



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

CANDIDATING SERMON SERVICE

for The Rev. Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager

Steven R. Jungkeit, Senior Minister

Carleen R. Gerber, Senior Associate Minister

Joan W. Priest, Minister of Visitation

Simon D. Holt, Director of Music

February 11, 2018

10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: *I Dream of a Church*

Mark A. Miller

*I dream of a church where everyone is welcome,
I dream of a place where we all can call home,
I dream of a world where justice is flowing with hope and peace growing,
and God's will is done. We dream of a world where love reigns among us
and your will is done, O God make it so!*

*O God, fill our hearts to reach out in welcome, make us to see your vision once more.
Let's dream of a world where our hands are your hands, we offer ourselves, O God make it so.
We dream of a world where love reigns among us and your will is done. O God make it so.*

*Processional Hymn: #10: Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty"
accompanied by the Old Lyme Ringers

*Call to Worship:

Loving God, open our eyes **To the beauty of your holiness;**
Open our ears **To the message of your word;**
Open our minds **To the challenge of your truth;**
Open our hearts **To the power of your love;**
Open our lives **To the coming of your Spirit,**
that we may truly worship you, now and forever.

*Invocation

*The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and News of the Church

*Hymn: 353 "Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Anthem: *Draw the Circle Wide*

Mark A. Miller

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide, no one stands alone, we'll stand side by side.

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.

Let his be our song, no one stands alone, standing side by side.

*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

Children's Sermon

Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager

Hymn: #364 "This Little Light of Mine" (1 verse only as children leave)

Pastoral Prayer

Pastoral Prayer Response: *Come and Fill Our Hearts*

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Come and Fill Our Hearts". 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 3/4. The lyrics are: "Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly." and "Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al-le-lu-ia!". The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for congregational singing.

Scripture: Isaiah 58: 1, 6-8 (OT, pg. 652)

Mark 2: 1-12 (NT, pg. 34)

Sermon: "WHAT COUNTRIES SHALL WE SING INTO?"

The Rev. Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager

*Hymn: #427 "My Life Flows On in Endless Song"

Congregational Meeting and Vote of Affirmation for Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager

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 Susan Morrison in loving memory of Victor and Betsy Morrison and Ellie Chapman Morrison with love from their children and grandchildren.

*The deacon on duty is Elizabeth Nocera.
Childcare is available in the nursery downstairs at the 10 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 join us in Fellowship Hall for fellowship and refreshments.
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.
Thomas Burke (4th year Yale Divinity School student) serves as minister to the South Lyme Union Chapel.*

**All are invited to a reception for Laura
in Fellowship Hall following the service.**

It is with joy and celebration that we welcome Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager to our worship this morning, as we affirm her call to become our next senior associate minister, concentrating on outreach to children, youth, and families. Laura has a background in education, and has served the East Haddam Congregational Church for the past four years. She is a graduate of Yale Divinity School and Boston College, and has done work in providing spiritual direction for several years now. FCCOL was Laura's home congregation as she pursued ordination, and so it is a delight to welcome her back to our community in an exciting new role.



Adult Forums: TODAY: No Forum, Laura's Candidating Sermon and reception.
February 18: Janet Spolotre (Conn College Student Counselling Service). **February 25:** Erica Rieder (World Wildlife Fund).

Bible Study Becky Crosby will continue the study on the life and teachings of the Apostle Paul this winter and spring. We will read his letters and the Book of Acts and explore how Paul shaped Christianity and transformed Jesus into the Messiah. To accompany and guide 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 Thursday mornings at 10:45 in the church library on the following dates: February 22, all Thursdays in March, and April 5th. It is not too late to join our group.** Please bring your own Bible (all translations are welcome). If you don't own a Bible, we have plenty to share.

Winter Pot-Luck Gatherings March 17 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. If you have any questions about participating as a host or guest, please call the church office at 860-434-8686.

