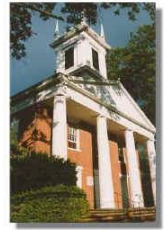




THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN

United Church of Christ
14 Brookside Road, Darien, CT 06820
Phone: 203-655-0491 Fax: 203-655-7620
E-mail: info@uccdarien.org
www.uccdarien.org



SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 13, 2018

8:30 A.M. AND 10:00 A.M.

Moms
are
the real
superheroes
of the
world

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 13, 2018

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 from 9:50 a.m. through the close of the service.

Please drop off nursery-age children at or before the other children are released for Church School.

A cry-room is also available in the library

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

PRELUDE

Mr. Maxim Pakhomov

WELCOME

Rev. Gary Morello, *Associate Minister*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

MOMENT OF THANKS

“CROSSING THRESHOLDS” The Rev. Carter Via, *Exec. Director*

OPENING SONG/DUET

“BLESSED ASSURANCE”
Christine & Benjamin Geeding

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Christine Geeding, *Christian Education Director*

We are together today because Christ has claimed us.

We are called to be the body of Christ in today's world.

Who are we to make such a claim?

Who would see Jesus Christ when they look at us?

It is not our claim that brings us together.

The church is not our private club.

We are not here just for ourselves, for our own needs.

We are drawn together by a much larger purpose.

We have been called by Christ for a mission.

The gathered community is sent out into the world.

We are here to be equipped for ministry.


We have been chosen as apostles of good news.

*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 LESSON

GENESIS 2:18-25

Liz Werner, *Deacon* (8:30)
Kristin Desautelle, *Deacon* (10:00)

Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said,

'This at last is bone of my bones

and flesh of my flesh;

this one shall be called Woman,

for out of Man this one was taken.'

Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

***HYMN**

“GOD OF EVE AND GOD OF MARY (IN BABILONE)”

God of Eve and God of Mary, God of love and mother earth.
Thank you for the ones who with us shared their life and gave us birth.
As you came to earth in Jesus, So you come to us today:
You are present in the caring that prepares us for life’s way.

Thank you for the Church, our Mother, Gives us bread and fills our cup,
And the comfort of the Spirit warms our hearts and lifts us up.
God of Eve and God of Mary, Christ our brother, Human Son.
Spirit caring like a mother, take our love and Make us one.

GOSPEL LESSON

LUKE 1:46-56

Rev. Morello

And Mary said,
‘My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.’

And Mary remained with her for about three months and then returned to her home.

SERMON

"REAL LIFE SUPERHEROES"

Rev. Morello

OFFERTORY

“AVE MARIA”

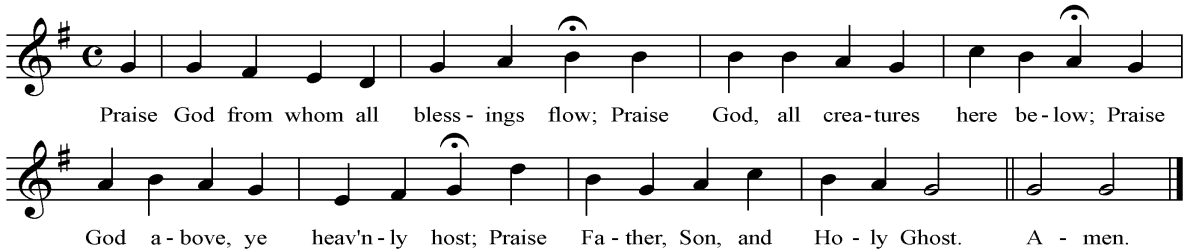
Jacques Arcadelt

(10:00 only)

Senior Choir

(“Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with Thee....”)

