



First Church of Greenwich

An Open & Affirming UCC Congregation

Founded in 1665



The Gift of Home

Fifth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 19, 2019
10 am

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 lounge after worship for our Community Hour.

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Music Sunday

PRELUDE

Allegro

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, piano

W. A. Mozart

John Russell, oboe

CALL TO COMMUNITY

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

Reverend Carla Dietz

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP*

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

When the Saints Go Marchin' In

The Cherub Choir

Carol Woodman, director

Andrea Woodman Osker, ukulele

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Reverend Avery C. Manchester

One: Gather us in, the brokenhearted and the joyful.

All: Gather us in, the weak and the strong.

One: Gather us in, the fearful and the brave.

All: Gather us in, the young and the old.

One: Gather us in, to sing of God's works.

All: Gather us in, to praise Jesus Christ.

One: Gather us in, to worship and wonder.

All: Gather us in, to know of God's love.

HYMN*

Gather Us In

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



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

OPENING PRAYER *(in unison)*

Reverend Patrick Collins

Lord, may our homes be havens of peace. The world around us can be stressful and high-pressured. We may be surrounded by conflict, battles, and oppression outside this home, but we pray that inside these walls, You will bring peace. Help us to rest in You. Help us communicate with grace, offer love and support, and speak in love. Even in the stressful rush of the mornings as we head out the door to school, work, church and other activities, may we breathe deeply and choose peace, gentleness, and kindness with one another. In your name we pray, amen.

SOLO

Whither Must I Wander

Ralph Vaughan Williams
Thomas Woodman, bass

READING

Home Defined

Bill DeHaven
by Charles Swain

Home's not merely four square walls,
Though with pictures hung and gilded:
Home is where affection calls,
Filled with shrines the heart hath builded!
Home! go watch the faithful dove,
Sailing 'neath the heaven above us;
Home is where there's one to love!
Home is where there's one to love us!

Home's not merely roof and room,
It needs something to endear it;
Home is where the heart can bloom,
Where there's some kind lip to cheer it!
What is home with none to meet,
None to welcome, none to greet us?
Home is sweet, -and only sweet-
When there's one we love to meet us!

ANTHEM

The Gift Called Home

The Children's Choir
Ruth Elaine Schram
Vance Briceland, piano

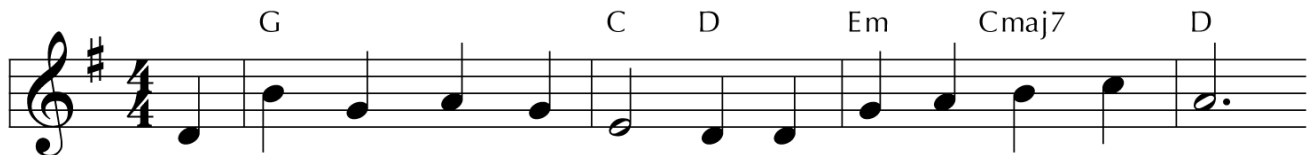
ANTHEM

My Life Flows On In Endless Song

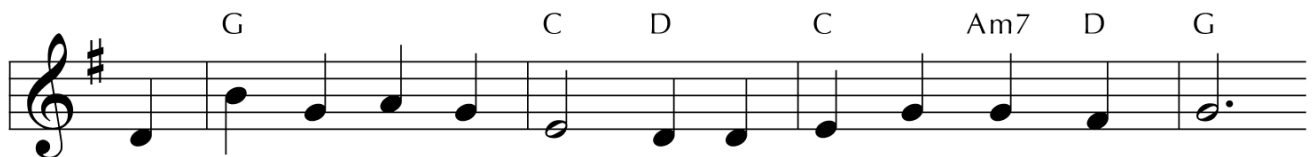
The Palmer Handbell Choir
Ruth Elaine Schram

