



YOUTH SUNDAY
Sunday, March 1, 2020
10:00 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.

Please let an usher know if you would like a Bible during the service.
We are happy to provide one upon request. You may also get one
from the bookshelf across from the sound booth room.

Youth Choir

Lola Dellascenza
Mariel Laffan
Tessa Laffan
Francesca Lotufo
Gwyneth Mair
Lauren Mickley

Sarah Mickley
Elizabeth Mohn
JQ Norrgard
Emma Olmsted
Lara Olmsted
Wenhao Ruan

Director: Carolyn Paulus

Instrumentalists

Piano: Vance Briceland
Bass: Tod Hedrick
Drums: Peter Hohmeister

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

CALL TO COMMUNITY

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

Rev. Patrick Collins

OPENING HYMN*

You Are the Salt for the Earth

New Century (black) Hymnal #181

SUSTAINABILITY MOMENT

Francesca Lotufo

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

The Inch Worm

The Cherub Choir
Frank Loesser
Carol Woodman, director
Andrea Osker, Ukulele

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Rev. Patrick Collins

One: Welcome to this house of the Lord!

All: We are glad to be here this morning.

One: This is a time to offer our praise to God.

All: With joy we thank God for all the blessings that have been poured on us.

One: Come, let us worship God who showers us with mercy.

All: Give praise to God who offers us rest and peace.

MUSIC

Jump Up, Superstar

Naoto Kubo, Arr. Sumino
Wenhao Ruan, piano
Ryan LaPietra, bass

GATHERING PRAYER *(in unison)*

Sarah Mickley

O God, we gather together in your presence with expectation. Hungry for an encounter with you and eager to hear your word. Open our eyes and ears to the presence of your Holy Spirit. May the seeds of the word scattered among us this morning fall on fertile soil. May they take root in our hearts and lives, and produce an abundant harvest of good words and deeds. We pray this in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

LENTEN RESPONSE

O God, The Creator (verse 1 only)

New Century (black) Hymnal #291

**All who are able, please rise.*

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.

MUSIC

I Will Never Leave You (from Side Show)

Russell and Krieger
Lauren and Sarah Mickley, soloist

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Lara Olmsted

Mark 4: 1-9 (Common English Bible)

Jesus began to teach beside the lake again. Such a large crowd gathered that he climbed into a boat there on the lake. He sat in the boat while the whole crowd was nearby on the shore. He said many things to them in parables. While teaching them, he said, "Listen to this! A farmer went out to scatter seed. As he was scattering seed, some fell on the path; and the birds came and ate it. Other seed fell on rocky ground where the soil was shallow. They sprouted immediately because the soil wasn't deep. When the sun came up, it scorched the plants; and they dried up because they had no roots. Other seed fell among thorny plants. The thorny plants grew and choked the seeds, and they produced nothing. Other seed fell into good soil and bore fruit. Upon growing and increasing, the seed produced in one case a yield of thirty to one, in another case a yield of sixty to one, and in another case a yield of one hundred to one." He said, "Whoever has ears to listen should pay attention!"

MUSIC

True Colors

The Youth Choir
Steinberg and Kelly
Elizabeth Mohn, Sarah Mickley, Emma Olmsted, soloists

YOUTH SUNDAY MESSAGE

Mariel Laffan, Elizabeth Mohn, Lauren Mickley
JQ Norrgard, Emma Olmsted, Wenhao Raun

MUSIC

Three Duos from Opus 59

Berbiquier
Mariel Laffan, violin
Tessa Laffan, flute

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Leap of Faith (from Leap of Faith)

The Youth Choir
Menken & Slater
Lauren Mickley and Wenhao Ruan, soloist

DOXOLOGY*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

Today's communion will be by intinction. Congregants are invited to come forward down the center aisle to one of the communion stations at the front, receive the bread (gluten-free), dip in the cup and partake. Those who need to stay in their chair should indicate their need to be served there to one of the ushers or greeters. Someone will come to serve you.

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, in gratitude, in deep gratitude, for this moment, this meal, these people. We give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared this sacrament and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN*

Glory, Glory

New Century (black) Hymnal #2

BENEDICTION

Rev. Patrick Collins

POSTLUDE

**All who are able, please rise.*

The Flowers in the Meetinghouse are given in Loving Memory of Bonnie Bancroft by the Bancroft Family, and in Loving Memory of their fathers, James Tyner Anderson III and Donald Winston Tufts, by Ty and Cyndy Anderson.

