



All Saints Sunday
Sunday, November 3, 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 auditorium after worship for our Community Hour.

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Voluntary, Op. 7, No.6

Steven Russell, guest organist/director
John Stanley

CALL TO COMMUNITY

(please sign and pass the red fellowship pad found at the end of your row.)

Reverend Carla Dietz

HOMES FOR THE BRAVE

Linnea Stenberg and Barbara Norrgard

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

INTROIT

Zacchaeus Was A Wee Little Man

The Cherub Choir
Carol Woodman, director
Debbie Berner, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP*

One: Jesus is coming near.

All: We cannot see.

One: What do you see?

All: With Habakkuk, we see wrong-doing and trouble

One: destruction and violence

All: strife and contention

One: law has become slack

All: justice never prevails.

One: Keep watch.

All: There is still a vision for the appointed time.

One: Jesus is coming near.

All: We want to see!

One: Climb a sycamore, like Zacchaeus

All: and know that instead of a mere glimpse of Christ, we might receive a visit;

One: see someone with Christ's love, assumptions society makes about who is small or sinful.

All: And we will see God's healing and restoration.

One: Jesus is coming near.

All: Spirit, open our eyes, minds, and hearts.

One: Come, let us worship.

Reverend Avery C. Manchester

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

HYMN*

Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed

New Century (black) Hymnal #537

OPENING PRAYER *(in unison)*

God who sees us, give us fresh eyes for ourselves, our neighbors, and our world. Change our perspectives: lead us to new vantage points and help us to see you in the places and with the people we do not expect. Amen.

PRAYER OF REFLECTION

Reverend Carla Dietz

Surprising God, our lives are grounded in you, and you show no favor except to those the world would not expect. We may find ourselves grumbling when you welcome the “sinner,” and dine with those the world would leave to hunger. When the world pushes someone to the edge, you meet them and accept their hospitality. Teach us to do the same, to reach out to those who are scorned, to sow mercy where others plant hate, and to be happy to welcome you and to recognize you when you come to redeem our own brokenness. Amen.

AFFIRMATION

Children will now leave to go to their Church School classrooms. Parents are welcome to accompany their children to their room and return to the service when they are able. All classrooms except 6th grade are on the Preschool level. Baby Nursery & Toddler Room in Red Door; 3- & 4-year-olds in Blue Door; Kindergarten & 1st Grade in Rainbow Door; 2nd Grade in Gold Door; 3rd grade in Purple Door; 4th & 5th Grades in the Green Door; 6th grade in Rick’s Room around the corner from the Lounge.

BAPTISM

Reverend Carla Dietz

Jackson Alexander Symons, son of Mary and Mark Symons.

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 Jackson 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 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.

BAPTISMAL HYMN*

Child of Blessing

Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign,
with this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.
Child of God, your loving Parent, learn to know whose child you are.
Grow to laugh and sing and worship, trust and love God more than all.

FIRST LESSON

Habukkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

O Lord, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not listen?
Or cry to you "Violence!"
and you will not save?
Why do you make me see wrongdoing
and look at trouble?
Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.
So the law becomes slack
and justice never prevails.
The wicked surround the righteous—
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.
I will stand at my watchpost,
and station myself on the rampart;
I will keep watch to see what he will say to me,
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.
Then the Lord answered me and said:
Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so that a runner may read it.
For there is still a vision for the appointed time;
it speaks of the end, and does not lie.
If it seems to tarry, wait for it;
it will surely come, it will not delay.
Look at the proud!
Their spirit is not right in them,
but the righteous live by their faith.

Barbara Norrgard

ANTHEM

Give Us the Wings of Faith

The Chancel Choir
Ernest Bullock (1890-1979)

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

GOSPEL

Barbara Norrgard

Luke 19:1-10

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today."

So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

MESSAGE

Reverend Carla Dietz

Perspectives

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reverend Avery C. Manchester

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

HYMN*

Will You Come and Follow Me?



1. Will you come and fol - low me If I but call
2. Will you leave your - self be - hind If I but call
3. Will you let the blind - ed see If I but call
4. Will you love the 'you' you hide If I but call
5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true When you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't know And
your name? Will you care for cruel and kind And
your name? Will you set the pris - 'ner free And
your name? Will you quell the fear in - side And
my name. Let me turn and fol - low you And



nev - er be the same? Will you let my love be shown,
nev - er be the same? Will you risk the hos - tile stare
nev - er be the same? Will you kiss the lep - er clean
nev - er be the same? Will you use the faith you've found
nev - er be the same. In your com - pa - ny I'll go



Will you let my name be known, Will you
Should your life at - tract or scare? Will you
And do such as this un - seen, And ad -
To re - shape the world a - round, Through my
Where your love and foot - steps show. Thus I'll



let my life be grown In you and you in me?
let me an - swer prayer In you and you in me?
mit to what I mean In you and you in me?
sight and touch and sound In you and you in me?
move and live and grow In you and you in me.

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

CALL TO OFFERING

Using a Smartphone? Text FCCOG Donate to 73256

Andrea Osker

ORGAN OFFERTORY

Voluntary, Op. 6, No. 2

John Stanley

DOXOLOGY*

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



PRAYER OF DEDICATION*

Andrea Osker

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

In the tradition of our church, let us partake of the bread (gluten-free) as it is served, remembering our individual uniqueness in the eyes of God and our diversity within the Body of Christ. Let us hold the cup (grape juice) until all have been served, remembering our oneness with God and our unity in the Body of Christ.