HYMN*

How Lovely, Lord, How Lovely



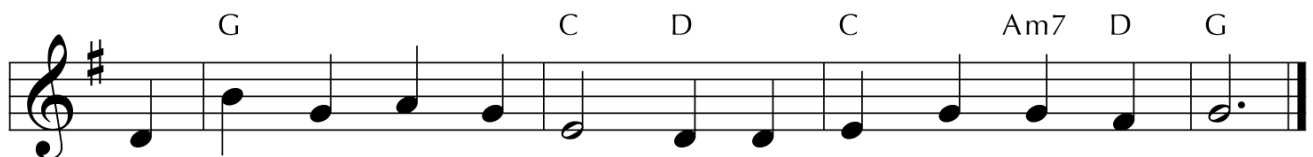
1 How love - ly, Lord, how love - ly is your a - bid - ing place;
2 In your blest courts to wor - ship, O God, a sin - gle day
3 A sun and shield for - ev - er are you, O Lord Most High;



my soul is long - ing, faint - ing, to feast up - on your grace.
is bet - ter than a thou - sand if I from you should stray.
you show - er us with bless - ings; no good will you de - ny.



The spar - row finds a shel - ter, a place to build her nest;
I'd rath - er keep the en - trance and claim you as my Lord
The saints, your grace re - ceiv - ing, from strength to strength shall go,



and so your tem - ple calls us with - in its walls to rest.
than rev - el in the rich - es the ways of sin af - ford.
and from their life shall riv - ers of bless - ing o - ver - flow.

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

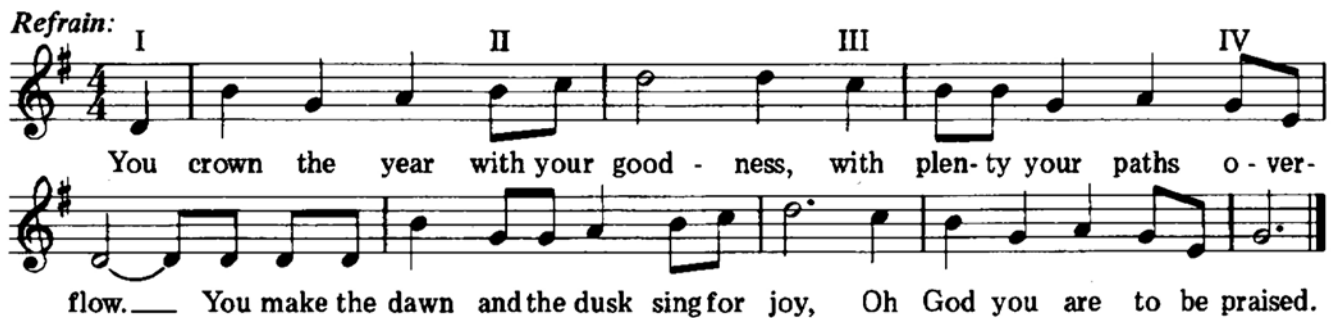
HYMNAL PRESENTATION

Carolyn Paulus, director

RESPONSE

(Choir will sing once, then congregation will sing)

Refrain:



I II III IV

You crown the year with your good - ness, with plen-ty your paths o - ver-
flow. — You make the dawn and the dusk sing for joy, Oh God you are to be praised.

Right side: Praise awaits you, our God, in Zion; to you our vows will be fulfilled.

Left side: You who answer prayer, to you all people will come.

Right side: When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions.

Left side: Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts! We are filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple.

RESPONSE

Right side: You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds, God our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas,

Left side: who formed the mountains by your power, having armed yourself with strength.

Right side: who stilled the roaring seas, the roaring of their waves, and the turmoil of the nations.

RESPONSE

Left side: The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders; where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth songs of joy.

Right side: You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly. The streams of Good are filled with water to provide people with grain, for so you have ordained it.

Left side: You drench its furrows and level its ridges; you soften it with showers and bless its crops.

RESPONSE

Right side: You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance.

Left side: The grasslands of the wilderness overflow; the hills are clothes with gladness.

Right side: The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are mantled with grain; they shout for joy and sing.

RESPONSE

READING

Bill DeHaven

Psalm 16 (selected verses)

Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you." As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight. The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance. I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. I have set the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption. You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

ANTHEM

The Road Home

The Chancel Choir
Stephen Paulus

HYMN*

Brethren We Have Met to Worship

1 Breth-ren, we have met to wor-ship and a - dore the Lord our God.
2 Sis - ters, will you come and help us? Mo - ses' sis - ter aid - ed him.
3 Is there here a trem-bling jail-er, seek-ing grace and filled with fears?
4 Let us love our God su - preme-ly; let us love each oth - er, too.