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



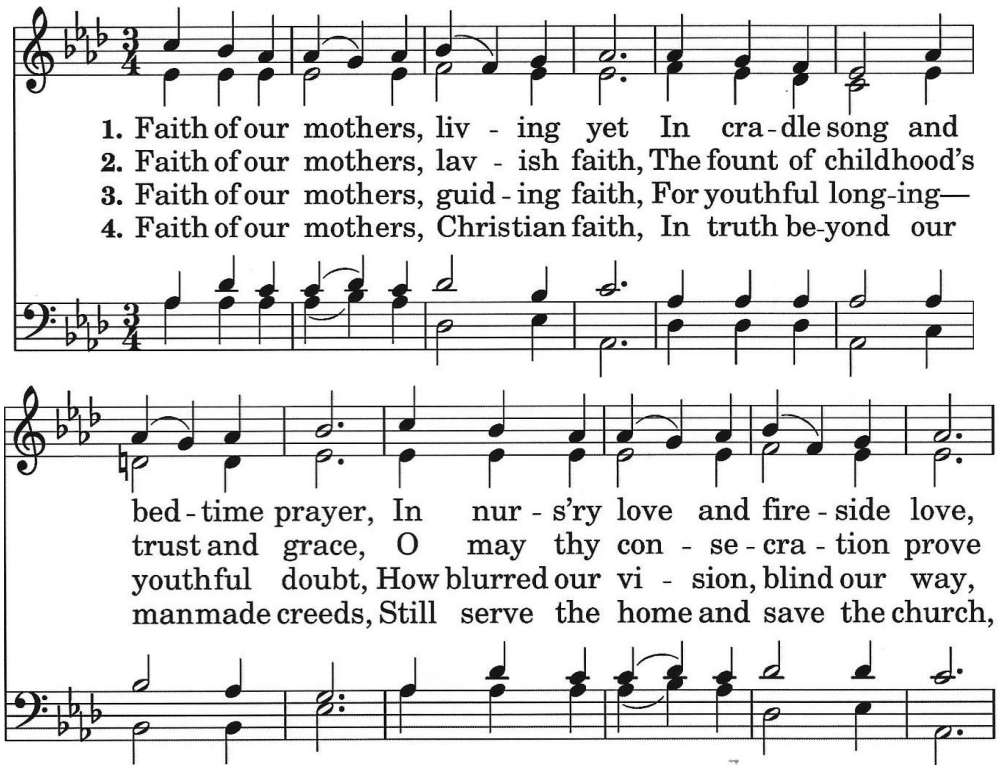
Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures here be-low; Praise
God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

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

Here, O God, is some of the abundance you have allowed us to manage for you while we are on this earth. May it be enough to draw us closer to you and to all whom we seek to help. May our hearts follow our treasure into growing devotion to your truth and expanded commitment to the unity in love that Jesus sought for all your children. Bless this offering, and increase our joy in giving. Amen.

***HYMN**

“FAITH OF OUR MOTHERS



1. Faith of our mothers, liv - ing yet In cra-dle song and
2. Faith of our mothers, lav - ish faith, The fount of childhood's
3. Faith of our mothers, guid - ing faith, For youthful long-ing—
4. Faith of our mothers, Christian faith, In truth be-yond our
bed - time prayer, In nur - s'ry love and fire - side love,
trust and grace, O may thy con - se - cra - tion prove
youthful doubt, How blurred our vi - sion, blind our way,
manmade creeds, Still serve the home and save the church,

(continued)

bed-time prayer, In nur - s'ry love and fire - side love,
trust and grace, O may thy con - se - cra - tion prove
youthful doubt, How blurred our vi - sion, blind our way,
manmade creeds, Still serve the home and save the church,

5

moth-ers, liv - ing faith, We will be true to thee till death.
moth-ers, lav - ish faith, We will be true to thee till death.
moth-ers, guid - ing faith, We will be true to thee till death.
moth-ers, Christian faith, We will be true to thee till death.

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Morello

POSTLUDE

Mr. Pakhomov

* * *

TODAY'S USHERS are Liz Werner (8:30), Kristin Desautelle, Dave Sealy and Steve Weeden (10:00).

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Church School This Week

This week, 3's - 5th grade will learn the story of Esther, a young woman who became queen in captivity. Esther's courage is celebrated far and wide!

Attention all Church School Parents!

In order to minimize risks in the Parish Hall during coffee hour, please do not allow your children to run. Thank you!

Let's Talk!

Have an idea for Church School...a story, craft, or game? Have a thought regarding a fun event that the kids of FCC would love? Let's talk! cgeeding@uccdarien.org.

Youth

ACCESS - May 31. 6th - 8th graders, mark your calendars for the final ACCESS of the school year on May 31st at 7:00PM in the Dream Center! Can't wait to see you there!

Youth Ignite Band - Sunday, May 20: The band will rehearse at 3:00 p.m. on May 20th before helping to lead worship at 4:30 p.m. at Come As You Are! Want to join the band?

Contact cgeeding@uccdarien.org.

MUSIC SUNDAY

May 20: As part of the 10 am service, the choir will offer a number of pieces for all to enjoy to celebrate all that music brings to our worship.

For more information, please contact Mariann Bigelow (bigelow3@optonline.net) or John Stuart (johnstuartmktg@optonline.net).

BELL CHOIR

Calling anyone interested in learning to "play" the hand bells! New members welcome, no experience required. Come to our rehearsals, Mondays, at 4:30 in the Morehouse Room.

For more information, contact Theo Osgood, 203-722-4483, or tosgood123@optimum.net.