Haiti Trip 2018 for Senior Pilgrim Fellowship Our 5th annual SPF trip to Deschapelles Haiti is scheduled for *April 13 to April 20*. The experience includes a wide variety of activities from learning about the culture and history of Haiti, to engaging with young children through arts and crafts projects, and older youth through soccer games and tutoring English. The youth will also experience Haitian life through walks to the market and visiting Haitian artists' homes. The trip is fun and emotionally challenging, and we recommend travelers be at least 15 years old to travel with us. The trip cost is around \$1,350.00 per child. If you or your child is interested in joining us this year, **please contact Becky Crosby by email <rtercos@ftcrosby.com>**. **The next meetings will be February 25th and March 25th at 12 noon in the Sheffield Auditorium.**

“It’s not how much we give, but how much love we put into our giving.” *Mother Teresa*



We depend upon one another – and there are those who depend upon us.

Our 2018 Stewardship Campaign results are now within 89% of our \$630,000 goal - we've closed the gap to our goal by 2 percentage points within the past week. Our 2018 Stewardship Campaign ends on March 25th and we need to raise an additional \$70,160 to meet our goal. Please faithfully consider how your investment can sustain and grow the extraordinary ministries and missions of this church – and strengthen the blessings of interdependence that we receive from our Mission partnerships. If you have not yet submitted your pledge, we urge you to do so at your earliest convenience. Thank you!

Church World Service Blanket Drive The heavyweight woolen blanket is 64" long and 80" wide. It can serve as a security blanket for a child. It can also be used as a tent for shelter, a pillow, or a suitcase for refugees to carry their meager belongings. Please check out the displayed blanket to feel how warm and strong it is. Donations are always needed so Church World Service can spring into action whenever needed. Each blanket costs \$10. Please make checks **payable to CWS**, indicating in the memo space "Blanket Drive." Special envelopes are available in the pews and can be put in the collection plate or sent to the church c/o LBS. Thank you for caring.

Ladies Who Stitch A Special Sale Today! Following the 10:00 a.m. service, the ***Ladies Who Stitch*** will offer a selection of their handmade items in the hallway outside the Fellowship Hall. **Winter items** - such as mittens, scarves, hats, socks, shawls, flannel PJ's, wool ponchos, etc. **will be discounted**. Some other available items are: aprons, pillows, pot holders, tote bags, baby blankets and sweaters, and one unique quilted wall hanging. We continue to accept **donations of new underpants and tee shirts** (young boys and girls) to accompany the clothing we are making that will go to Haiti with students participating in the Crosby Foundation's April trip. Questions? Email eunicetaylor@me.com .

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.

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
of Meditation and Reflection**

Wednesday, February 14, at 7 PM in the Meetinghouse.
Ashes will be distributed for those who desire.

Growing Through Grief Group, Friday, February 16, 10:00 a.m. in the Hoag Parlor

Dr. Julia Samuel in her book "Grief Works: Stories of Life, Death, and Surviving" writes, "You never 'get over it,' you 'get on with it,' and you never 'move on,' but you 'move forward.'" To share with others our pain, our loss, our grief, can be healing and strengthening. Come join our Growing Through Grief Group. New members are always welcome. Our next meeting will be Friday, February 16. If you would like to meet one-on-one or have any questions, feel free to contact the Rev. Joan Priest, 860-434-4629.

God's Neighborhood Children will be meeting in Sheffield this morning learning about and celebrating Mardi Gras. All are welcome! Please join us.

Confirmation Class for high schoolers not yet confirmed will begin on *March 18*. Please email lisadoggart@gmail.com for details.

JPF and SPF will be skiing on *February 25*. Please email LisaDoggart@gmail.com for details.

Midnight Run March 24 We will begin collecting clothes, bags, toiletries and blankets on *February 18*. Socks, underwear and hygiene products are especially appreciated.

