



Striving With God

Sunday, August 2, 2020

10:00 a.m.

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 welcome you this day and we're glad you made the choice to join us
for this live stream worship service. May it be a blessing to you.

FIRST CHURCH CONNECTS WITH YOU DURING THE WEEK

- Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship –
Live Stream - [YouTube](#)
Facebook - [First Church](#)
Radio at [WGCH](#) 1490 AM or 105.5 FM
Download the bulletin [HERE](#)
- Monday: Music on Mondays (e-blast by Craig Symons)
- Wednesday: Wisdom on Wednesdays (e-blast by Rev. Patrick Collins)
- Thursday: Faith Formation at Home for All and Faith Formation for Children,
Youth and Families (e-blasts by Rosemary Lamie)
- Friday: [Fridays on Facebook](#)
(live @ 3:00 p.m. with Rev. Patrick Collins)

Please make sure your email is on our list of recipients.
If you are not on our mailing list, send your address to wendys@fccog.org

THE RUMMAGE ROOM IS NOW OPEN!

Monday through Thursday 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Donations are accepted Wednesday & Thursday 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
One box of books at a time.

Reminder: Clothing needs to be clean, no stains or holes.

Please note we do not accept these items:
Furniture, Pillows, Ski's and Ski boots, Suitcases,
Baby equipment - Strollers, Car Seats,
High Chairs, Computer Monitors, Printers.

CALL TO A SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A Special Meeting of the members of the First Congregational Church of Greenwich, Old Greenwich, CT is hereby called for Sunday, August 2, 2020 at 11:00 AM EDT following the Worship Service. The meeting will be held electronically using Zoom.us for the following purposes:

- To hear and act upon the recommendation of the Associate Pastor Search Committee to call an Associate Pastor;
- To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Pat Larrabee
Church Clerk

ZOOM INVITATION INFORMATION

Topic: Special Congregational Meeting

Time: Aug 2, 2020 11:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89602297964?pwd=Vk55bmZFTkFrZkkxcnRieUF1QmhwZz09>

Meeting ID: 896 0229 7964

Password: 698681

To join by telephone with audio only:

Dial: +1 646 558 8656 US

Meeting ID: 896 0229 7964

Password: 698681

This meeting may be recorded for purposes of taking of Minutes.

If you have questions about using Zoom, please email patmendelsohn@aol.com

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Rev. Patrick Collins

Using your smartphone messaging app, text FCCOG Donate to 73256

OR click [HERE](#) to access the online giving webpage

OR scan the QR code below using your smartphone



CALL TO A SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Pat Larrabee
Church Clerk

PRELUDE

Arabesque
Claude Debussy (1862-1918)
James Mair, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Patrick Collins

One: Only the hungry search for bread. Only the thirsty look for water.

All: This is a place for those who are hungry and thirsty in spirit.

One: Only those who ache for meaning will pursue it. Only those who yearn for a deeper life will seek it.

All: This is a place for those who ache and yearn for something more.

One: So let us come here today with our hunger and thirst,

All: and let the God of life satisfy our souls.

HYMN

To God Be The Glory

**To God be the glory; great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!

**O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he has done!**

**Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (Refrain)**

GATHERING PRAYER (IN UNISON)

With those who live in dry and weary lands, who know what it is to hunger and to thirst, we pray. We pray that we may learn what it is to hunger for you, to thirst for justice, so all may have daily bread.

THE 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.

STAYING CONNECTED

The Mickley Family

FIRST LESSON

For A New Beginning
John O'Donohue

In out-of-the-way places of the heart,
Where your thoughts never think to wander,
This beginning has been quietly forming,
Waiting until you were ready to emerge.

For a long time it has watched your desire,
Feeling the emptiness growing inside you,
Noticing how you willed yourself on,
Still unable to leave what you had outgrown.

It watched you play with the seduction of safety
And the gray promises that sameness whispered,
Heard the waves of turmoil rise and relent,
Wondered would you always live like this.
Then the delight, when your courage kindled,
And out you stepped onto new ground,
Your eyes young again with energy and dream,
A path of plenitude opening before you.

Though your destination is not yet clear
You can trust the promise of this opening;
Unfurl yourself into the grace of beginning
That is at one with your life's desire.

Awaken your spirit to adventure;
Hold nothing back, learn to find ease in risk;
Soon you will be home in a new rhythm,
For your soul senses the world that awaits you.

SOLO

Seufzer, Tranen, Kummer, Not
J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
Carolyn Paulus, soprano
Dorothy Darlington, oboe
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

(sung in German – translation)

Aria

*Sighs, tears, grief, distress, anxious longing, fear and death
gnaw at my oppressed heart, I feel misery, pain.*

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 32: 22-31
(New International Version)

That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two female servants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions. So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. When the

man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak."

But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."

The man asked him, "What is your name?"

"Jacob," he answered.

Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome."

Jacob said, "Please tell me your name."

But he replied, "Why do you ask my name?" Then he blessed him there.

So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared."

The sun rose above him as he passed Peniel, and he was limping because of his hip.

MESSAGE

Striving With God
Rev. Cydney Van Dyke

MULTIMEDIA REFLECTION

From Life's Beginning (Let Praise Resound)
ReSound Worship

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Patrick Collins

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

Receiving The Bread And Cup

Today, we join a vast cloud of witnesses who celebrated and shared in this sacred meal in the comfort of their own homes. We invite you during this time of communion to share whatever elements you have

SOLO

available to you knowing that all things of this life are sacred and holy.

Gerechter Gott, Ach, Rechnest Du

J. S. Bach

Carolyn Paulus, soprano

Dorothy Darlington, oboe

(sung in German – translation)

Recitative

Well then! My heart lays anger, quarreling and discord aside;

It is ready to forgive my neighbor.

However, how terrified is my sinful life, since I am full of guilt before God!

Yet Jesus' blood accounts for the reckoning,

if I turn to Him, as the source of the law, in faith.

Aria

Righteous God, ah, do you judge? Then for the salvation of my soul I will count the drops of blood from Jesus. Ah! Reckon the total to my account! Indeed, since no one can fathom it, it will conceal my guilt and sin.

HYMN

How Firm A Foundation

**How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

**"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.**

**"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."**

BENEDICTION

Rev. Cydney Van Dyke

RESPONSE

The Lord Bless You And Keep You
Peter Lutkin (1858-1931)
First Church Chancel Choir Virtual Video

POSTLUDE

Gigue
Arcangelo Corelli (1653-1713)
Dorothy Darlington, oboe
Dr. Craig Scott Symons, organ

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The First Congregational Church of Greenwich
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MINISTERS - THE MEMBERS OF THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

Senior Pastor	Reverend Patrick Collins
Minister of Music	Dr. Craig Scott Symons
Director of Faith Formation	Rosemary Lamie
Director of Church Administration and Finance	Steve Summerton
Director of Membership	Ginny Breismeister
Parish Nurse	Susan Asselin, RN
Administrative Assistant	Wendy Spezzano
Database Administrative Assistant	Sue Wilder
Director of Preschool	Darla Kohler Steiner
Preschool Administrative Assistant	Melanie Garnett
Pastors Emeriti	Reverend Dr. Thomas L. Stiers - Reverend Sally Colegrove