BREEZE DATABASE

The church has upgraded to a new database, and we need your help. You may have already received an email with instructions for checking your information on Breeze. Please take a few minutes to make sure that the information the church has for you is right. If you are having trouble, please reach out to the office. Pam will be the point person for this initiative!

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

Cook/Serve at the Open Door Shelter in May

Please help us to feed those in need.

Join the outreach committee in the FCC kitchen on Thursday, May 17th at 6 pm for cooking as well as dinner and fun!

Serve Friday, May 18 from 12 pm to 2 pm at The Open Door Shelter, 4 Merritt Street, South Norwalk

Please contact Heather Raker if you would like to help. hraker@me.com.

Save the date for the 11th Liberation Programs Spirit of Hope Benefit

On Thursday, June 7, 2018, Liberation Programs will honor Jayme Stevenson, our First Selectman, and raise funds for their important work. Liberation Programs' mission is to empower people and their families to be free of the disease of addiction by providing targeted solutions that restore lives and strengthen our community. Contact John Bassler at johnbassler@gmail.com for more information.

DARIEN HOUSE TOUR

Volunteer for a house tour shift

We need LOTS of volunteers to pull off the house tour. Please email hraker@me.com if you can volunteer from 8:45 to 12 OR 11:45 to 3 on June 7!!!

Would you like to help with the Darien House Tour, but can't cover a shift during the day? We will be putting together Goody Bags on **Tuesday June 5th, 7:30 - 9 pm**, and we'd love to have your help! Refreshments will be provided! Please contact Annette Madden-Kline. a_madden_kline@hotmail.com

CALLING ALL FCC MEN (AND WOMEN, TOO!)

Please come and help with one of the most important jobs at the House Tour - parking! We need a volunteer at each house to oversee parking attendants. We have morning and afternoon shifts available.

Contact Annette Madden-Kline a_madden_kline@hotmail.com or sign up directly. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080f4da9ad29a5fd0-thejune>



Spring Luncheon and #Me Too Talk

Featuring Gayle Weinstein

President of the Board of Directors

The Center for Sexual Assault Crisis Counseling
and Education

May 22, 2018 at 12:00 pm

First Congregational Church of Darien

Sponsored by Women's Association and Board of Outreach

RSVP to Church Office
office@uccdarien.org
203-655-0491

Open to the Community

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: _____

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.

CHURCH CALENDAR

MONDAY, MAY 14

Board of Stewards, 7:45 p.m. in the Morehouse Room
Board of Deacons, 7:45 p.m. in the Circle Room

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

Bible Study, 9:30 a.m. in the Morehouse Room
Church Council, 8:00 p.m. in the Circle Room

THURSDAY, MAY 17

Cook for Open Door Shelter, 6:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 18

Serve at the Open Door Shelter, 12 noon

SATURDAY, MAY 19

Men's Ministry, 7:30 a.m. in the Morehouse Room

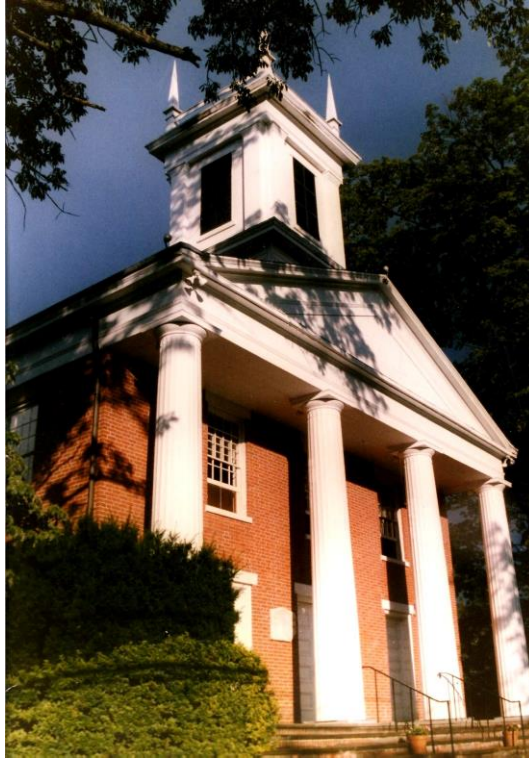
SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2018 (*MUSIC SUNDAY*)

Worship Service at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
"Come As You Are" worship service, 4:30 p.m. in Parish Hall

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.



Ministers: Every member of the congregation.

Clergy and Staff:

The Rev. Dale Rosenberger, *Senior Minister*

The Rev. Gary M. Morello, *Associate Minister*

(*emergency pager for Senior. & Associate Ministers: 1- (203) 368-7789*)

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

Christine Geeding, *Christian Education 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*