



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

SUNDAY WORSHIP

The Second 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 4, 2016

11:00 AM

Prelude

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

*Call to Worship (from Psalm 85):

Let us hear what God the Lord will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

**Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.**

Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.

**The Lord will give what is good,
And our lives will yield its increase.**

Let us worship God!

*Invocation

*The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and News of the Church

Advent Wreath Lighting

Judy Simmons

*Unison Reading:

**Write your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart,
there to remain so indelibly engraved
that no prosperity, that no adversity
shall ever move me from your love.**

-Thomas a Kempis

*Gloria Patri: (#36 in hymnal)

Scripture: Isaiah 11: 1-6 (OT, pg. 609)

Matthew 18: 1-7 (The Message version)

*Hymn: #115 "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"

Pastoral Prayer

Pastoral Prayer Response: *Hear Our Prayer*

The image shows a musical score for a two-part setting of the prayer. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. 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 melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady accompaniment in the bass line.

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Selection

*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

*Hymn: #119 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Sermon: "NO WAY TO TREAT A CHILD"

The Rev. Dr. Steven R. Jungkeit & Beth Miller

*Hymn: #130 "O Christ, How Shall I Meet You"

Benediction

Postlude

**Congregation Standing*

Large print versions of this 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 David Long in loving memory of the Long family.

This morning we welcome Beth Miller of Defense for Children International to our services. Beth will share her personal story as well as her work with “No Way to Treat a Child” campaign.

The deacon on duty is Elizabeth Nocera.

*If you are visiting us for worship this morning, we welcome you.
We 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.
The Rev. Christine Caton serves this church as minister of the South Lyme Union Chapel.*

Forums Today: *Messiah*, Simon and Carleen will prepare us for our choir's presentation of Handel's Messiah later this afternoon in Deep River. **December 11: Amnesty International Sunday.** Members of the Lyme-Old Lyme High School Amnesty International student group will be at our coffee hour with information for us to read and petitions to sign.

The LBS Elephant in Winter Sale continues during coffee hour after the 9AM service today.

Cappella Cantorum and Our Senior Choir Present MESSIAH, Christmas Section, Today at 3:00 pm, John Winthrop Middle School, 1 Winthrop Rd. Deep River, 06417, directed by Barry Asch. Tickets \$25 at the door or www.CappellaCantorum.org.

Partnership Co-operative Annual Holiday Sale Featuring Native American Crafts, Haitian Art and Palestinian Goods. Join us at the Old Lyme Marketplace (next to the pharmacy) Saturday, December 10th, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and Sundays, December 4th & 11th, 11:00 am to 5:00 pm.

The LBS Holiday Luncheon will be at noon on Tuesday, December 6th. The *Elephants Sale* resumes at 11 am and continues until the luncheon begins. The program will feature a sextet from the **Shoreline Chorale** from Madison and Guilford, bringing songs and music of the Christmas season. (The LOL high school select choir is in Hawaii commemorating Pearl Harbor Day and cannot be with us for the first time in decades.) The cost of each Luncheon is \$5 plus canned goods for the Food Pantry, or a package of disposable diapers for the Diaper Bank. Please call the Church Office at 860-434-8686 by noon on Monday, December 5th, to reserve a place at the Luncheon.

Bible Study Becky Crosby is leading a Bible Study on the Gospel of John with special attention to its uniqueness. We meet in the Library on **Thursday mornings** at 10:45 am for one hour. **Note:** *In December Bible Study meets on the 1st, 8th and 15th. No Bible study from December 22 - February 9th.* Please bring a Bible (we like many versions). If you do not have one, we have one you may borrow! All are welcome!!

Pilgrim Fellowships Today in the morning, Spread Joy Project and making pottery candle holders. Today from 6-8 pm the PF's will be bowling at the Coast Guard Academy, lanes dedicated for grades 4 and 5, for JPF and for SPF. RSVP to Lisadoggart@gmail.com for directions and/or to carpool.

"Gifts Made with Love" Crafting Event Save the date and drop off your children, December 11, from 10:30 to 2:30 pm in the Sunday School rooms. Supervised by volunteers, children will make Christmas gifts, eat a light lunch and play with friends while you get your Christmas shopping done! All children out of diapers are welcome.

Christmas Concerts *Con Brio* celebrates Christmas and its 20th Anniversary with two joyous concerts featuring Bach's Christmas Oratorio, Christmas Carols and much more. Join us *December 9th at 8 pm or December 11th at 3 pm* at Christ the King Church, Old Lyme, to inspire your Christmas spirit! Tickets are \$30, \$15 for students.

Book Group Please join us on *Sunday, January 8th*, after the 11:00 am service for a discussion of *Just Mercy, A Story of Justice and Redemption*, by Bryan Stevenson. This "unforgettable true story about the redeeming potential of mercy" will challenge our thinking and lead to insightful discussion. Led by Carleen and Martha Beaudoin. All welcome.

