

*The First Congregational Church of Greenwich*  
*Founded in 1665*



Sunday, June 23, 2019  
10 am

*The Good Samaritan* by Vincent Van Gogh, 1890, oil on canvas. Kröller-Müller Museum.



**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 our service of worship at First Church of Greenwich.  
Please join us in the lounge or outside (weather permitting)  
after worship for our Community Hour.

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

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### PRELUDE

Dr. Craig Scott Symons, piano

### CALL TO COMMUNITY

Reverend Carla Dietz

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

### CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING

Car Westbrook, *Church Clerk*

The 348<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the First Congregational Church of Greenwich, Old Greenwich, CT, is hereby called for Sunday, June 23, 2019, immediately following the 10 am worship service. The meeting will be held in the Auditorium:

- To hear the Annual Reports of the Pastors, Officers, Committees, Organizations and Departments;
- To elect Officers for the ensuing year;
- To adopt the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019
- To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

*Note: Child Care and snacks will be available in the Undercroft for children during the meeting.*

### CALL TO WORSHIP\*

Reverend Avery C. Manchester

Leader: We are made for goodness.

**People: We are made for love.**

Leader: We are made for friendliness.

**People: We are made for togetherness.**

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

Leader: We are made for all of the beautiful things that you and I know.

People: **We are made to tell the world that there are no outsiders.**

Leader: All are welcome: black, white, red, yellow, rich, poor, educated, not educated, male, female, gay, straight, all, all, all.

People: **We all belong to this family, this human family, God's family.**

– Desmond Tutu, Nobel Peace Prize winner

## INTROIT

## HYMN\*

### *Give to the Winds Thy Fears*

1 Give to the winds thy fears; hope, and be  
2 Through waves and clouds and storms God gent - ly  
3 Leave to God's sov - ereign sway to choose and  
4 Let us in life, in death, thy stead - fast

un - dis - mayed. God hears thy sighs and  
clears the way. Wait pa - tient - ly; so  
to com - mand. So shalt thou, won - dering,  
truth de - clare, and pub - lish with our

counts thy tears; God shall lift up thy head.  
shall this night soon end in joy - ous day.  
own God's way, how wise, how strong God's hand!  
fi - nal breath thy love and guard - ian care.

## OPENING PRAYER *(in unison)*

Reverend Carla Dietz

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

Lord make me an instrument of your peace  
Where there is hatred let me sow love  
Where there is injury, pardon  
Where there is doubt, faith  
Where there is despair, hope  
Where there is darkness, light  
And where there is sadness, joy  
O divine master grant that I may  
not so much seek to be consoled as to console  
to be understood as to understand  
To be loved as to love  
For it is in giving that we receive  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned  
And it's in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen

## REFLECTION PRAYER

Reverend Avery C. Manchester

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

Leader: You're blessed

**People: When you're at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule.**

Leader: You're blessed

**People: When you feel you've lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you.**

Leader: You're blessed

**People: When you're content with just who you are – no more, no less. That's The moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can't be bought.**

Leader: You're blessed

**People: When you've worked up a good appetite for God. He's food and drink in the best meal you'll ever eat.**

Leader: You're blessed

**People: When you care. At the moment of being 'care-full,' you find yourselves cared for.**

Leader: You're blessed

**People: When you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see God in the outside world.**

Leader: You're blessed

**People:** When you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That's when you discover who you really are, and your place in God's family.

**Leader:** You're blessed

**People:** When your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God's kingdom.

## WORDS OF AFFIRMATION

### BAPTISM

Edward Burns Duffy, son of Liz and Tim Duffy

#### BAPTISMAL PRAYER *(in unison)*

Gracious God, giver of life, you have called us by name, and pledge to each of us your faithful love. We pray today for your blessing on Edward that you will watch over him and guide him as he grows in faith. Remind us of the promises of our own baptism, and renew our trust in you. Make us strong to obey your will and to serve you with joy, through the power of your Holy Spirit. All of this we pray as Jesus taught us saying,

#### 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

Barbara Norrgard

#### *Psalm 42*

A white-tailed deer drinks  
from the creek;  
I want to drink God,  
deep draughts of God.  
I'm thirsty for God-alive.  
I wonder, "Will I ever make it —  
arrive and drink in God's presence?"  
I'm on a diet of tears —  
tears for breakfast, tears for supper.  
All day long people knock at my door,

Pestering,  
"Where is this God of yours?"  
These are the things I go over and over,  
emptying out the pockets of my life.  
I was always at the head of the  
worshiping crowd, right out in front,  
Leading them all,  
eager to arrive and worship,  
Shouting praises, singing thanksgiving —  
celebrating, all of us, God's feast!

