



LAETARE (REJOICE) SUNDAY
THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
Sunday, March 14, 2021
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 are glad you made the choice to join us for this live stream worship service. May it be a blessing to you.

SUNDAY MORNING LIVE STREAM WORSHIP

10:00 a.m.

YouTube - [YouTube](#)

Facebook - [First Church](#)

Radio at [WGCH](#) 1490 AM or 105.5 FM

Download the bulletin [HERE](#)

RUMMAGE ROOM

Store Hours

Monday - Thursday
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Donation Hours

Wednesday & Thursday
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Rev. Cydney Van Dyke

Using your smartphone messaging app, text **FCCOG Donate** to **73256**
or click [HERE](#) to access the online giving webpage

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Joy, Joy, Joy
Traditional
The Cherub Choir

HYMN

O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing
Tune: Azmon

**O for a thousand tongues to sing
my dear Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and king
the triumphs of God's grace!**

**The name of Jesus charms our fears,
and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears,
brings, life and health, and peace.**

**Christ speaks, and listening to his voice
new life the dead receive;
the mournful waken to rejoice,
the poor in heart believe.**

**My gracious master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of thy name.**

**To God all glory, praise, and love
Be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above
the church in earth and heaven.**

GATHERING PRAYER (Unison)

Rev. Patrick Collins

Before we were born, before we took our first breath, before the week started, before the year started, before we said, “I love you,” before we said, “I’m sorry,” before we figured out who we really are, before we figured out who we want to be, before it all, God loved us. Unconditionally and freely, fully and honestly, God loved us.

Again and again, this is where our story begins. Let us worship God!

ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY VIDEO

FIRST LESSON

Hold

Rev. Sarah Are
Barbara Norrgard

If you hold a newborn in your arms, All at once you will understand
The crook of your elbow
And the cup of your palm

As never before—
Ordinary curves of the body Transformed into a resting space. You were designed
for love.

And if you’re lucky enough
To hold a newborn in your arms,
And that newborn curls
Its tiny fingers around yours,
Making your hands look
Like the hands of a giant—
Then time might stand still,
And those around you might point and say, “Look! That little one is holding you
back.”

And in that moment,
If you pay attention,
You will catch a glimpse
Of the circle that love was meant to be. God is love,
Our resting place.

With small hands,
We hold back.

ANTHEM

God So Loved The World
John Stainer (1840-1901)
The Chancel Choir Quartet

*God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whoso believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

*For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world;
but that the world through him might be saved.*

John 3:16

SECOND LESSON

John 3: 14-21
New International Version

Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son. This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

MESSAGE

A Love Story
Rev. Patrick Collins

MULTIMEDIA REFLECTION

God So Loved
We The Kingdom

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Cydney Van Dyke

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.

HYMN

We Walk By Faith
Tune: Dunlap's Creek

**We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."**

**We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"**

**Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.**

**And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light
may we behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.**

BENEDICTION

Rev. Patrick Collins

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Psalm 76
Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)

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THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GREENWICH

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

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Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Minister of Music

Faith Formation and Education Coordinator

Director of Church Administration and Finance

Parish Nurse

Administrative Assistant

Media, Tech and Content Coordinator

Database Administrative Assistant

Director of Preschool

Preschool Administrative Assistant

Pastors Emeriti

Reverend Patrick Collins

Reverend Cydney Van Dyke

Dr. Craig Scott Symons

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Susan Asselin, RN

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