



EVENING PRAYER

Hear all you who wrestle with life's meaning: that which is sovereign in the universe, unruled by king or corporation, the breath of life in all things, the web of reciprocity, this is our one and only guide.

Blessed are the tides of living that draw my body to rest and my soul to dreaming.

Let me lay the work of the world in the open hands of those still awake to the west of me, place in their palms the sickle and the spade, the needle and the shuttle, the pen and the ladle, the cell phone and the keyboard. Let me lie down in peace, as the mending of life rolls west and westward, hand to hand, village to village, through city after city, across fields and forests, deserts and oceans, moving upstream, against the planetary spin, for the dance of liberation never ceases, but keeps circling the world.

As I lie down, others rise up in a wave of intention and effort that moves in the wake of the sun, along the paths of daylight. So let my sleep be cradled in trust that others will carry what must be carried. Let my rest be unbroken by troubling thoughts or illusions of separation. Let me go down into sleep as into the arms of a beloved.

And let me rise in peace. Let me awaken to the light of a new day, and receive the work for which I was born back into my hands from those to the east of me, transformed by the many who have hammered and stitched and stirred while I slept, and whether the sun shines unveiled or is swathed in cloud, oh, radiant unruled life-force of the universe, may I behold the splendor of your indwelling light, which illuminates the world.

BY AURORA LEVINS MORALES

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SUNDAY WORSHIP

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

July 2, 2023

10:00 AM

Prelude

*Processional Hymn: #80 “Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”

*Call to Worship (adapted from poem, The Roses by Mary Oliver):

One day in summer when everything has already been more than enough
the wild beds start exploding along the berm of the sea;

**Day after day the honey keeps on coming in the red cups
and the bees like amber drops roll in the petals:
there is no end, believe me!**

To the inventions of summer, to the happiness your body is willing to bear.

**For sabbath time.
Come let us worship God.**

*Invocation and The Lord’s Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: #520 “Restless Weaver”

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

Pastoral Prayer

Pastoral Prayer Response: *As We Are Gathered*

The image shows a musical score for a pastoral prayer response. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the lyrics: 'As we are gath-ered, Je - sus is here; one with each'. The second system is labeled 'Fine' and contains the lyrics: 'oth - er, Je - sus is here. Joined by the Spir - it'. The third system is labeled 'to Refrain' and contains the lyrics: 'built up in love, part of the bod - y, the church of God.' The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines that support the vocal melody.

Readings: Exodus 20:8-11, Deuteronomy 5:12-14

Sermon: **We who believe in freedom, can we rest?**

Rabbi May Ye

*Hymn: #500 "O For a World"

Benediction

Postlude

**Congregation Standing*

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*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

### **Exodus 20:8-11**

“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work; but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; in it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your manservant, or your maidservant, or your cattle, or the sojourner who is within your gates; for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and hallowed it.

### **Deuteronomy 5:12-14**

““Observe the sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the Lord your God commanded you. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work; but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; in it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, or your manservant, or your maidservant, or your ox, or your ass, or any of your cattle, or the sojourner who is within your gates, that your manservant and your maidservant may rest as well as you.

We are grateful for our preacher today, Rabbi May Ye. Rabbi May Ye (she/her) is a Chinese-American Jew from unceded Wabanaki land. A weaver of tradition and fashioner of new liturgy and ritual, she seeks to center and highlight the experiences of those who have been disenfranchised and marginalized from Judaism and Jewish spaces. A passionate activist, she explores how to decouple Judaism from Zionism and is an ardent supporter of Palestinian liberation.

She is a 2023 graduate of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College. Currently living on unceded Quinipiac land, she is humbled to work with Mending Minyan as their inaugural rabbi. She is honored to be the 2023-2024 Walter and June Keener Wink fellow with the Fellowship of Reconciliation.

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The host for Fellowship Hour today is Cathy Mathis and Dennis Fitzpatrick.
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The Nursery is open today with Miss Kim.  
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A Little Bit Messy: Parents of Young Children Summer Picnic: Join us for our first monthly meet-up meeting as we make time to visit, share stories and get to know one another. **Thursday, July 20th** at 5:30-6:30 pm Fellowship Garden. Babysitting and sandwiches included! For more info email Laura at lfitz.nager@gmail.com.

Message from our Director of Music, Simon Holt to all members of the Senior Choir

Thank you for your wonderful singing at FCCOL this season! You have worked so hard and your singing has really enhanced our services. It's very much appreciated.