Why are you down in the dumps, dear soul?  
Why are you crying the blues?  
Fix my eyes on God —  
soon I'll be praising again.  
He puts a smile on my face.  
He's my God.  
When my soul is in the dumps, I rehearse  
everything I know of you,  
From Jordan depths to Hermon heights,  
including Mount Mizar.  
Chaos calls to chaos,  
to the tune of whitewater rapids.  
Your breaking surf, your thundering  
breakers crash and crush me.  
Then God promises to love me all day,  
sing songs all through the night!

My life is God's prayer.  
Sometimes I ask God, my rock-solid God,  
"Why did you let me down?  
Why am I walking around in tears,  
harassed by enemies?"  
They're out for the kill, these  
tormentors with their obscenities,  
Taunting day after day,  
"Where is this God of yours?"  
Why are you down in the dumps, dear soul?  
Why are you crying the blues?  
Fix my eyes on God —  
soon I'll be praising again.  
He puts a smile on my face.  
He's my God.

## SOLO

### *En prière*

Carolyn Paulus, soprano  
Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

*If the voice of a child can reach You, O my Father,  
Listen to the prayer of Jesus, on his knees before You!*

*If You have chosen me to teach your laws on earth,  
I will know how to serve You, noble King of kings, O Light!  
On my lips, Lord, place the salutary truth,  
In order that he who doubts should with humility revere You!  
Do not abandon me, give me the necessary gentleness,  
To ease suffering, to relieve sorrow, the misery!*

*Reveal Yourself to me, Lord, in whom I believe and hope:  
For You I wish to suffer and to die on the cross, at Calvary!*

## GOSPEL

### **Luke 8:26-39**

They sailed on to the country of the Gerasenes, directly opposite Galilee. As he stepped out onto land, a madman from town met him; he was a victim of demons. He hadn't worn clothes for a long time, nor lived at home; he lived in the cemetery. When he saw Jesus he screamed, fell before him, and bellowed, "What business do you have messing with me? You're Jesus, Son of the High God, but don't give me a hard time!" (The man said this because Jesus had started to order the unclean spirit out of him.) Time after

time the demon threw the man into convulsions. He had been placed under constant guard and tied with chains and shackles, but crazed and driven wild by the demon, he would shatter the bonds.

Jesus asked him, "What is your name?"

"Mob. My name is Mob," he said, because many demons afflicted him. And they begged Jesus desperately not to order them to the bottomless pit.

A large herd of pigs was browsing and rooting on a nearby hill. The demons begged Jesus to order them into the pigs. He gave the order. It was even worse for the pigs than for the man. Crazed, they stampeded over a cliff into the lake and drowned.

Those tending the pigs, scared to death, bolted and told their story in town and country. People went out to see what had happened. They came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had been sent, sitting there at Jesus' feet, wearing decent clothes and making sense. It was a holy moment, and for a short time they were more reverent than curious. Then those who had seen it happen told how the demoniac had been saved.

Later, a great many people from the Gerasene countryside got together and asked Jesus to leave—too much change, too fast, and they were scared. So Jesus got back in the boat and set off. The man whom he had delivered from the demons asked to go with him, but he sent him back, saying, "Go home and tell everything God did in you." So he went back and preached all over town everything Jesus had done in him.

