



The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme
2 Ferry Road
Old Lyme, Connecticut
(860) 434-8686
Website: www.fccol.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP
Third Sunday In Advent

Steven R. Jungkeit, Senior Minister
Carleen R. Gerber, Senior Associate Minister
Joan W. Priest, Minister of Visitation
Simon D. Holt, Director of Music

December 17, 2017

11:00 AM

Prelude

*Processional Hymn: #129 "Of Eternal Love Begotten"

*Call to Worship:

We gather this morning to be about our preparations for a new advent of love.

**Hatred and warfare, injustice and suffering,
are not the last word, for they are not of God.**

We hear again the promise of peace, coming in the
One who brought the promise of peace to all people.

We see again the light God promises in the midst of our darkness.

May our worship recall us to the center of our lives.

May we embrace the new advent, renewed this morning in faith, hope, and love.

*Invocation

*The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and News of the Church

Advent Wreath Lighting

Eve Todd, Rick Strickhart, Bill Slivinsky and Annie McCarty

*Unison Reading:

**We know the scene: the room, variously furnished,
almost always a lecturn, a book; always the tall lily.**

**Arrived on solemn grandeur of great wings, the angelic ambassador,
standing or hovering, whom she acknowledges, a guest.**

**Called to a destiny more momentous than any in all of Time,
she did not quail, only asked a simple,**

**"How can this be?" and gravely, courteously, took to heart the angel's reply,
perceiving instantly the astounding ministry she was offered:**

**To bear in her womb Infinite weight and lightness; to carry in hidden, finite inwardness,
nine months of Eternity; to contain in slender vase of being, the sum of power –in narrow
flesh, the sum of light. Then bring to birth, push out into air, a Man-child needing, like
any other, milk and love – but who was God.**

-Denise Levertov, The Annunciation

*Gloria Patri: (#36 in hymnal)

Scripture: Isaiah 61: 1-8 (OT, pg. 655)

Luke 1: 26-38 (NT, pg. 53)

*Hymn: #124 “My Heart Sings Out With Joyful Praise”

Pastoral Prayer

Pastoral Prayer Response: *As We Are Gathered*

Refrain
As we are gath-ered, Je - sus is here; one with each

Fine
oth - er, Je - sus is here. Joined by the Spir - it

to Refrain
built up in love, part of the bod - y, the church of God.

Offertory Invitation

Offertory

*Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen

*Offertory Prayer

Sermon: TELL US OUR NAMES

The Rev. Dr. Steven R. Jungkeit

*Hymn: #123 “The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came”

Benediction

Postlude

*Congregation Standing

Large print versions of the bulletin are available from the ushers.

We thank you for worshipping with us. Following the life and teachings of Jesus, we are a church that strives to be a place of grace, welcoming all regardless of theological expression, age, race, gender, sexual identity, national origin or financial means. In our Church Constitution we recognize that “each member shall have the undisturbed right to follow the word of God according to the dictates of his or her own conscience, under the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit.” The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme, established in 1665, cherishes this proud Pilgrim tradition. We are honored by your presence among us, and we invite you to help us become what we endeavor to be.

*The flowers this morning are given by Ted and Pamela Hamilton
in loving memory of Grace and Frank Hamilton and John W. Dyer.*

*The deacon on duty is Mary Charlton.
Childcare is available every Sunday morning in the nursery downstairs at the 9 AM service.
If you need help finding it, please ask the ushers to assist you.*

*If you are visiting us for worship this morning, we welcome you, and invite you
to pick up a “Welcome” packet, which can be found in the vestibule.
We hope this information will be helpful in acquainting you with
our church and its activities and programs.
Quiet Activity Bags for young children are in the vestibule.
They are colorful bags with quiet projects for our youngest members.
Please feel free to offer these bags to your children.*

*The Rev. David W. Good serves as our Minister Emeritus.
The Rev. Rebecca T. Crosby is our Minister for Haitian Outreach.
Thomas Burke (4th year Yale Divinity School student) serves as minister to the South Lyme Union Chapel.*

Adult Forums TODAY: Handel's MESSIAH: Come for live performances of excerpts from Handel's well known "Messiah" by "our own" Carleen Gerber, Simon Holt, Lisa Feltes and Brian Cheney. It will be informative and fun, and you can even sing along!

Annual Christmas Pageant TODAY at 5:00 pm A special thank you to the Ladies Who Stitch for their phase one costume restoration projects. We are grateful for your skill and partnership!

Under the Meetinghouse Christmas Tree We are collecting socks and men's underwear for the Homeless Hospitality Center. Cans of ground coffee are also most welcome!

Book Study We'll meet on *Sunday, January 7th*, following the 11 am worship service to discuss The Book of Joy: Conversations with the Dali Lama and Desmond Tutu, edited by Douglas Carlton. This is a delightful little book chronicling conversations between these two faith leaders – conversations about some of life's challenges and joys, and the ways in which their faith has guided their living. Perhaps this is a good book to consider as a Christmas gift! Martha Beaudoin and Carleen will lead the discussions. You are surely welcome even if you haven't read the book! 12 noon in the church library, January 7th. A Christmas book recommendation from the Environmental folks: The Water Will Come by Jeff Goodell. This recently released book sheds light on the effect rising seas will have on our coastlines, cities, and communities. A good read on an important subject!

NEW LBS COOKBOOK PRESERVES THE WISDOM OF THE AGES LBS has collected more than 300 tested and cherished recipes from members and friends. Some come from Grandma's table; some are almost as new as yesterday. One of the great treasures of our church family is a very deep reservoir of remarkable cooking wisdom accumulated over decades, centuries even. Cookbooks, \$10, available at the church office.

