



**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN**

United Church of Christ  
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***SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT***  
***March 1, 2015***  
***8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.***



**LENTEN SERMON SERIES:**  
***“GREAT TEXTS, CORE TRUTHS”***  
***PART II - “THE SHAPE OF SPIRITUAL EMPOWERMENT”***

***SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT***  
***March 1, 2015***  
***8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.***

Children are always welcome at our worship services.  
A drop-off Nursery is available to children age 2 and younger,  
at the new Two's classroom starting at 9:45 a.m.

***\*Those who are able are invited to stand.***

**PRELUDE**

Mr. Maxim Pakhomov

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Rev. Dale B. Rosenberger

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**\*HYMN #93**

“GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH”

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

*(responsively)*

Are you weary, worn out, spiritually exhausted?  
Where do we turn for strength not of this world?

**Our soul finds its rest in God; our hope is in God.  
So often we need to remember who we finally are.**

Do you feel frail, weak and uncertain of your future?  
How do we tread paths, exposing our vulnerabilities?

**Truly God is our rock and our salvation;  
God is our fortress, we will not be shaken.**

Do you trust in your own faltering strength alone?  
How do we tap into bedrock deeper than our own?

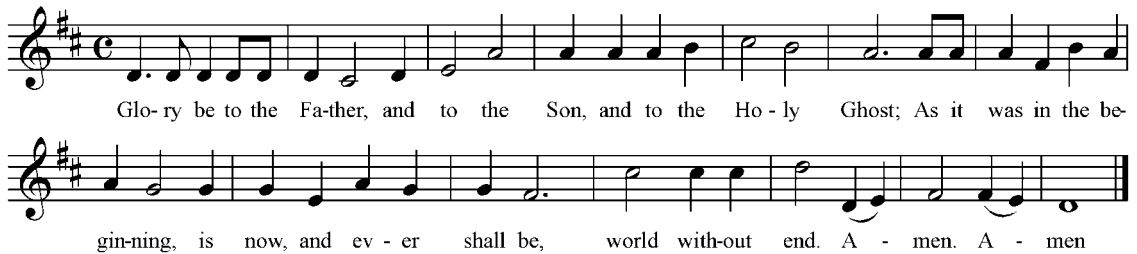
**Our salvation and honor rest upon God;  
God alone is our mighty rock and refuge.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**\*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.**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be-  
gin-ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A - men. A - men

**CHILDREN’S DISMISSAL (10:00 only)**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

PHILIPPIANS 4:10-13

Lou Converse, Deacon (8:30)  
Gary Holmes, Deacon (10:00)

**\*HYMN #327**

“SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US”

**GOSPEL LESSON**

JOHN 16:4-15

Rev. Rosenberger

**SERMON**

LENTEN SERMON SERIES: “GREAT TEXTS, CORE TRUTHS”  
PART TWO – “THE SHAPE OF SPIRITUAL EMPOWERMENT”

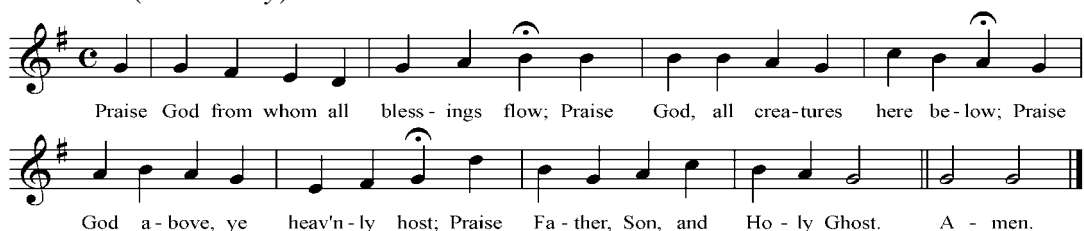
Rev. Rosenberger

**OFFERTORY**

“THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD” (Psalm 23)  
Senior Choir

Thomas Matthews

**\*DOXOLOGY (10:00 only)**



Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures here be - low; Praise  
God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (10:00 only)**

*(unison)*

**Giving God, we are grateful for rescue, for support, and the many ways you fortify our faith. Most of all, we thank you for your care over us, for enlisting us in your work, and for entrusting us with your purposes. May these offerings show our fearlessness, and our awareness that in giving for your work, we will get back far more than we can count. Amen.**

**CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**INVITATION**

**CALL TO PRAYER**

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| (Leader)       | The Lord be with you.                             |
| (Congregation) | <b>And also with you.</b>                         |
| (Leader)       | Lift up your hearts.                              |
| (Congregation) | <b>We lift them up to the Lord.</b>               |
| (Leader)       | Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.           |
| (Congregation) | <b>It is right to give God thanks and praise.</b> |