Care-giver's Support Group, Friday, December 9, 2016, 10:00 a.m. in the Hoag Parlor. Even though more than 39 million Americans provide unpaid care for an adult loved one with a disability, an illness, or an addiction, many family caregivers tend to feel isolated and alone. If most your loved one's needs fall on your shoulders, it is important to realize that you are probably overloading yourself and need to take some steps to safeguard your physical and mental well-being. Getting together with others can be a wonderful place to share encouragement, guidance and hope. Come join our Care-giver's Support Group; new members are always welcome. If you are interested in this group but this day or time does not work for you, or if you would like to meet one on one, please feel free to contact the Rev. Joan Priest at 860-434-4629.

Refugee Family Update Hani has his DMV license!! He's now driving himself to work, Yaldiz to many of her English classes in New London, and the whole family to shop and visit friends as far away as Worcester, Massachusetts! It is a giant step towards independence, and it is an understatement to say how grateful they all are to the parishioners of Christ the King who donated the car, and First Congregational's Ladies Benevolent Society for providing auto insurance. And thanks to all of you who have supported the Hamou family by driving these past six months, and to everyone who has contributed in so many ways, large and small. We are their village! PS: More thanks to those of you who have given Kamber, a very responsible seventeen year old, work over the past several weekends. Please call Madeleine Nichols (860-434-5612) if you could use his help in the coming months.

News from Tree of Life **Our March Journey: The Wisdom of Jesus, Mohammed and The Prophets of Israel (Peace be upon them), with extension to Bosnia** is bulging at the seams with 43 participants! A few new stops and great new partnerships, as well as visits with old friends will make this a truly powerful experience. We are thrilled to announce another Trade Union Journey in September 2017, open to all. More details to come after the New Year.

Looking for a meaningful holiday gift? Consider a donation to Tree of Life in the name of your loved one. We are happy to send them a personalized message acknowledging your gift. Additionally, Palestinian olive oil, zatar, and Palestinian goods are available in our partnership room, and also our Partnership storefront weekends in December.

CALLING ALL COMPOSERS!

In the words of Maya Angelou:

We are all both a composition and a composer. We have the ability not only to compose the future of our own lives, but to help compose the future of everyone around us and the communities in which we live.

If you have already responded to the 2017 Stewardship Campaign, you have joined the ranks of composers. If you have not yet responded, we invite you to review the life-changing stories and the stair-step chart in this year's brochure and to consider prayerfully and privately what you might do to celebrate this church for what it stands for (and does!). Please consider "stepping up" if you can, but bear in mind that whatever you can give will be gratefully appreciated.

Thank you for your generosity - financially, and through all the wonderful things you do!

The Board of Stewardship: Barbara Smith (Chair), Emily Fisher, Wendy Knight, Mike Long, Sandy Long, Chuck Lynch, Wayne Mountz, Paul Stigliano, Matt Winkler

Senior Pilgrim Fellowship 2017 Annual Trip to Haiti is scheduled for Friday, April 7 to Friday, April 14, 2017. For more information about the trip, please join us on January 8, 2017 at 12:15 pm in the Sheffield Auditorium of the FCCOL. This is the 4th annual trip led by Becky and Ted Crosby, founders of The Crosby Fund for Haitian Education. Priority is given to current SPF youth. After January 30th, the trip is open to youth from local churches and towns (youth must be in 9th to 12th grade). Any questions? Please email Becky at rtcros@ftcrosby.com or call 860-434-8054.

Calendar of Events & Meetings for This Week

Partnership Co-op Holiday Sale *TODAY, 11:00-5:00* at the Old Lyme Marketplace.

Messiah *TODAY, 3:00 pm* at John Winthrop Middle School, Deep River.

Sewing Group *Monday, December 5th at 10:00 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

LBS Luncheon *Tuesday, December 6th at 12:00 pm* in Fellowship Hall.

Board of Missions *Tuesday, December 6th at 7:30 pm* in the Library.

Writing Group *Wednesday, December 7th at 4:00 pm* in the Hoag Parlor.

Children's Choir *Wednesday, December 7th at 5:00 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

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

Bible Study *Thursday, December 8th at 10:45 am* in the Library.

Tree of Life Partnership Meeting *Thursday, December 8th at 7:00 pm* in the Hoag Parlor.

Grief Group *Friday, December 9th at 10:00 am* in the Hoag Parlor.

Gifts Made With Love *Sunday, December 11th from 10:30 to 2:30 pm* in the Sunday School rooms.

CHRISTMAS SEASON SCHEDULE

December 18 - Sunday

5:00 PM ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Rehearsal @ 2:30 PM

All JPF, SPF, children and families who would like to participate in the Pageant are welcome at the 2:30 pm rehearsal.

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 12th.*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

ONE SERVICE ONLY AT 11 AM

**in unity with the South Lyme Union Chapel
& NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

All Church Christmas Open House

Come enjoy some holiday cheer with your church friends,
Saturday, December 17th, 3:00 - 8:00 pm.

Stop by as your schedule permits and share snacks,
beverages and good cheer by a warm fire.

Perhaps sing a few Christmas carols at the home of
Joan and Jeff Priest, 117 Elys Ferry Road (off 156), Lyme.