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who have shared this heavenly food; All honor and glory be yours now and forever. Amen

HYMN*

Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

New Century Hymnal #393

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

BENEDICTION*

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Voluntary, Op.6, No.4

John Stanley

The flowers in the Meetinghouse this morning are given today in celebration of the baptism of Jackson Alexander Symons by his family.

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: 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 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

TODAY



Church School

Regular Church School today: Baby and Toddler Room continues in the Preschool Red Door Classroom. 3's and 4's are in the Blue Door and can be dropped off before the service begins. During the service, please feel free to bring your preschool-age children to the "PrayGround" in the Chapel.



Choir Rehearsals Today

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

Youth Choir: Choir Room (3rd Floor) 11:15 am -12:15 pm

From the Stewardship Committee



meeting in faith • welcoming all

In Matthew 6:3, Jesus says "but when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing." Perhaps this is why the **vital and important work** of the church is not well known.

You can come to church for years and not know that Women's Fellowship selects about 40 charities annually to receive support. Last year, First Church gave \$158,700 to shelter the homeless, feed the food insecure, promote literacy, provide job training, help the elderly, and more.

You can be a member here for years and not know that 100% of the proceeds from the Christmas tree sales go to charity. You can be a member here for years and not know about the meal trains or letters to veterans or how often our pastors visit the sick.

Your pledge makes the vital and important work of the church possible. Please pledge this year to help us achieve new heights in outreach, faith formation, worship, and hospitality to welcome our neighbors into the First Church family.

To make your pledge, please visit www.iamfirstchurch.com. If you prefer, you can email your pledge to Steve Summerton at steves@fccog.org or send via mail to the church office.

UPCOMING



Collection Drive for *Homes for The Brave*

The Women's Fellowship is sponsoring a Veterans Day drive in support of ABRI-Homes for the Brave in Bridgeport.

As recipients of the Women's Fellowship grant process, we have been made aware of the wonderful work that is done in support of female veterans and their children, as well as the significant challenges they face. We will be collecting items on **Sunday, November 10th**, Veterans Day weekend.

The following is a list of top needs:

- Blankets (Twin/Full)
- Bras (various sizes – NEW ONLY)
- Coffee & Powdered Creamer
- Sugar/Non-Calorie Sweetener
- GBT Bus Tokens
- Gift Cards (\$25 Walmart, grocery or dept. store, gas, \$10 Subway/Dunkin/Food)

Many more items listed at www.fccog.org under Ministries/Women's Fellowship. We hope you will join us in our support of this important drive.

Intergenerational Faith Formation Breakfast

November 10 at 9:00 am in the Auditorium

The first one for this year and everyone is invited! A favorite breakfast - Church School Task Force pancakes, sausage, and more! Co-sponsored by the Faith Formation and Education Committee. Our theme will be "Who Is My Neighbor?" We encourage you to bring a friend or neighbor to join with us. Sign up at www.fccog.org

Faith Parenting Discussion

November 10 and 17 during Community Hour

A learning and discussion about a new book on parents and grandparents as the primary "teachers" of their children's faith formation and spirituality. The book, "Bless This Mess", is authored by Rev. Molly Baskette, a UCC pastor and Ellen O'Donnell, Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology. Grab your coffee and join us at the table in the corner of the Auditorium.

Harvest Sunday is November 24!

Our annual food collection will be divided between Neighbor to Neighbor and H.O.M.E. Please fill up a grocery bag (or two) with canned and other dry goods. Special requests include: canned chili, Spam or chicken, Chef Boyardee pastas, beans or rice in 1lb. bags, peanut butter & jelly, canned fruit, cereals and quick oats oatmeal. **Bring your food donations to the Harvest Sunday Service on Nov. 24.** Cash donations are also welcome.

Christmas Tree & Wreath Sale begins Saturday after Thanksgiving, November 30, and runs through Dec. 14.

The sale will feature 450 fresh cut Fraser Fir and Balsam trees from New Hampshire and over 200 wreaths! Shop early for best selection. Volunteers are key to the success of the sale, which raised \$32,000 for local charities last year. Join the fun and volunteer! Sign up is easy using Sign-Up Genius at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4eafa62aabf94-christmas>. You can also sign up today on the posters in the Auditorium or contact Pat Mendelsohn, Outreach Chair, at 203-637-5773 or patmendelsohn@aol.com.

TREE & WREATH SALE

November 24th - December 14th

Saturdays 9am - 6pm,
Sundays 11am - 5pm

EVERY PURCHASE COMES WITH A PURPOSE

volunteers needed!

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH
108 SOUND BEACH AVE (front lawn)

NEWS FROM THE RUMMAGE ROOM

191 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich • 203-637-1875
www.fccog.org/about-us/the-rummage-room

It's November and time to think about thanksgiving. We have a few thanksgiving items at The Rummage Room. Extra wine glasses, another tablecloth, games for the kids to play... we have all of these!

Manager Leanne's Wish List:

Christmas items • Men's suits • Records

Shop Hours:

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

Donations accepted:

Monday-Thursday 9:30 am - 4:30 pm
Friday & Saturday 9:30 am - 12:30 pm



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: 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