

## Scripture Readings

### **Mark 10: 21a**

Jesus, looking at him, loved him...

### **Luke 18: 35-43**

As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." Then he shouted, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he shouted even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him, and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has saved you." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God, and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

### **Luke 22: 54-61**

Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a female servant, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him, for he is a Galilean." But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter.

*The image on the bulletin cover is a photograph taken by Tyre Nichols of the Hernando de Soto Bridge in Memphis.*

~~~~~  
*The host for Fellowship Hour today is Cathy Mathis.*  
~~~~~

**2023 Offering Envelopes.** Offering envelopes for 2023 can be found in the Connector.

**Chili Cookoff:** Join us on February 10th from 6-8 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We'll vote for the best chili, enjoy some music and celebrate the Valentines in our midst! If you would like to be a Chili Chef (vegetarian, too!), please contact the office at [fccol@fccol.org](mailto:fccol@fccol.org).

**Church World Service Blanket Drive:** Today is the start of the annual LBS offering for the Church World Service Blanket Drive, which LBS has supported since 1982. Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, CWS was able to provide blankets in 2022 to homeless people, newly arrived refugees, and people affected by tornadoes and suffering from cold weather. Many people could not afford to pay for heat and were therefore thankful for the warm woolen blankets. Each blanket costs \$10. Please make checks payable to LBS. CWS envelopes are available in the pews and may be put in the collection plate or sent to the church c/o LBS.

**The Waste Land: An Ash Wednesday Reading:** On Wednesday February 22nd, at 6:30 pm in the Meetinghouse, we'll mark the beginning of Lent with a complete reading of T.S. Eliot's modern poetic masterpiece, *The Waste Land*. Written a little more than 100 years ago, it was published in 1922 amidst conditions not wholly unlike 2023, in the aftermath of a global pandemic and a catastrophic war. Eliot's language depicts a shattered and barren land, in which people are searching for solace, and ultimately, for the waters of life. It is one of the great pillars of modern literature, and serves as a fitting way to begin the journey into Lent. Following the reading, ashes will be given to all who wish.

---

#### **Calendar of Events and Meetings**

**LWS Monday, February 6 at 10:00 am** in Sheffield Auditorium.

**Old Lyme Ringers Wednesday, February 8 at 6:30 pm** in Sheffield Auditorium.

**Senior Choir Wednesday, February 8 at 7:30 pm** in Fellowship Hall.

**Bible Study Thursday, February 9 at 11:00 am** in the Library and Zoom.

**Essex Meadows Bible Study Friday, February 10 at 10:00 am** at Essex Meadows.

**Chili Cookoff Friday, February 10 at 6:00 pm** in Fellowship Hall.

**New Orleans Trip Meeting Sunday, February 12 at 11:00 am** in the Library.

**Blood Drive Thursday, February 16 at 1:00 am** in Fellowship Hall.