



**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN**

United Church of Christ  
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***FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER***

***May 14, 2017***

***8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.***

And the child grew  
and became strong;  
He was filled  
with **WISDOM,**  
and the **GRACE** of **God**  
was on **Him.**

*-Luke 2:40*



# ***FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER***

***May 14, 2017***

***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,  
in the Nursery School wing starting at 9:45 a.m.*

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

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Dale Rosenberger

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**\*HYMN #S2**

“BLESSED ASSURANCE”

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

(responsively)

Come to Christ, O people of God, taste  
all of the good God has in store for you.

**God gives us every provision;  
and fills us up with good things.**

Come to Christ, you who are chosen.  
Build your lives upon the cornerstone.

**God gives us a deep rest in the night,  
and renewed courage for the daytime.**

With joy, let us give praise to God,  
for he is our Creator and Redeemer.

**Trusting the Lord's promises,  
We rejoice in all of God's care.**

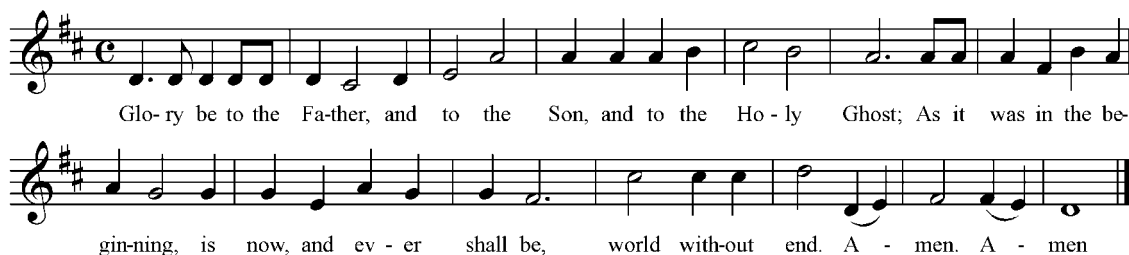
**\*OPENING PRAYER**

Mr. Gary Morello

## \*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

## BAPTISM OF RORY JAMES SWENSON (10:00 only)

## CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL (10:00 only)

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

## MOMENT OF SILENCE

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

ISAIAH 40:28-31

Phil Meyer, Deacon (8:30)  
Dave Miller, Deacon (10:00)

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.

He gives power to the faint,  
and strengthens the powerless.

Even youths will faint and be weary,  
and the young will fall exhausted;

but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint.

**\*HYMN #360**

“I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY”

**EPISTLE LESSON**

1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-8, 12-15

Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me.

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised.

**DIALOGUE SERMON**

“WHEN GOSPEL TRULY BECOMES GOOD NEWS”

Sr. Minister Dale Rosenberger & Associate Minister Gary Morello

**OFFERTORY**

*(10:00 only)*

“AVE MARIA”

Senior Choir

“Hail Mary, full of Grace...”

G. Caccini (arr.)

(1545-1618)

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

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow: Praise God all creatures here below:  
Praise god above ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.*

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

**We commit ourselves to you, O God, dedicating tangible gifts that speak of our intangible awe. As we ponder the amazing wonder of life, we are filled with joy. As we remember Jesus as the cornerstone of spiritual homes you are building, it gladdens our hearts. Let your face shine in ours and within these offerings. Amen.**

**\*HYMN #327**

“I WAS THERE TO HEAR YOUR BORNING CRY”

**POSTLUDE**

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**TODAY'S USHERS** are Frank Burke, Phil Meyer (8:30 a.m.), Dave Miller and Mandy Teare.

**TODAY'S BAPTISMAL FAMILY:** Lauren and Harris Swenson joined FCC Darien in the fall of 2015. Their two oldest children, Andrew (age 3) and Lindsley (age 5), attend First Congregational Church nursery school. Baby brother Rory was born May 2, 2016. They are active participants in the church school and Lauren also serves on the Outreach board.

Harris is Head of Sales and Consultant Relations for a boutique equity manager in midtown and, until the birth of their third child, Lauren worked in marketing at American Express. She is now home with their team of three kids and the entire Swenson clan is settling well into Darien. They are honored to have their families in town with them today for the baptism of Rory.

## **CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **DEDICATE A HYMNAL TO SOMEONE SPECIAL WITH A BOOKPLATE**

Please see inside back cover. Return your completed form to the church office.

### **2017 OFFERING ENVELOPES**

If you made a pledge for 2017, your Offering Envelopes are available for pick-up and are on the table, outside the church office. If you do not see envelopes with your name, and would like offering envelopes, please contact Karen Hansen at [KHansen@uccdarien.org](mailto:KHansen@uccdarien.org).

### **BOARD OF CHRISTIAN OUTREACH**

**Pacific House Gala Date has been changed!!** Due to a recent fire at The Italian Center, Pacific House has rescheduled its 16th annual Gala from May 6th to Friday, **October 6, 2017**. The Church will be presented with the 2017 David Mond Award for its 25 years of volunteer and financial support. Please mark your calendars!! **For years, Pacific House has relied on funds generated from the gala to help sustain services through the summer months. With the gala date change, they have lost this essential source of revenue. If you are able to help Pacific House sustain itself through the summer, they would appreciate your support now. Please visit [pacifichouse.org](http://pacifichouse.org) for more information and to make a donation.**

**Tickets are now on sale for The June 8th Darien House Tour: Homes with Heart!** We hope that you will join in the fun by attending the tour and/or volunteering for a shift. Discounted tickets available to those who staff a shift at a house! Visit [darienhousetour.org](http://darienhousetour.org) for more information!

## Hymns of Truth & Light

**Dedicate a hymnal to someone special with a bookplate!**

The cost of adding a personalized bookplate is \$25 per hymnal. Please fill out the following form, printing clearly so that your name and that of a loved one are readable and reproducible on a bookplate:

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**>>To honor the memory of a loved one:**

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_

**>To celebrate someone special:**

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_

**>>To dedicate a meetinghouse hymnal(s) in your family name:**

Your family name: \_\_\_\_\_

>>Otherwording: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Total number of hymnals ordered above: \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount due with this order: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Price: \$25ea)

(Please make check out to First Congregational Church of Darien, with "hymnal" in the memo section, and leave it and the form in the church office.)

**Thank you! Through your purchase, you are helping subsidize the cost of these hymnals to the church.**

## WELCOME TO THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN

**"Where God's extravagant love welcomes and affirms,  
where Christ's transforming truth enlivens and compels."**

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.

### CHURCH CALENDAR

#### MONDAY, MAY 15

Bell Choir Rehearsal, 4:30 p.m. in the Morehouse Room  
Youth Group Bible Study, 5:30 p.m. in the Dream Room

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

Darien House Tour, 9:30 a.m. in the Morehouse Room  
Church Council, 8:00 p.m. in the Circle Room

#### THURSDAY, MAY 18

Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.  
Senior Choir, 8:00 p.m.

#### SUNDAY, MAY 21

Worship Service, 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.  
Knitting Ministry, 11:00 a.m. in the Morehouse Room

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

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

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

Gary M. Morello, *Associate Minister*

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

Mary Jo Colman, *Church School Director*

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

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

Pamela Toason, *Church Administrator (M, T)* Dennis Hanlon, *Church Administrator (W, Th, Fri)*

Carlos Maya, *Weekday Sexton* Ruth Salazar, *Sunday Sexton*