

*Old Greenwich,
Connecticut*

**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF GREENWICH**

*United Church
of Christ*

Founded in 1665

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

22 August 2010

10 o'clock in the morning



WELCOME to this Service of Worship at The First Congregational Church on this summer Sunday. As the slower pace of summer continues, we affirm our trust in God and come together as a community of faith. And in so doing, we recall the helpful words of St. Augustine, when he said:

“Faith is to believe what we do not see, and the reward of this faith is to see what we believe.”

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

*All who are able please stand

‡Seating of latecomers

PRELUDE

Prelude on *Slane*

Mark Swicegood, organ
Gerre Hancock

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Please sign and pass the red book.

Dr. David D. Young

PRAISING GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

***‡OPENING HYMN AND PROCESSION**

God Reigns o'er All the Earth *New Century (black) Hymnal 21*

OPENING PRAYER *(In Unison)*

We gather as your people, our God,
remembering your past faithfulness,
anticipating your future, which comes even now.

This hour is precious to us.

It speaks of your ever present care.

May it energize us to trust and then share that care
with all people at all times,
in Jesus' name. Amen.

CONFESSING TO GOD

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God of realism,
we confess that we are masters of the art of avoidance,
preferring postponement
to the honesty of facts well-faced.

God of risk,
we confess our love affair with safety, choosing to filter
your strong call through the screen of excuses.

O God of renewal,
we confess our inability to trust your promises,
always knowing better what our future ought to be.

Forgive us
in this precious time of inner reflection,
for our easy escapes,
our casual timidity,
our lack of faith,
that we might know your power of transformation
which draws us to Christ
in whom all things hold together and
who taught us to pray.

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.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

‡Congregational Response

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON

Pat Larrabee

Psalm 62:1-8

For God alone my soul waits in silence;
from him comes my salvation.
He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall never be shaken.

How long will you assail a person,
will you batter your victim, all of you,
as you would a leaning wall, a tottering fence?
Their only plan is to bring down a person of prominence.
They take pleasure in falsehood;
they bless with their mouths,
but inwardly they curse.

For God alone my soul waits in silence,
for my hope is from him.

He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.
On God rests my deliverance and my honour;
my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

Trust in him at all times, O people;
pour out your heart before him;
God is a refuge for us.

SCRIPTURE ANTHEM

Create in Me a Clean Heart

*The Summer Choir
Carl F. Mueller*

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.
Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.

SECOND LESSON

Pat Larrabee

Mark 4:35-41

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, ‘Let us go across to the other side.’ And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, ‘Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?’ He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, ‘Peace! Be still!’ Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, ‘Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?’ And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, ‘Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?’

*‡HYMN

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 338

SERMON

The Thrust of Trust

Dr. David D. Young

RESPONDING TO GOD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

He comes to us as one unknown,
without a name,
as of old, by the lakeside,
he came to those who knew him not.

He speaks to us the same words,
“Follow thou me!”
and sets us to the tasks which
he has to fulfill for our time.

He commands.

And to those who obey him, whether they be wise
or simple, he reveals himself in the toils,
the conflicts,
the sufferings,
which they will pass through in his fellowship,
and as an ineffable mystery, they will learn
in their own experience who he is.

Albert Schweitzer

*Gloria

New Century (black) Hymnal 754

*Glory to God the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Amen.*

CALL TO PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Daniel B. England

PASTORAL PRAYER AND QUIET MEDITATION

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

*The Summer Choir
Calvin Hampton*

There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.
There's no place where earthly sorrows are more felt
than in God's heaven;
There's no place where earthly failings
have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader
than the measures of our minds;
And the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful,
we would gladly trust God's word;
And our lives would show thanksgiving
for the goodness of our God.

***Doxology** *New Century (black) Hymnal 776*
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures
here below; Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter; One God, Triune, whom
we adore. Amen. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD

*CLOSING HYMN AND PROCESSION

God of Grace and God of Glory

Pilgrim (red) Hymnal 366

*CLOSING SENTENCES

*Leader: I can see how it might be possible for
People to look down upon the earth and be atheists:*

*People: But I cannot conceive
How they can look up
Into the heavens
And say there is no God.*

*Leader: The purposes of the Almighty are perfect,
And must prevail, though we erring mortals
May fail to accurately perceive them in advance.*

*People: Meanwhile, we must work earnestly
In the best lights God gives us,
Trusting that so working
Still conduces to the great ends God ordains.
Abraham Lincoln*

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Festival Toccata

Percy Fetcher

The 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.

We have **child care for babies and toddlers** every Sunday. Your children are always welcome for the entire service or for a respite time if needed. Please see an usher if you need directions. Child Care for August is in Room 104 while areas of the Preschool are being renovated.

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 can be found there as well as a link to the live broadcast. Previous sermons may also be found there.

Calendar

TODAY

Church School

There will be **no** Church School classes until Homecoming Sunday, September 19th. Children are always welcome in worship and there is always Child Care for our youngest children. Early elementary children may also go to Child Care should they get restless in the Meetinghouse.

NEWS AND NOTICES

Church Office Summer Hours

First Church weekday office hours will be 9am to 3pm until September 7. Volunteer receptionists will be on duty during those hours. Of course, you can leave a voicemail message at any time of day or night.

Summer Beach Services

These services begin at 8 am at Tod's Point every Sunday of the summer through September 12. See our website, www.fccog.org, for more information.

Join the Summer Choir

There's no weeknight rehearsal during the summer. Rather, the choir meets Sunday mornings for a 9:00 am warm-up and rehearsal in the Meetinghouse. Adults and youth are welcome. It's a great time to see if choir is right for you. You can even come just to the rehearsal, if you feel you're not quite "ready for prime time." As much as is possible during this time of music-staff transition, scores for the next week's anthems will be found on the cabinet outside the Choir Room on the third floor, and learning files to help singers with their parts will be found on the website, www.fccog.org under Music/Choir Learning Files.

Women's Fellowship Summer Tai Chi Classes

Tai Chi with Luis Duarte will be on hiatus through August and will resume again in September. You do not have to be a member of the church to join in. More information will follow.

Rummage Room News

The Rummage Room is closed until **Monday, August 30th**.

- **Monday, August 30th - Opening Day with all "New" Merchandise - 10:00am - 5:00pm**
- **Wednesday, September 1st - Begin taking-in donations - 10:00am to 5:00pm**

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE DONATIONS AT THE RUMMAGE ROOM DURING CLOSED MONTH OF AUGUST.

Plastic and paper shopping bags are needed when the Rummage Room opens on August 30th. Please drop off all you can spare!
Thanks.

Food Collection

A reminder that the Food Collection Barrel will remain in the back of the Meetinghouse throughout each month, to encourage month-round contributions.

A Food Collection Bin will be available at the Beach Services as well to encourage our Beach Service Attendees to remember the hungry.



The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

108 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich, Connecticut, 06870

203-637-1791

www.fccog.org

Ministers: Members of The First Congregational Church of Greenwich

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. David D. Young

Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry: Rev. Mark D. Montgomery

Minister of Communication and Adult Education: Rev. Daniel B. England

Minister of Pastoral Care: Rev. Avery C. Manchester

Interim Director of Music: Mark Swicegood

Director of Church School: Rosemary Lamie

Director of Membership: Ginny Breismeister

Director of Publications: Barbara Wilkov

Parish Nurse: Susan Asselin, RN

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

Director of Music Emeritus: Dr. John Stansell