Directly following the service, one of our pastors will remain in the Chapel to be available to anyone who has a pastoral care concern.

WE WELCOME ALL.

OUR PRAYGROUND ROCKS!

We've created a space where children and others can move a bit during worship. Our "Prayground" is located in the back of the chapel (right side of the Meetinghouse). There's a rug, a few quiet play things, and pillows for propping. There are rocking chairs for anyone who finds the movement soothing. Additional children's books are on the bookshelves near the back of the chapel.



TO OUR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

God put the wiggle in children... Do not feel you have to suppress it during worship. The presence of all God's 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.

The 10:00 am service is broadcast live each week on **105.5FM** (please note the transmission is weak on the west side of Greenwich) or you can stream it **online at WGCH.com**. In addition, the service is available through a link on 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

Children in 2nd grade and older children will remain in church today for Youth Sunday service. Three- and four-year olds, Kindergarten and 1st graders will have their classes as usual. Next Sunday is a regular Church School Sunday for all classes. Note to the parents of 3rd graders, remember to RSVP ASAP to Rosemary for the March 29th Bible Breakfast.



CHOIR REHEARSALS

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



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 ext. 821.

UPCOMING

LENTEN COMMUNITY DINNER #2

March 4th at 6:00 pm in the Auditorium

Topic: *For the Glory of the Skies* with Rev. Stephanie Johnson, Rector at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Riverside, CT, and hosted by Faith Formation, Church School Task Force and Preschool Board. Sign up at www.fccog.org/event/lenten-community-dinner-1



LENTEN ORGAN RECITAL SERIES

Every Thursday through Thursday, April 2nd in the Meetinghouse

To showcase the recent renovation and upgrades completed on our 1978 Austin pipe organ, we will present a free, 30-minute recital from 12:15-12:45, followed by a simple soup and sandwich lunch in the Auditorium. Free will donations happily accepted to defray the cost of the meals.

Scheduled recitalists are:

- 3/5: Jonathan Vaughn, Associate Director of Music, Christ Church Greenwich
- 3/12: Leslie Smith, Director of Music, Round Hill Community Church, Greenwich
- 3/19: David Johnson, Director of Music, St. Paul's, Riverside
- 3/26: Dr. Liya Petrides, Director of Music, St. Catherine Church, Riverside
- 4/2: Dr. Craig Scott Symons

Join us for these special recitals and make your Lenten journey more reflective during the hectic pace of a busy week.

"Resilience: The Biology of Stress & The Science of Hope"

Monday, March 9 at 6:30 - 8:30 pm in the FCCOG Lounge

Timely documentary about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Toxic Stress. Experts and practitioners are proving what's predictable is preventable.

With special guest David Rabin, CEO of Greenwich United Way and a special presentation by Dr. Alice Forrester, Executive Director of Clifford Beers Clinic in New Haven, CT. Co-sponsored by the First Church Preschool and First Church. RSVP at darlak@fccog.org.



CPR CERTIFICATION CLASS

Saturday, March 14 or Saturday March 21, 9:00 to 11:30 am

Greenwich EMS instructors will teach American Heart Association CPR, including the use of an AED (defibrillator). Free of charge to church members and others who frequent our church. Class is appropriate for first-time students as well as those seeking re-

certification. Participants need only attend one class. To register or ask questions, contact your parish nurse: Sue Asselin, at extension 821 or email Susana@fccog.org.

COMBINED CHOIR CONCERT AT ST. PAUL'S IN RIVERSIDE

Sunday, March 15 at 3:00 pm

The combined choirs of St. Paul, Riverside, St. Catherine, Riverside, and our First Church Chancel Choir will present a concert at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in March. The 60-voice choir will sing the *Solemn Vespers* by W. A. Mozart, accompanied by a chamber orchestra, and will feature the professional soloists from all three churches. The program also includes Mozart's famous *Ave verum corpus*, plus two works by Rachmaninoff and Ippolitov-Ivanov. Each of the three directors will conduct segments of the program. The concert is free and everyone is welcome! Contact craigs@fccog.org for more info.

BY REQUEST! A FUNDRAISING CONCERT FOR BAREFOOT THEATER

Saturday, March 21, 7:30 pm

The professional musicians of First Church will be performing in the Meetinghouse in a fundraiser for Barefoot Theater's special show in April. Hanna Golodinskii, Linnea Conley, Daniel Young, Thomas Woodman, and Carol Woodman, will be singing your favorite tunes in a program that will entertain everyone! A twist for this program is that you can request a particular song! For a donation of \$50, you can request the song and singer, and we will do our best to accommodate that request. You can sign up two ways: stop by the table in Community Hour after worship today, or email Craig at craigs@fccog.org. Admission for this program is \$20 per person. Youth in high school and under are always free!



INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT JOINING FIRST CHURCH?

Join us for the New Member Information Gathering on Sunday, March 22, at 11:20 am in the Senior Pastor's office (duration is approximately 1 hour).



SERVICE SUNDAY PROJECT

Sunday, April 19, 2020

Once again, our congregation will come together to make a difference to those in need by participating in a food-packaging event with *Rise Against Hunger* to provide 14,256 meals on Service Sunday, April 19, 2020. Mark the date and be part of this amazing operation.



FIRST CHURCH VOLUNTEER DAY AT NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

Our next First Church Day at Neighbor to Neighbor is Saturday, March 21st for two shifts 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM and 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. A few of our "regulars" will be at CPR training, so we will need extra help this time. No experience necessary, on-the-job training is given joyfully. Help is needed in both the Food Pantry and the Clothing "Store". Sign up at www.fccog.org/event/volunteer-day



ENROLLMENT FOR 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR IS OPEN!

NEW PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AGES 2-5 FEATURING OUR NATURE CLASSROOM

For more information, please visit our website www.firstchurchpreschool.org
or contact Melanie at melanieg@fccog.org.

FAITH FORMATION LIBRARY IN THE RECEPTION AREA NOW OPEN

Faith Formation Committee members have been preparing our newly assembled Faith Formation Lending Library in the Reception Area of the Church Office. We have swapped older unused books from the shelves and refreshed our offerings with works by Henri Nouwen, Joan Chittister, Richard Rohr, Diana Butler Bass and many others. The categories include different types of Daily Devotionals, Church History - Protestant Churches in general, United Church of Christ and The First Congregational Church of Greenwich. Some of the offerings from First Church include Herman Reissig, and other people connected with First Church. There are books on other faith traditions, parenting, and of course Bibles and Bible studies. There are books for children, too. There will be issues of *The Upper Room* and *These Days*, as well as periodicals such as *Sojourners* and *Christian Century*. We hope you find these resources helpful for your own faith journey.

LENTEN Community Dinners

eat • grow • pray

Join US every Wednesday during Lent
for a meal and conversation at 6:00 pm in the Auditorium!

March 4 *For the glory of the skies*

*With Rev. Stephanie Johnson,
Rector at St. Paul's Episcopal
Church, Riverside, CT*

March 11 *For the love over and around us*

With Susie Baker

March 18 *Hill and vale and tree and flower*

*With Sarah Cocco
Town of Greenwich*

March 25 *Friends on earth and friends above*

*With Julie DesChamps
Waste Free Greenwich*

April 1 *To You we raise*

With Rev. Patrick Collins

Hosted by various committees and guests

Register at www.fccog.org/event/lenten-community-dinner-2/



presents

Free Lunchtime 30-minute Recitals

12:15-12:45 in the Meetinghouse

*Complimentary lunch of soup and a sandwich in the Auditorium.
Freewill donation gladly accepted to offset the cost of the meal.*



February 27
April 2
Dr. Craig Scott Symons
Minister of Music
First Congregational Church

March 5
Jonathan Vaughn
Associate Director of Music
Christ Church Greenwich

March 12
Leslie Smith
Director of Music
Round Hill
Community Church

March 19
David Johnson
Director of Music
St. Paul's
Episcopal Church

March 26
Dr. Liya Petrides
Director of Music
St. Catherine Church



LENTEN ORGAN RECITAL SERIES

More information at www.fccog.org or (203) 637-1791

NEWS FROM THE RUMMAGE ROOM

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

Manager Leanne's Wish List:

We are looking for everything Spring...
Dresses, Skirts, Blouses, Shirts, Handbags, Shoes
Men's, Women's and Children's

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



108 Sound Beach Avenue • Old Greenwich CT 06870
203-637-1791 • www.fccog.org

Ministers: The members of The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

Senior 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

Preschool Administrative Assistant: Melanie Garnett

Administrative Assistant: Wendy Spezzano

Communications Specialist: Dalinda Rioseco

Database Administrative Assistant: Sue Wilder

Pastors Emeriti: Reverend Dr. Thomas L. Stiers and Reverend Sally Colegrove