Haiti Trip 2018 for Senior Pilgrim Fellowship is scheduled for April 13 to 20, 2018. Our first meeting will be *Sunday, January 21, at 12 noon*. Please contact Becky Crosby <rtercros@ftcrosby.com> if you or your child is interested in joining us this year. More details are in the December newsletter.

Bible Study Becky Crosby is leading a study on the life and teachings of the Apostle Paul through his letters and the Book of Acts to discover how he shaped Christianity. To accompany our study, we will read A. N. Wilson's book, "Paul: The Mind of the Apostle." The book can easily be purchased on-line. **Bible Study meets on Thursdays at 10:45** in the church's Library, and we will meet every Thursday until December 21st.

THE PARTNERSHIP CO-OP ANNUAL HOLIDAY SALE

TODAY from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm

Featuring Native American crafts, Haitian art and Palestinian goods

264 Main Street, Old Saybrook, CT 06475

(the old Southern Exposure building located between Cartier Optical and Nail Spa)

The Partnership Co-operative is a collection of several non-profit organizations based out of the First Congregational Church of Old Lyme. All proceeds are returned to the artisans of the Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota, participating Haitian artists and the Tree of Life Educational Fund.

To learn more about our collective of non-profits, please visit our websites.

Tribal Crafts, Inc. featuring Lakota art and crafts: www.tribalcrafts.org

The Crosby Fund for Haitian Education: www.crosbyfund.org

Tree of Life Educational Fund: www.tolef.org

God's Neighborhood Today in God's Neighborhood the children will be searching for the third gift of the Advent Season. Everyone is Welcome. Please join us!

December 17 Christmas Pageant. Children may arrive at 2:30. Our show is at 5:00! There are many ways to participate we need sheep, angels, shepherds, and help with "backstage." All children from pre-K thru high school are encouraged to come and participate.

Sunday School Parents: Please join us for a Parent Social during Rehearsal for the Christmas Pageant. 12/17, 2:30 - 4:30 pm hosted at the home of Shay and Matt Cantner, 9 River Bank Lane, Old Lyme. Bring a snack and/or drink to share. RSVP to shaycantner@me.com or amandajarvis03@gmail.com.

Senior Pilgrim Fellowship will meet for refreshments and a Yankee Swap tonight after the Pageant from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the Sheffield Auditorium. RSVP, then please bring a wrapped gift to swap of under \$10.

Ladies Who Stitch After a banner week of knitting, sewing, and selling, the stitching ladies are taking a break until *January 8th*. Thank you everyone for your support and purchases. We took in over \$2000 (including the raffle items) for LBS. Questions: email Eunice at eunicetaylor@me.com.

Get Our Newsletter in Your Inbox Are you receiving the church's monthly newsletter by email? Emailing the newsletter saves us a significant amount of money on postage. If you'd like to receive the newsletter by email, please send us your email address at FCCofOldLyme@gmail.com. Thank you!

Love Flowers? We're looking for someone to coordinate our Sunday morning memorial flower schedule. If you'd like to know more about what this entails, please give Carleen a call at 860-434-0058. Susan Griggs has carried this responsibility for a good number of years, and we are very, very grateful for her service. But now it's time for her to step aside. She'll share all the contacts and information she has gathered with the next person and will be helpful as the new person takes over. *Note: The third week in October is available for Sunday Memorial flowers, please call Susan Griggs at 860-434-7660 for more information.*

Fuller Center for Housing Disaster Relief Fuller Center is making plans to respond to the environmental disasters in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico. There is the possibility of a group responding to these needs in the spring of 2018. Please email Allison Hine, allisonghine@gmail.com for more information. We'll put together a group to talk about potential details in a few weeks.

Ninth Annual Messiah Sing or Listen Sponsored by Cappella Cantorum *TODAY at 3:30 pm* for a short rehearsal for Singers, in the Katharine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center, (The Kate) in Old Saybrook. The Sing is open to all, under the direction of Barry Asch and accompanied by Deborah Lyon. There is a \$10 fee for singers and audience. Tickets: www.thekate.org and the Box office at 877-503-1286.

**The deadline for the FCCOL January Newsletter is Friday, December 22nd.
Please send articles as a Word document to fccol@fccol.org.**

Calendar of Events and Meetings for This Week

Sunday School *TODAY at 9:00 am.*

Christmas Pageant *TODAY at 5:00 pm.*

Messiah Sing or Listen *TODAY at 3:30 pm* at the Kate in Old Saybrook.

Poetry Group *Wednesday, December 20th at 4:00 pm* in the Hoag Parlor.

Children's Choir *Wednesday, December 20th at 5:00 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Senior Choir *Wednesday, December 20th at 7:30 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Bible Study *Thursday, December 21st at 10:45 am* in the Library.

Christmas Eve Morning *Sunday, December 24th at 11:00 am.*

Christmas Eve *5:00 pm, The Living Manger Family Service.*

Christmas Eve *8:00 & 10:00 pm, Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols.*

CHRISTMAS SEASON SCHEDULE

TODAY

5:00 PM ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

**SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 24TH ONE SERVICE ONLY
AT 11 AM**

No Sunday School.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 — CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00 PM Service for families with young children

THE LIVING MANGER

8:00 PM and 10:00 PM

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE MEMORIAL

MUSIC & FLOWERS

If you would like to make a contribution to our special
Christmas Eve music and flowers in memory of a loved one,

please leave a message at the church office,

<fccol@fccol.org> or 860-434-8686

by *Monday, December 18th.*