pm** with childcare provided.

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### UPCOMING



Women's Fellowship members are invited to **Yale Divinity School** for a tour and lunch on **Wednesday, April 24**. Limited to 15 guests; only half of openings left. RSVP Linnea Stenberg (lstenbergo8@gmail.com) by **Monday April 15**.



### GOOD FRIDAY AND EASTER SATURDAY FOR ALL

Bring your children and grandchildren to the annual Easter Saturday (April 20) program. From 10 am to noon, bring your own hard-boiled eggs to the Daniels Center for egg dyeing. We will have all the supplies—leave the fuss to us!



On Good Friday, join the Cross Walk procession to Tod's Point starting at noon from the church parking lot. Also beginning at noon on Good Friday and continuing through Saturday afternoon, all are invited to visit the Labyrinth and Tomb in the Auditorium. Finally, also on Saturday from 10 am to noon in the Lounge, participate in the family friendly activities that will help us prepare to celebrate the joy of Easter!

### THE LENTEN OFFERING 2019

Join us on "**Service Sunday**" on **April 28th** beginning at the 10 am service. Members and guests of the church will be invited to serve on one of three projects:



Join in an assembly-line meal-packaging event in the Auditorium. In less than two hours, we will put together 10,000 highly nutritious dehydrated meals, which will be sent to people in need around the world through **Rise Against Hunger** ([www.riseagainsthunger.org](http://www.riseagainsthunger.org)).



**Greenwich**  
Community Gardens

Pitch in with spring-cleaning at **the Greenwich Community Garden** and prepare beds for 2019 growing season. Produce from the Community Garden provides fresh food for hundreds of Greenwich residents.



Calling all junior gardeners! Participate in a Spring Clean-up and Planting at **Pilgrim Towers**, the Low-Income Senior Living Facility in Stamford founded by First Church and other churches. Bring your gardening gloves and roll up your sleeves for this hands-on project.

Sign-up through the Church Office or our website [www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org).

## NEWS FROM THE RUMMAGE ROOM FOR EASTER

191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich



**RUMMAGE ROOM VOLUNTEERS BREAKFAST**

Thursday, April 25, 9-11am in the Church Auditorium

**Shop hours**

Monday - Friday 10am-5pm  
Saturday 10am-1pm

**Donation hours**

Monday - Thursday 9.30am-4.30pm  
Friday and Saturday 9.30am-12.30pm

**Manager Leanne's wish list:** Cookbooks, Men's Spring Ties, Table Linens.

*How sweet it is to be loved by God. He loves us so much, that he gave His only begotten Son whose death we will be remembering this coming Friday, April 21st.  
What can each of us give back to God?*

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*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

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