MusicNow Foundation/Nightingales will present a songwriting workshop, "Songwriting from the Soul," to be held on *Saturday, March 3*, from 10am-4pm in the Sheffield Auditorium, First Congregational Church of Old Lyme. Facilitated by trainer Rodney Brown and the CT Chapter of the Nashville Songwriters Association, the workshop will focus on unleashing the creative spirit bringing your words to life through song. All levels welcomed. Workshop fee is \$125 to include lunch. For information/registration, contact gstevens@musicnowfoundation.org call (860) 434-1961.

16th Annual Soup Bowl Supper Friday, March 2nd *Soup served from 5:30 to 7:00 pm.* Join us for dinner and music; \$15 buys you a handmade bowl and all the soup you can eat. All proceeds from the Soup Bowl Supper go toward the FCCOL's food ministries. Homemade soups donated by local restaurants, handcrafted bowls provided by Walt's Pottery Studio artists and music performed by the Jazz Circle.

Partnership Room Valentine's Day Sale Looking for unique and beautiful gifts for your loved ones? Stop by the Partnership Room **after the service today** to support three great organizations and receive 20% off beautiful art, jewelry and other select goods.

The Environment Committee of our church worked hard to help our congregation earn the CT UCC Green Church top award (**3 green earths!**) See bulletin board for steps taken. And in Advent please take time to consider changes we must make to “green” our Towns. The Committee will reconvene in March. Please plan to join. Patsy McCook and Cynthia Willauer, co-chairs.

Sunday Memorial Flowers The third week in October and the second week in March are available for Sunday Memorial flowers. Please call Gisele Perry at 860-382-3115 for more information.

BEGINNING A REVOLUTION ON LYME STREET? The Ladies Benevolent Society begins its 2018 springtime series of monthly Luncheons and programs on **Tuesday, March 13th, at noon**. Michaëlle Pearson and Jim Lampos will highlight stories of *Revolution in the Lymes*. We are pleased to welcome our own George J. Willauer, Jr. to comment on the new book. Professor Willauer compiled the last major work on the American Revolution as experienced in this community in his *A Lyme Miscellany, 1776-1976*, produced during the Bicentennial. The cost of the Luncheon is \$5 plus canned goods for the Shoreline Food Pantry, or a package of disposable diapers for the Diaper Bank. **Please call the Church Office at 860-434-8686 by Friday, March 9, to reserve a place at the Luncheon.** The husband and wife team of Lampos and Pearson has co-authored three books: *Revolution in the Lymes, from the New Lights to the Sons of Liberty* (History Press, 2016), *Remarkable Women of Old Lyme* (History Press, 2015) and *Rumrunners, Governors, Beachcombers, and Socialists —A History of Old Lyme Beaches* (Old Lyme Historical Society, 2010). Books will be available for purchase and signing at the event. The **Ladies Who Stitch** will have recent projects on display and available for purchase.

Calendar of Events and Meetings for This Week

JPF&SPF Mardis Gras Breakfast at 8:45 am **TODAY** in the Sheffield Auditorium.
Laura’s Candidating Service & Reception **TODAY** at 10:00 am.
Ladies Who Stitch Monday, February 12th at 10:00 am in the Sheffield Auditorium..
Board of Trustees Tuesday, February 13th at 7:30 pm in the Library.
Poetry Group Wednesday, February 14th at 4:00 pm in the Hoag Parlor.
Children’s Choir Wednesday, February 14th at 5:00 pm in the Sheffield Auditorium.
Handbell Choir Wednesday, February 14th at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.
Ash Wednesday Service Wednesday, February 14th at 7:00 pm in the Meetinghouse.
Senior Choir Wednesday, February 14th at 7:30 pm in the Sheffield Auditorium.
Board of Stewardship Thursday, February 15th at 7:00 pm in the Library.
Grief Group Friday, February 16th at 10:00 am in the Hoag Parlor.
Virginia Tomassetti Memorial & Reception Saturday, February 17th at 1:00 pm.