

The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
Founded in 1665



Praying Hands & Face Sculpture Statue, Cathédrale Notre-Dame, Reims, France.

Sunday, July 28, 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 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.

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

7th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

Jon Hunt
Guest director/pianist

CALL TO COMMUNITY

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

CALL TO WORSHIP*

One: One day, God's reign will come to pass:

All: Love and faithfulness will come together. Justice and peace will be as one.

One: A time will come when those who have felt distanced from God will feel
at home again.

All: Love and faithfulness will come together. Justice and peace will be as one.

One: God's glory will dwell in our land, and truth shall spring up from the earth.

All: Love and faithfulness will come together. Justice and peace will be as one.

One: The time is now! God's reign is here!

All: Come, let us worship God!

OPENING PRAYER

(Based on the prayer of St. Richard of Chichester)

Reverend Patrick Collins

**Dear God,
for these three things we pray:
to love you more dearly,
see you more clearly,
and follow you more nearly every day. Amen.**

OPENING HYMN*

Day by Day

Stephen Schwartz (Godspell)

Day by day, day by day
Oh, dear Lord
Three things I pray
To see thee more clearly
Love thee more dearly
Follow thee more nearly day by day

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.

PRAYER OF REFLECTION

One: When we speak in anger or hatred, and when our words cause division,

All: forgive us, and teach us your way, O God.

One: When we treat others with contempt or violence, or simply ignore them,

All: forgive us, and teach us your way, O God.

One: When we take more than our share of resources, and others must bear the burden,

All: forgive us, and teach us your way, O God.

One: When we do not live in love and peace, choosing fear and injustice instead,

All: forgive us, and teach us your way, O God.

One: When we know that you are calling us, and we choose not to follow,

All: forgive us, and teach us your way, O God.

WORDS OF AFFIRMATION

FIRST LESSON

Pat Larrabee

Hosea 1:2-10

When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, "Go, take for yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the LORD." So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

And the LORD said to him, "Name him Jezreel; for in a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. On that day I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel."

She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the LORD said to him, "Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive them. But I will

have pity on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the LORD their God; I will not save them by bow, or by sword, or by war, or by horses, or by horsemen.”
When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son. Then the LORD said, “Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not my people and I am not your God.”
Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered; and in the place where it was said to them, “You are not my people,” it shall be said to them, “Children of the living God.”

SOLO

The Lord's Prayer

Hanna Golodinskii, soprano

Albert Malotte

SECOND LESSON

Luke 11:1-13

Pat Larrabee

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” He said to them, “When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Give us each day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.”

And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

“So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

MESSAGE

Pray It Like You Mean It

Reverend Carla Dietz

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

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

Mariann Ekernas

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Fill-a-me-up

The Summer Choir

Pepper Choplin

Thomas Woodman, bass

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.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION*

Mariann Ekernas

HYMN*

Somebody's Knockin' at My Door

Some-bod - y's knock-ing at your door; some - bod - y's

knock-ing at your door; O sin - ner, why don't you

an - swer? Some-bod - y's knock-ing at your door.

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

1 Knocks like Je - sus.
 2 Can't you hear him? Some - bod - y's knock - ing at your
 3 An - swer Je - sus.

knock - ing at your door. O sin - ner, why don't you

an - swer? Some - bod - y's knock - ing at your door.

BENEDICTION*

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

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

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 at 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



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, which can be made by calling extension 821.

NEWS FROM THE RUMMAGE ROOM

191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich

The Rummage Room will close on Saturday, August 3rd and will reopen September 3rd at 10 am.

Annual Bag Sale Week @ The Rummage Room



"All You Can Cram in a Bag" Clearance Sale!

Aug. 1 **\$15** • Aug. 2 **\$10** • Aug. 3 **\$2** (price per bag)

54th Grand Re-opening September 3rd at 10 am

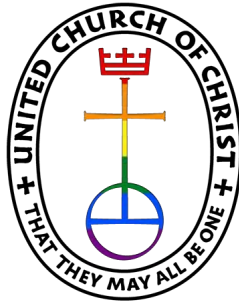
191 Sound Beach Ave, Old Greenwich • 203-637-1875

www.fccog.org/about-us/the-rummage-room

Shopping hours: Mon - Fri 10 am - 5 pm and Sat. 10 am - 1 pm

Donations hours: Thur. 9:30 am - 4:30 pm and Sat. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Please do not leave donations while the shop is closed as no-one will be there to collect them.



The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

108 Sound Beach Avenue • Old Greenwich CT 06870

203-637-1791 • www.fccog.org

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: Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Minister of Music: Dr. Craig Scott Symons

Director of Family Ministries: Rosemary Lamie

Director of Church Administration/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