**\*SANCTUS**

**"HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"**

*Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!  
My heart knows how to say to you: Holy are you, Lord!*

**PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

*(unison)*

**Almighty God, we thank you for the wonders you work in the lives of men and women. We praise you for bringing us together as community, and for sending us forth from this spiritual home for works of service and glory. We celebrate both the sacrifice and the victory we glimpse at this table. Let us go with a purified vision that you might grasp us more deeply. Let us go with renewed purpose that we may follow Jesus more ardently; in his name we pray. Amen**

**\*HYMN**

“PRECIOUS LORD, TAKE MY HAND”

*(page 6)*

**\*BENEDICTION**

Rev. Rosenberger

**POSTLUDE**

Mr. Pakhomov

\* \* \*

**TODAY'S USHERS** are Lou Converse, Kristin Desautelle, Gary Holmes and Theo Osgood.

**A CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF  
THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHUCH OF DARIEN**

You are hereby called to the First Congregational Church of Darien, United Church of Christ, 14 Brookside Road, for the first portion of the Annual Meeting of the church scheduled for this morning, immediately following our 10 o'clock service of worship.

The purpose of this meeting of the congregation is to:

- \* receive the 2014 financial reports.
- \* receive the recommendations of Church Council for the 2015 budget.
- \* address any other business or concern relating to the life of our congregation, that may properly be brought before the assembled congregation.

Attest: Conni Moore, Clerk

“PRECIOUS LORD, TAKE MY HAND”

1. Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,  
2. When my way grows drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,  
3. When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws near,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
when my life is al - most gone,  
and the day is past and gone,

through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:  
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:  
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:

*Refrain*  
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

## **CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **COME AS YOU ARE SERVICE: SAVE THE DATES**

The response to the Come As You Are services was overwhelmingly positive -- with attendance strong on all four Sundays. We've taken great care to ask for feedback and will be experimenting with new ideas as we move forward, including alternatives to music and location. With Justin leaving us this spring to return closer to his home town and as we embark on a search for a full time Associate Minister/Youth Pastor, we are aiming to have one Come As You Are service in March, April, and May. Our hope is to do more this fall. **For now, please mark your calendars for the following Sundays: March 22, April 19, and May 17.** We recognize the April Sunday is the second of the spring break, but with Easter and Confirmation Sunday, our choices were limited. We hope you will join us!

### **JUNIOR CHOIR**

Junior Choir will be meeting to rehearse on Sunday, March 8 during the 8:30 service. Any 2nd-6th grader is welcome. We will have Donuts! Join us.

### **THE FCC CLASSICS BOOK GROUP**

The Classics Book Group will be meeting again on March 11 at 3pm in the Morehouse Room. We will be discussing The Last of the Mohicans. Newcomers are welcome.

## **CHURCH CALENDAR**

### **TODAY**

Annual Meeting (Part I- Finance), following the 10 a.m. service  
Confirmation/Pizza, 5:00 p.m. in the Youth Room

### **TUESDAY, MARCH 3**

Darien House Tour Meeting, 9:30 a.m. in the Morehouse Room  
Board of Christian Education, 7:30 p.m. in the Library  
Board of Outreach, 7:30 p.m. in the Circle Room  
Knitting Ministry, 7:30 p.m. in the Morehouse Room

### **THURSDAY, MARCH 5**

Bible Study, 9:30 a.m. in the Morehouse Room  
Cooking for the Norwalk Emergency Shelter, 6:30 p.m. in the Church Kitchen  
Senior Choir, 8:00 p.m.

### **SUNDAY, MARCH 8**

Worship Services at 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m.

## **LOOKING FOR A NEW CHURCH?**

### ***ALL ARE WELCOME HERE!***

We are an accepting community where faith in Christ makes a difference. We welcome you to worship with us wherever you are on your journey. As a spiritual home, our hallmarks are education, fellowship and pastoral care. Children have a special place in our church family, and are embraced with love, guidance and opportunities for spiritual growth. We are a church of conscience, unafraid of the issues of today and serving as a reconciling force among different faiths.



***Ministers:*** Every member of the congregation.

#### ***Clergy and Staff:***

The Rev. Dale Rosenberger, *Pastor (emergency pager)* 1- (203) 368-7789

The Rev. Ronald T. Evans, *Pastor Emeritus*

Sally Bassler, *Lay Minister for Pastoral Care* (cell) (203) 554-1724

Daniel Hague, *Music Director* Maxim Pakhomov, *Organist*

Kate Nelson, *Church School Director* Justin Inners, *Youth Minister*

Teri Manning, *Nursery School Director* Karen Hansen, *Treasurer*

Dennis Hanlon, *Church Administrator*

Carlos Maya, *Sexton* Ulises Mendez, *Sunday Sexton*

**Find "The First Congregational Church of Darien"  
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