



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

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Steven R. Jungkeit, Senior Minister
Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager, Senior Associate Minister
Carleen R. Gerber, Associate Minister
Simon D. Holt, Director of Music

October 30, 2022

10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: *Ave Verum*

Mozart

*Processional Hymn: #252 “How Lovely, Lord, How Lovely”

*Call to Worship:

Humans make constellations by connecting stars. We choose some stars, and ignore others, projecting our imaginations onto the heavens.

**Humans make meaning by connecting stories, story linking to story, like stars.
Some blaze bright, while others are faint.**

Let us imagine the stories of our lives as a starry universe above our heads.

As people of faith, we are trusted to draw constellations among the sacred stories of our lives: from Scripture, from life experience, from the cultures in which we participate.

May the stories we connect draw constellations that reflect a shared ministry, calling out the best in each of us.

Let us worship God.

*Invocation and The Lord’s Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

Moment for Stewardship

Deb Heminway and Tom Sherer

*Hymn: #293 “Deep in the Shadows of the Past”

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Anthem: *Cantate Domino*

Pitoni

*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 Message

D. Andrews

Song: "If Anybody Asks You Who I Am"

Rachael /Sabina Jungkeit

If anybody asks you who I am,
who I am, who I am,
If anybody asks you who I am,
Tell them I'm a child of God.

(As children leave. Congregation can remain seated.)

Pastoral Prayer

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al-le-lu-ia!

Pastoral Prayer Response: *Come and Fill Our Hearts*

Scripture Reading: Luke 24: 28-32; Acts 8: 26-31, 35-40

Sermon: **Nothing But a Burning Light: Notes on Reading the Bible**

Rev. Dr. Steven Jungkeit

*Hymn: #242 "God of Life"

Benediction

Benediction Response: *Old Irish Blessing*

Denes Agay

Postlude

Scripture Reading

Luke 24: 28-32

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"

Acts 8: 26-31, 35-40

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, the queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.

Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Testimonial—Deb Heminway & Tom Sherer

A couple weeks ago, Tom and I went on a romantic date for our 31st wedding anniversary - in tandem we celebrated 31 years together with this church. In the past few years, I have stepped back from my job as a clinical social worker at Isaac School in New London and Tom has retired from the Geography faculty at CCSU - we are not fully retired, but we're scratching our way in that direction!

In our 31 years here at FCCOL, we've led the Junior & Senior PF groups; we've worked at the food pantry; served at the Homeless Hospitality Center in New London; travelled to the Storefront School in Harlem, NY; been Deacons in the church; participated in a Fuller Build project in El Salvador; sung with the choir; made multiple trips to Israel and Palestine with the Tree of Life partnership; served on the Missions Board and Environmental Committee; worked on multiple local Habitat for Humanity projects; made trips to Haiti with the Crosby Fund for Haitian Education; volunteered at the White Elephant Sale; trekked three times to the Cheyenne River Reservation in Green Grass, SD; travelled to Koinonia Farm in Americus, GA; worked with the Refugee Resettlement Committee; and enjoyed a cultural exchange to Cuernavaca, Mexico.

Ultimately, it was this church that provided much of the cultural diversity that we felt our corner of Connecticut lacked. Through this church, our children enjoyed a wealth of experience that helped shape them into the understanding young men they are still becoming. We have stayed in Old Lyme, but we have downsized into a horrid little house by the Three Mile River estuary. We spend our free time redoing the house to accommodate our pending retirement. In a chaotic and uncertain world, we rely on the church as our unflagging touchstone that anchors us in community. When we had our little run-in with Covid, it was our friends here that were the first to drop by with generous meals. Giving yearly to the church has been a priority for us and as we plan for our future, we always budget for the FCCOL. We have met with the church about long-term giving and hope to incorporate that vehicle into our estate planning.

When Steve reminds us each Sunday that, "it is good to be together in this place," we understand that at the deepest level. Thank you to all in the FCCOL family that continue to wonderfully enrich our lives.

The Rhythm of the Saints: Ancestral Voices **Dr. Michael White and his New Orleans Jazz Ensemble**

During the final days of October and into the first week of November, Christian churches mark All Saint's Day, or All Soul's Day. It is a time in which we honor the lives of those who have died during the past year, but it's also a time to recognize the wisdom and witness of those who have come before us. In similar fashion, African and Indigenous traditions also use that time to honor their own wisdom keepers of the past, in celebrations that often last for several days. From Mexico City to Havana, from Port-au-Prince to New Orleans, up and down the Americas and throughout other parts of the world as well, that summoning forth of ancient wisdom shall take place. It's a cultural practice that we in Old Lyme do well to emulate, and uphold.