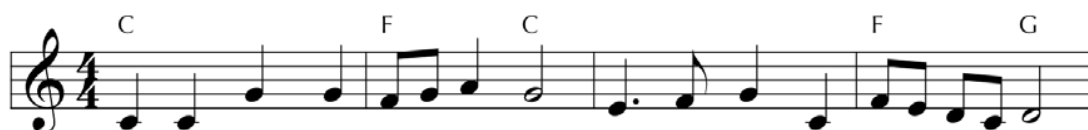
## MESSAGE

Reverend Avery C. Manchester

### *Caring Comes at a Price*

## HYMN\*

### *God of Great and God of Small*



1 God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,  
2 God of land and sky and sea, God of life and des - ti - ny,  
3 God of si - lence, God of sound, God by whom the lost are found,  
4 God of heaven and God of earth, God of death and God of birth,



God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things be - long,  
God of nev - er - end - ing power, yet be - side me ev - ery hour,  
God of day and dark - est night, God whose love turns wrong to right,  
God of now and days be - fore, God who reigns for - ev - er - more,

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

Refrain

al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, praise be to your name.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reverend Carla Dietz

## CALL TO OFFERING

Using a Smartphone? Text *FCCOG Donate* to 73256 or scan this code:



Lynn Robertson

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

### *How Great Is the Goodness of God Almighty*

The Summer Choir  
Robert Greene (b. 1957)

*Let all consider what God has given.  
All that we have are gifts from God above.  
The Lord has not forgotten us.  
And we should not forget this love.*

*How great is the goodness of God almighty!  
Is there anyone who has not known such goodness?  
For all gifts come from God almighty.  
All praise and honor belong to our Lord.*

*Oh grant us comfort in time of trouble;  
Guide us, oh Lord, through joyful days,  
For we would not forget your goodness;  
With thankful hearts we sing your praise.*

*O God, let your goodness and love be boundless;  
Always remaining before our eyes.  
O strengthen us with your great power.  
So we may give back to you our lives.*

## DOXOLOGY\*

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

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above the heavenly host;  
Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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



**PRAYER OF DEDICATION\*** *(in unison)*

Lynn Robertson

We dedicate our lives and all that we have to the work of life, of love, of peace.  
Receive our gifts and lead us in wisdom and courage. Amen.

**HYMN\***

***In Christ There Is No East or West***

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no  
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their high com -  
3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what - e'er your  
4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet

south or north, but one great fel - low -  
mu - nion find; his ser - vice is the  
race may be. All chil - dren of the  
south and north. All Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.  
gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.  
liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.  
one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

**BENEDICTION\***

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

The Summer Choir

**POSTLUDE**

*Flowers are given by his family to celebrate the baptism of Edward Burns Duffy.*

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*Directly following the service, one of our pastors will remain to assist in any 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.

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 at [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 live-streamed on **YouTube.com**. Search for First Congregational Church of Greenwich and subscribe to our channel.

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## IMPORTANT MEETING TODAY

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### Notice of the 348th Annual Meeting

The 348th Annual Meeting of the First Congregational Church of Greenwich, Old Greenwich, CT, is hereby called for today, Sunday, June 23, 2019 from 11:15 am-12:30pm in the church auditorium:

- To hear the Annual Reports of the Pastors, Officers, Committees, Organizations and Departments;
- To elect Officers for the ensuing year;
- To adopt the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019 To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Note: Child Care/snacks will be available in the Undercroft for children during the meeting.

# ANNUAL MEETING HYMN\*



1 The church of Christ can - not be bound by  
2 True faith will o - pen up the door and  
3 True love will not sit i - dly by when  
4 If what we have we free - ly share to  
5 The church of Christ can - not be bound by



walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and  
step in - to the street. True ser - vice will seek  
jus - tice is de - nied. True mer - cy hears the  
meet our neigh - bor's need, then we ex - tend the  
walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and



love are found, there can the church be known.  
out the poor and ask to wash their feet.  
home - less cry and wel - comes them in - side.  
Spir - it's care through ev - ery self - less deed.  
love are found, there can the church be known.

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## NEWS FROM THE RUMMAGE ROOM

191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich

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### Manager Leanne's Wish List:

Children's small toys and games • Records • Ladies' scarves (all seasons)  
For a list of our weekly specials please visit [www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org)

Reminder: The Rummage Room closes on the 3rd of August for one month.  
We re-open on Tuesday September 3rd. So please bring your donations in now.  
We accept all seasons of clothing.

### Shop Hours:

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

### Donations accepted:

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

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## *The First Congregational Church of Greenwich*

108 Sound Beach Avenue • Old Greenwich CT 06870  
203-637-1791 • [www.fccog.org](http://www.fccog.org)

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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