



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

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

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

**December 31, 2017**

**11:00 AM**

Prelude

\*Hymn: #168 "As with Gladness Man of Old"

\*Call to Worship: (from Psalm 148)

Praise the Lord!  
Praise the Lord from the heavens;  
Praise him in the heights.  
**Praise him, sun and moon; Praise him, all you shining stars!**  
Praise the Lord from the earth,  
Fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!  
**Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!**  
**Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!**  
Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted.  
**Let us worship God.**

\*Invocation

\*The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and News of the Church

\*Unison Reading:

**When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone,  
when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with the flocks,  
then the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost,  
to heal those broken in spirit, to feed the hungry,  
to release the oppressed, to rebuild the nations,  
to bring peace among all peoples, to make a little music with the heart...  
And to radiate the Light of Christ, every day, in every way,  
in all that we do and in all that we say.  
Then the work of Christmas begins."**

*-- Howard Thurman, adapted*

\*Gloria Patri: (#36 in hymnal)

Scripture: Isaiah 61:10-62:3 (OT, pg. 656)  
Luke 2:22-40 (NT, pg. 55)

\*Hymn: # 160 “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Reading: *The Snow Mama* by Jeanette Winterson

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Selection

\*Doxology (#44 in the hymnal)

\*Offertory Prayer

\*Hymn: #143 “Jesus, Our Brother, Strong and Good”

Reading: *The Snow Mama*, Part II

Pastoral Prayer

Pastoral Prayer Response: *Hear Our Prayer*

The image shows a musical score for the Pastoral Prayer Response. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in - cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace." The first system ends with a fermata over the word "in".

Reading: *The Snow Mama*, Part III

An Ever So Brief Reflection on *The Snow Mama*

The Rev. Dr. Steven R. Jungkeit

\*Hymn: # 158 “Good Christians All, Rejoice”

Benediction

Postlude

\*Congregation Standing

*Large copies 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.

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*The flowers this morning are given by Elizabeth Whitley  
in loving memory of Elizabeth and Roger Griswold.*

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*We welcome The Rev. Paul Verryn to our worship this morning.  
Our church has been in partnership with Paul and the Methodist churches he serves in  
South Africa for nearly thirty years. As always, it is wonderful to have Paul visiting with us.*

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*This morning we thank Jill Maurer-Davis, flutist, for her gift of music.*

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*We thank Carleen Gerber our organist this morning.  
Carleen is our Senior Associate Minister and former music director of our church.*

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*The deacon on duty is Susan Lang.  
The hosts for Fellowship Hour are Martha and Bob Beaudoin.  
Childcare is available this morning in the nursery downstairs at the 11 AM service.  
If you need help finding it, please ask the ushers to assist you.*

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*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.*

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

**The Tree of Life January journey will begin in just two days.  
Please keep our travelers in your thoughts and prayers,  
and thank you for all your support to make these Journeys possible!**

**Steve Jungkeit, Leader; Reza Mansoor, Leader; John Selders, Leader;  
Pamela Selders; Ghoufran Allababidi; Susan Bramhall and Shelly Altman;  
Reverend Dr. Anthony Bennett; Ray Doherty; Marcos Ramirez; Jennie Wilber;  
Leila Hussein; Samir Cecunjanin; Mary Tomassetti; Madonna Thunder Hawk;  
Tom McDermott; Mohammad Serdah; Francisco Balderrama; Jackie Abbott; Genie  
Holmes; Diane Claussen; Meg Seitz; Yasmin Affey; Ashley Cantos Ramirez;  
Rinom Chowdhury; Phillisha Abraham;  
Maissane Taroua; Imani Jean-Gilles; and Hena Zakir**



**Forums:** **January 7th:** Jean Fruth will speak about cyber security. **January 14th:** Erin Duran, head of Connecticut College student counseling services.

**Refugee Resettlement Committee News!** The Refugee Resettlement Committee of Lyme/Old Lyme is excited to announce that we have decided to help a wonderful family of four from Puerto Rico who were displaced by Hurricane Maria. They are **climate refugees!** Everything they owned, including their home, was washed into the ocean. We have been working over the past few weeks with Junta for Progressive Action, an organization in New Haven that advocates for Puerto Rican families, to make this happen. Both parents will be seeking employment after the New Year. They have two sons, ages 2 and 12. This hardworking family just needs a helping hand to get their new start. We are so proud to say that we are prepared to give them that start. What a Christmas gift for the family and for us all!

