

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

February 19, 2023 10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: Do Not I Love Thee David W. Music

*Processional Hymn: #102 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

*Call to Worship (A series of questions posed in T.S. Eliot's "The Waste Land"):

What are the roots that clutch?

What branches grow out of this stony rubbish?

What is that noise? What is the wind doing? What shall I do? What shall I do tomorrow?

Who is the third who walks always beside you?
When I count, there are only you and I together,
But who is that on the other side of you?

What have we given, my friends? Shall we, at least, set our lands in order?

Attentive to the questions that attend our days, And searching for the answers that can only be lived...

Let us worship God!

*Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: #448 "Lead On, O Cloud of Presence"

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Anthem: *There Is a Balm in Gilead* arr. by Don Smith

soloists Sean McCarty (baritone) and Lisa Feltes (soprano)

*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.

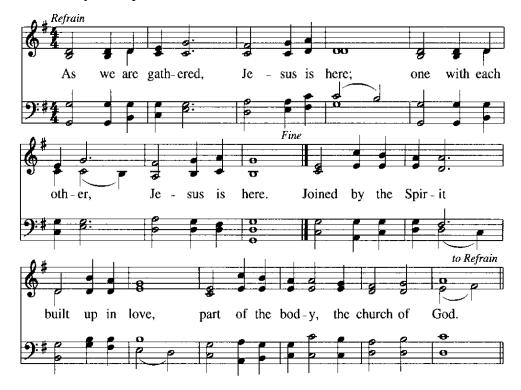
*Offertory Prayer

Children's Message

"Amen" K-1 Class

Pastoral Prayer

Pastoral Prayer Response: As We Are Gathered



Scripture Reading: Isaiah 32: 1-4; Luke 24: 13-19, 28-29

Sermon: Shoring Up the Ruins: An Invitation to "The Waste Land"

Rev. Dr. Steven Jungkeit

*Hymn: #485 "Bless Now, O God, the Journey"

Benediction

Benediction Response: Breathe On Me, Breath of God arr. by Haydn Morgan

Postlude

*Congregation Standing

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.

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 32: 1-4

See, a king will reign in righteousness, and princes will rule with justice.

Each will be like a hiding place from the wind, a covert from the tempest, like streams of water in a dry place, like the shade of a great rock in a weary land.

Then the eyes of those who have sight will not be closed, and the ears of those who have hearing will listen.

The minds of the rash will have good judgment, and the tongues of stammerers will speak readily and distinctly.

Luke 24: 13-19, 28-29

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people.

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.

Quotations from T.S. Eliot's "The Waste Land"

(From Part I: The Burial of the Dead)

What are the roots that clutch, what branches grow Out of this stony rubbish? Son of man, You cannot say, or guess, for you know only A heap of broken images, where the sun beats, And the dead tree gives no shelter, the cricket no relief, And the dry stone no sound of water. Only There is shadow under this red rock, (Come in under the shadow of this red rock), And I will show you something different from either Your shadow at morning striding behind you Or your shadow at evening rising to meet you; I will show you fear in a handful of dust.

(From Part I: The Burial of the Dead)

Unreal City,

Under the brown fog of a winter dawn, A crowd flowed over London Bridge, so many, I had not thought death had undone so many. Sighs, short and infrequent, were exhaled, And each man fixed his eyes before his feet. Flowed up the hill and down King William Street, To where Saint Mary Woolnoth kept the hours With a dead sound on the final stroke of nine.

(From Part III: The Fire Sermon

At the violet hour, when the eyes and back
Turn upward from the desk, when the human engine waits
Like a taxi throbbing waiting,
I Tiresias, though blind, throbbing between two lives,
Old man with wrinkled female breasts, can see
At the violet hour, the evening hour that strives
Homeward, and brings the sailor home from sea,
The typist home at teatime, clears her breakfast, lights
Her stove, and lays out food in tins.
Out of the window perilously spread
Her drying combinations touched by the sun's last rays,
On the divan are piled (at night her bed)
Stockings, slippers, camisoles, and stays.