Will you pray with all your pow - er while we try to preach the word?
Will you help the trem-bling mourn-ers who are strug-gling hard with sin?
Is there here a weep-ing Mar - y pour-ing forth a flood of tears?
Let us love and pray for sin - ners till our God makes all things new.

All is vain un - less the Spir - it of the ho - ly One comes down.
Tell them all a - bout the Sav - ior. Tell them that he will be found.
Breth-ren, join your cries to help them; sis - ters, let your prayers a - bound!
Christ will call us home to heav - en; at his ta - ble we'll sit down.

Breth - ren, pray, and ho - ly man - na will be show-ered all a-round.
Sis - ters, pray, and ho - ly man - na will be show-ered all a-round.
Pray, O pray, that ho - ly man - na will be scat-tered all a-round.
Christ will gird him-self and serve us with sweet man-na all a-round.

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

ANTHEM

Feed My Sheep

The Youth Choir
Mary Shinholser
Carolyn Paulus, director

REFLECTION

Dr. Craig Scott Symons

CALL TO OFFERING

Marilyn Derr

Using a Smartphone? Text *FCCOG Donate* to 73256

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

For Everyone Born

The Chancel Choir
Arr. Tom Trenney

DOXOLOGY*

(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;
Creator, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION*

HYMN*

When In Our Music God Is Glorified

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

1 When in our mu - sic God is glo - ri - fied,
 2 How of - ten, mak - ing mu - sic, we have found
 3 So has the church, in lit - ur - gy and song,
 4 And did not Je - sus sing a psalm that night
 5 Let ev - ery in - stru - ment be tuned for praise!

and ad - o - ra - tion leaves no room for pride,
 a new di - men - sion in the world of sound,
 in faith and love, through cen - tu - ries of wrong,
 when ut - most e - vil strove a - gainst the light?
 Let all re - joice who have a voice to raise!

it is as though the whole cre - a - tion cried:
 as wor - ship moved us to a more pro - found
 borne wit - ness to the truth in ev - ery tongue:
 Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:
 And may God give us faith to sing al - ways:

Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia!

BENEDICTION*

Reverend Patrick Collins

POSTLUDE

The Palmer Handbell Choir

Rondo

Sondra Tucker

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

*Flowers are given in loving memory of her mother and father,
Dorothy and Frank Crabill, by Linda Dowling.*



Directly following the service, one of our pastors will remain in the Auditorium 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.

If you are interested, we do have child care available for babies and toddlers in the preschool classrooms every Sunday for the entirety of the worship service.



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.



All services are now live-streamed on **YouTube.com**. Search for First Congregational Church of Greenwich and subscribe to our channel.

NEWS & NOTICES

TODAY



Church School

All classes will be in church with the families. There is Child Care for children up to 4 years old in the Preschool Red Door Room. If anyone is able to help with child care, please let Velma know when you arrive.



Blood Pressure Screening

Betsy Kreuter, PT, a volunteer from the Wellness Committee, will be available for blood pressure screenings during community hour. She will be in the Parish Nurse's office, to the right of the Auditorium stage.

UPCOMING

SAVE THE DATE: June 2nd is a special Sunday for the First Church calendar. It is the Sunday we celebrate our children and teachers AND this year we will have a petting zoo to wrap up our year of fundraising for Heifer International. See you then!

SPRINGTIME NEWS FROM THE RUMMAGE ROOM

191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich

Come in and see the wonderful things for babies, children, women and men, plus shoes and home goods, wedding gifts, wedding dresses, graduation dresses, and much more. The Rummage Room also needs the things to sell. Now is the perfect time to clean out your closets!

Manager Leanne's wish list:

Ladies' handbags, children's clothing and spring shoes

Shop Hours: Monday-Friday 10 am to 5 pm
 Saturdays 10 am to 1 pm

Donations accepted: Monday-Thursday 9:30 am - 4:30 pm
 Saturdays 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Please do not leave donations when the Rummage Room is closed.



First Church of Greenwich

An Open & Affirming UCC Congregation

108 Sound Beach Avenue • Old Greenwich CT 06870

203-637-1791 • www.fccog.org •  @fccogct

Ministers: The members of The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

Interim Senior Pastor: Reverend Carla Dietz

Associate Pastor: Reverend Patrick Collins

Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Reverend 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: Reverend Dr. Thomas L. Stiers and Reverend Sally Colegrove

