

Visit our Website





Join us for Worship Sunday at 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

March 20, 2024

Dear Friends of Second Church,

As we prepare for Palm Sunday, then Holy Week, then Easter, there is a lot of "church" on offer, and the services are probably the most powerful ones of the Christian year.

If you're active in some role here at church, say, a deacon, a member of the Church Council, or a singer, you're almost certainly involved in some way—Easter, like Christmas, is a particularly *participatory* season.

Yet even those with no specific role can participate—coming to the services on Maundy Thursday or Good Friday, or taking a shift during the overnight vigil between them. Maybe starting Easter Sunday with the dawn service out on the Mead House lawn.

There's a lot to be a part of, and we hope you will be.

Sometimes, you'll hear from one of us, maybe me or Jenny, or one of the deacons, saying, "Just come. You'll be glad."

We say that because it's true.

But this season, maybe more than any other, has something even more fundamental to say about participation.

It reminds us that *the essential mission of the church is to invite participation* — not only in its own programs (though that's one part of it).

More importantly, the mission of the church is **to invite people to participation in the life of God**.

That life, of course, is infinitely larger than the activity of any church, or of all the churches put together, even at a time like Easter.

But the church is the gathered community where we particularly recognize, name, and celebrate that greater life, and the many ways in which we are lifted (and challenged) by joining it.

It is what every service, every sermon, every program, every day, is trying to talk about and, with God's help, to bring about.

At Easter, we tell the part of the story in which even death cannot stop the life of God, or silence the invitation God extends us to come join it.

As we enter this next season, I hope you will hear that invitation over and over, not only in our specific, scheduled times together, but also in any number of unscheduled moments and situations when you feel a sense of God's presence and care.

May His life continue to guide and shape ours.

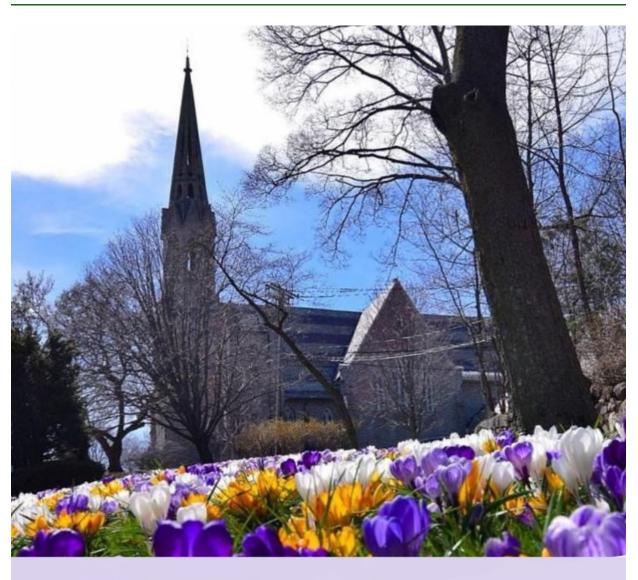
See you in church,

Max

Sermons are always available online:

2CCSermons

If you can't make it in person, join us via **Livestream for our 10:30 a.m**. Sunday service.



Holy Week at

Second Congregational Church

Sunday, March 24:

Palm Sunday 10:30

Palm Processional

Thursday, March 28:

Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m.

Friday, March 29:

Good Friday

7:30 p.m.

Combined Worship at
First Congregational Church
in Old Greenwich

Easter Sunday, March 31:

Sunrise Service at 6:39 a.m.

Festival Service 10:30 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt following
10:30 service



2CC.OTg 139 E. Putnam Avenue Greenwich, CT

Holy Week Prayer Vigil Following the Maundy Thursday evening service. Our overnight prayer vigil will begin, and will continue until 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 29. A feature of Holy Week at 2CC for the last 22 years, the vigil offers a powerful experience for private prayer in the Sanctuary, which is illuminated by a single light, focused from the base of the cross. Some come with a plan for their prayers, some read Scripture or find other devotional reading and go where it takes them, and some simply sit and "listen for God" in the silence. Most find that the hour passes quickly, and that Easter is more powerful as a result. Join us!

A deacon will also be available to help people sign up after the 10:30 Worship service for the next two weeks or to sign up online, email Pam@2cc.org.

Children's Chapel at 2CC

Nursery care for infants to age 4 starts at 10:15 a.m. Deacons can help direct you to our nursery room. Children ages kindergarten and up are encouraged to start worship with their parents at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Those who wish may depart for Children's Chapel and Choir with Jenny at about 10:45 a.m.

Registration not required but helpful for us to best know and love your child.

Click here to Register for Children's Chapel

Holy Week is coming...



Email Khaleigh for more information



Friday, March 29 9:00 a.m. - 11:30

A special Good Friday Vacation Bible School including feet washing, a swim at the YMCA pool & a pancake lunch!

K-Grade 5: \$25

Children under 5: must be accompanied by a guardian

Grades 6-12: welcome to attend as CITs and for High School service hours

Scholarships Available

Greenwich YMCA

(50 East Putnam Avenue)

Our Minister of Care and Connection, Jenny Byxbee, looks forward to seeing you there!

RSVP no later than March 25 Email Jenny@2cc.org

Click here to reserve your spot for VRS



SATURDAY, MARCH 30 AT 8:00 A.M.



Coffee for Good 48 Maple Avenue, Greenwich, CT

COFFEE & CONNECTION

Saturday, March 30 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Join us in the chapel.

All hands on deck to sip coffee and stuff 3000 eggs!

Donations of plastic eggs & candy are welcome.

Email Jenny@2cc.org to RSVP



Email Jenny to RSVP for Coffee & Connection



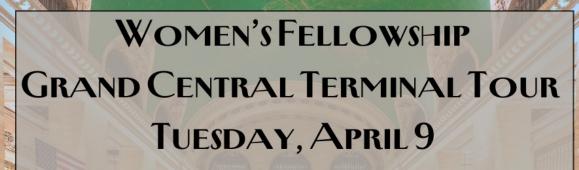
Email Jenny about Easter Sunday

Mark your calendars...

Winter-Spring Yoga continues through April 1

Monday mornings at 9:15 a.m. in the Chapel Cost is \$20/class

Email Jenny with questions about Yoga



All interested, take the 9:35am train from Greenwich to arrive at Grand Central at 10:29am. Our tour will be from 11:00-12:30 and it begins in the main concourse where we will meet our guide.

For those interested in lunch, we will dine at the OysterBar in Grand Central.

Please sign up at the Church office and prepay the tour admission of: Adult \$35 and Senior \$32. (You will be responsible for your transportation and lunch.)

Sign up by March 20. Questions: Suzy Starr <u>203-400-4024</u>

Last week was busy, busy!

Women's Fellowship Care & Discussion Lunch with Jenny











Women's Fellowship assembled these adorable Easter Baskets that were delivered to Splurge for children that might not get a visit from the Easter Bunny!



Second Congregational Church | 139 East Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830

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