(From Part III: The Fire Sermon)

To Carthage then I came

Burning burning burning O Lord Thou pluckest me out O Lord Thou pluckest

Burning

(From Part V: What the Thunder Said)

Who is the third who walks always beside you? When I count, there are only you and I together But when I look ahead up the white road There is always another one walking beside you Gliding wrapt in a brown mantle, hooded I do not know whether a man or a woman —But who is that on the other side of you?

(From Part V: What the Thunder Said)

Then spoke the thunder

DA

Datta: what have we given?
My friend, blood shaking my heart
The awful daring of a moment's surrender
Which an age of prudence can never retract
By this, and this only, we have existed
Which is not to be found in our obituaries
Or in memories draped by the beneficent spider
Or under seals broken by the lean solicitor
In our empty rooms.

(From Part V: What the Thunder Said)

I sat upon the shore Fishing, with the arid plain behind me Shall I at least set my lands in order?

These fragments I have shored against my ruins...

The host for Fellowship Hour today is Susan Beeman.

Turkey/Syria Earthquake Response: Several members of our church made initial gifts for emergency help in Northwest Syria and Turkey, where the February 6th earthquake has dealt a devastating blow to an area currently home to more than a million refugees. Now, with over 40,000 deaths in this tragedy, our Board of Missions has committed \$4,000 of additional help.

Our congregation has responded generously in the past year to disasters in Ukraine, Pakistan and Florida. And so we are sensitive to the fact that we have asked for help for emergencies several times in the recent past. But if you would like to help, please send a donation to the church by check made out to FCCOL with Earthquake Relief in the memo line, and we will add your gift to the funds already collected.

Contributions will be forwarded to the IRC (International Rescue Committee). The IRC is already at work in hospitals and mobile health and trauma units in the region. Having had a presence in these parts of Turkey and Syria for over ten years, they already have established partnerships with local relief organizations there.

An update from our Tree of Life travelers: Our group of travelers has safely reached Israel and all is (relatively) well. There were two young travelers who were not allowed into Israel because of their Syrian origin. They have flown to Jordan where they have family. The other travelers have now begun their visits and activities to better understand the facts on the ground in Israel and Palestine. We are keeping them in our prayers.

Church World Service (CWS) Blanket Drive: CWS currently doesn't operate in Turkey or Syria. However they are supporting The ACT Alliance and regional partners, such as The Middle East Council of Churches who are providing food, blankets and mattresses and other support. Blankets are urgently needed. Each blanket costs only \$10. Please make checks payable to LBS. CWS envelopes are available in the pews and can be put in the offering plates 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.

Newsletter Folders Needed: If you can spare about 3 hours once a month, we can use your help. The wonderful group of volunteers who folded and sorted the newsletter every month has dwindled. Fringe benefits include coffee and doughnuts, and camaraderie! Please call Odile in the office if you can help. Thank you!

LBS Luncheon: LBS Luncheons resume for the spring in March, Women's History Month, with a Luncheon program focused on Connecticut women in the sciences. The first Luncheon of the 2023 season will be on Tuesday, March 14, noon to 2 pm.

The luncheon meal and dessert will be followed at 1 pm by a program on Connecticut women who have shattered the glass ceilings long sheltering men working in science and health careers. Louisa Lacurci, Education Director for the Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame, will present an illustrated slide talk, followed by a Q-and-A discussion with the audience.

The price of admission to the Luncheon is a donation of at least \$5, accompanied by a donation of canned goods for the food pantry or a donation of disposable diapers. As always, please call the Church office at 860-434-8686 by Friday, March 10 to confirm your attendance so that we can be sure of food enough for all.

Calendar of Events and Meetings

Office Closed Monday, February 20.

LWS Monday, February 20 at 10:00 am in Sheffield Auditorium.

SECWAC Wednesday, February 22 at 5:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Ash Wednesday Service Wednesday, February 22 at 6:30 pm in the Meetinghouse. Reading of T.S. Eliot's "The Wasteland"

Senior Choir Wednesday, February 22 at 7:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Bible Study Thursday, February 23 at 11:00 am in the Library and Zoom.

Board of Stewardship Thursday, February 23 at 7:00 pm in the Library.

Adult Forum Sunday, February 26 at 11:30 am in Fellowship Hall.