Once again this year, Dr. Michael White and his New Orleans Jazz Ensemble; including Gregg Stafford, Kerry Lewis and Detroit Brooks, will return to Old Lyme to help us all to recognize and affirm the ancestral voices that have guided us - individually and collectively - along our life journeys. With a sound that reaches back to the earliest days of jazz, one that is, in truth, older than jazz, and older than the country itself, Michael White's music calls to the ancestors, even as it raises the tired and flagging spirits of those privileged to hear Michael's ancient/modern songs. These are songs meant to raise the dead. These are songs that establish a rhythm for the saints, for those now departed and for those still living.

On Saturday November 5th, at 5:00 in the Meetinghouse, Michael and his band will perform a concert in honor of the ancestral voices that continue to guide and shape our living. The concert is free and open to the public, though a free-will offering will be taken.

On Sunday, November 6th, at 10:00 in the Meetinghouse, Michael and his band will return for a Sacred Jazz Worship Service, during which wisdom keepers of the past, and of the present, shall be honored.

Join us for a weekend of New Orleans jazz, meant to heal and instruct, to inspire and inflame, as we honor the ancestral voices that have come before us.



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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This morning we welcome and thank Douglas Green who is our guest organist, sitting in form Simon Holt. Now retired, Doug was for many years the director of Music at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in Norwich.

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The host for Fellowship Hour today are the 4th and 5th graders from God's Neighborhood and Mary Bradford.

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*Families may pick up from Sunday School downstairs at 11:15 am.*  
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LBS Luncheon

Tuesday, November 8th is Election Day, and also the date of the next Ladies’ Benevolent Society Luncheon! In Philadelphia more than half a century ago, the Election Day motto was “Vote early—and vote often!” Here in this “Land of Steady Habits,” LBS celebrates the voting day conviviality at the foundation of elections in Philly but cannot endorse the call to stuff ballot boxes. Try this: Polls are open in CT from 6 am to 8 pm. Recruit a friend (or three) who otherwise may have difficulty getting to the polls. Go vote in the morning. Then come to FCCOL for the LBS Luncheon and program (noon to 2 pm). You’ll still have most of the afternoon free and open for recruiting a second gang of folks needing to get to the polls!

LUNCHEON reservations Call the church office (860-434-8686) by Friday, Nov. 4 to help the LBS meal planners. Admission is one canned good (for the weekly Food Pantry) and a donation of at least \$5 per person.

PROGRAM After the desserts have been devoured, we shall get a brief lesson in the History of the Blues 101 by Ramblin’ Dan Stevens. Dan and wife Gail are members of FCCOL, owners of the Nightingale Acoustic Café at the northern end of Lyme Street, and manage the MusicNow Foundation which nurtures young people interested in live performance of beloved music. Dan is also a “luthier,” a fancy French word for maker of guitars or violins. Dan’s specialty is three-string cigar-box guitars. Dan will be singing, playing, and accompanying himself with a PowerPoint program.

Ushers

If you would like to usher, please step forward and tell the deacon at the door as you arrive. Your participation will be appreciated!

The Partnership Store

Will be open today after the service. We're offering goods and creations from Haiti, Palestine, Tribal Crafts, and the Ladies Who Stitch.

Support for Ukraine

The extraordinary support of this congregation has made it possible for over \$28,000 to be sent for relief for Ukraine. **Sincere thanks** to all who have given so generously to this special fund.

Calendar of Events and Meetings

LWS Monday, October 31 at 10:00 am in Sheffield Auditorium.

Yoga Tuesday, November 1 at 5:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Pottery Morning Wednesday, November 2 at 10:00 am in Walt's Pottery Studio.

Pottery Evening Wednesday, November 2 at 6:00 pm in Walt's Pottery Studio.

Senior Choir Wednesday, November 2 at 7:30 pm at St. Ann's.

Bible Study Thursday, November 3 at 11:00 am in Library and on Zoom.

Yoga Thursday, November 3 at 5:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Rhythm of the Saints Concert Saturday, November 5 at 5:00 pm in Meetinghouse.

Rhythm of the Saints Service Sunday, November 6 at 10:00 am in Meetinghouse.

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