**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 7<sup>th</sup>*, 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. 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 7<sup>th</sup>. A 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!

**Sunday School News** Please join us on *January 7, 2018*, as we resume Sunday School at 9:30 am and celebrate Three Kings Day. Everyone is Welcome! Please Join Us!

**Winter Pot-Luck Gatherings** A few years ago we instituted a “Winter Potluck” night, which proved to be a lot of fun. Our objective is to find several host homes where folks would be willing to offer hospitality around their dining room table. Also we’re looking for people who would enjoy attending these dinner events! We would gather in groups to fend off the winter blues and enjoy an easy night of fellowship. It’s a chance to get to know one another better in small group gatherings. We will be choosing a Saturday night in early February. If you have any questions about participating as a **host** or **guest**, please call the office at 860-434-8686.

**The Ladies Who Stitch** have enjoyed wonderful growth in creations and membership throughout 2017 and are looking forward to continued expansion in 2018. We welcome new members who enjoy sewing and knitting, and we are contemplating offering instructional classes for both. Some of our creations are now available at The Lyme Tree/Women’s Exchange in Old Lyme. We also welcome anyone to stop in to shop during our Monday work hours (10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the Sheffield Auditorium) beginning January 8th. **Occasionally we are able to fill special orders as well as request for repairs. Questions? Contact Eunice via email: [eunicetaylor@me.com](mailto:eunicetaylor@me.com).**

**Get Our Newsletter in Your Inbox** Are you receiving the church’s monthly email communication? Communicating by email saves us a significant amount of money on postage. If you’d like to receive our monthly email, please send us your email address at [FCCofOldLyme@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:allisonghine@gmail.com) for more information. We'll put together a group to talk about potential details in a few weeks.

**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 <[rtcros@ftcrosby.com](mailto:rtcros@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 are reading 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. We will meet again **January 4th and 25th**. Come join us!

**The American Red Cross** urges eligible donors to give more life by donating blood in the new year. January is National Blood Donor Month, the perfect time to resolve to give more life by being a blood donor. Winter weather and illness can make it difficult for the American Red Cross to maintain a sufficient blood supply at this time of year. Healthy, eligible donors are urged to give at First Congregational Church on *Wednesday, January 3, from 1:00-6:00 pm*. All those who come to donate blood will receive a long-sleeved Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last.

**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.

*The church office will be closed Monday, January 1st.*

*We resume our regular 9 and 11 services on Sunday, January 7th.*

### **Calendar of Events and Meetings for This Week**

**American Red Cross Blood Drive** *Wednesday, January 3rd at 1:00 to 6:00 pm* in Fellowship.

**Poetry Group** *Wednesday, January 3rd at 4:00 pm* in the Hoag Parlor.

**Sr. Choir Rehearsal** *Wednesday, January 3rd at 7:30 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

**Bible Study** *Thursday, January 4th at 10:45 am* in the Library.

**Grief Group** *Friday, January 5th at 10:00 am* in the Hoag Parlor.

**Book Group** *Sunday, January 7th after the 11:00 am Service.*

**Annual reports  
from Boards and Committees are due  
Wednesday, January 10, 2018.**

**The Annual Meeting is Sunday,  
January 28, 2018 after the 11:00 AM service.**

*NOTICE OF FCCOL ANNUAL MEETING*

**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FIRST  
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF  
OLD LYME WILL BE HELD ON  
THE 28th DAY OF JANUARY, 2018  
AT 12:15 PM IN THE MEETING HOUSE  
AT 2 FERRY ROAD, OLD LYME, CONNECTICUT.**

**THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING SHALL BE:**

- TO RECEIVE THE REPORTS OF THE MINISTERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES, AND THE CHURCH OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 2017;
- TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE;
- TO ELECT OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS FOR THE COMING YEAR;
- TO APPROVE THE CHURCH BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2018;
- AND TO CONDUCT SUCH OTHER OLD OR NEW BUSINESS AS SHALL PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE MEETING.