Now, to everyone reading this; It's Your Turn!! This summer we will be holding two more Summer Sings, or better known as "Turn up to FCCOL at 9:15am and rehearse for the 10:00am service, and yes, it feels like the seat of your pants singing, but oh, what fun we'll have" Sundays! These will take place on **July 9 and August 13**. Please mark your calendars! I hope many of you will join us!

White Elephant Sale

Friday, July 14th from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm and Saturday, July 15th 8:00 am - Noon.

Intake has begun

- Thanks to all those who showed up to unload and sort items these past 3 days.
- Intake Resumes - Wed **July 5th** -> **7th** 9-2 pm daily

Donating Large Furniture -- There will be **NO** scheduled large furniture pickup due to the cost of hiring movers, lack of younger volunteers and prior scheduling issues [but we may do some pick-ups for selected items] If you have large furniture to donate PLEASE call the Church office 434-8686 anytime; night or day and hit the WES call back line and leave a message with all the particulars. We will contact you to discuss whether we can accept your item and can sell it in two days. The emphasis is on clean, QUALITY items. NO sofa beds, stuffed couches or particle board furniture.

Help wanted

- PARKING attendants on sale days
- Sell coffee and donuts on both sale days
- INTAKE to sort and unload cars - come as long as you can


Flowers - Bring your plants and cut flowers on Thursday July 13th during set up.

- Any questions please call Carson Shook 860-885-4984

JUNE

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
18	19	20	21	22 Pre SET-UP INSIDE [hang signs move tables, etc]	23 Pre SET-UP INSIDE [milk crates, tubs, etc]	24 SET-UP INSIDE [9:00 am – 12:00]
25	26	27	28	29 INTAKE 9:00 - 2:00	30 INTAKE 9:00 - 2:00 <u>Workers Lunch</u>	1 INTAKE 9:00 - 2:00

JULY

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
2	3 CLOSED Sort & Price	4 HOLIDAY 	5 INTAKE 9:00 - 2:00	6 INTAKE 9:00 - 2:00	7 INTAKE 9:00 - 2:00 <u>Workers Lunch</u>	8 CLOSED Sort & Price
9	10 CLOSED Sort & Price for sale. Move art to Narthax Clean up and Finalize inside setup	11 During Day Big Tens & Sport Goods 5-7 pm Outside tables, Plant, Baked Good, Coffee Tents Go up	12 CLOSED Sort & Price Finalize any remaining outside Set-up	13 SET-UP OUTSIDE 8 AM --> <u>Workers Lunch</u>	14 SALE 9:00 - 2:00	15 SALE 8:00 – 12:00 CLEANUP & Snacks 12:00 -->

Worker Aprons

The red worker aprons will be available in the meeting house on Thursday, July 13th from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Each department should send a representative to sign out the number needed. Questions can be directed to Eunice Taylor via email eunicetaylor@me.com.

Attention all bakers!! The White Elephant Sale needs your baking talents! We are looking for your amazing baked goods – pies, cakes, cookies, scones, muffins, etc., to sell to hungry WES shoppers. Label your contributions with it's name and if it is gluten-free, nut-free. Please indicate if it contains nuts. Deliver your delicious baked goods to the church kitchen Thursday afternoon July 13th or to the bakery booth between 7:30-9:00am on Friday, July 15th. Runners will be available to come to your car to take your baked goods. Please call or email Kristen and Julia Clark with any questions at 203-530-8360 or dave.kristen@yahoo.com.

Calendar of Events and Meetings

Office Closed *Tuesday, July 4.*

Writing at the Well *Wednesday, July 5 at 10:00am* at Long River Local Café.

WES: INTAKE *July 5, 6 & 7 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.*

Food Pantry Closed *Saturday, July 8.*



Dear friends,

I woke [Thursday] morning to some very sad news that I need to share with all of you. After more than two weeks in the hospital, Mark Testori died early that morning.

As recently as this past weekend, we were cautiously optimistic about Mark's prognosis - doctors indicated that his body seemed to be healing. He had been taken to Yale-New Haven for a rare heart condition, which placed multiple parts of his body in jeopardy. While the heart treatments were successful, the many strains of the past two weeks proved to be more than he could handle. This is a huge and sudden loss for Mark's immediate family, but also for our church family. Mark was a constant presence, someone we relied upon for everything from running our sound board on Sundays to setting up tables for the fellowship hour to fixing many of the major machines that make our church run. We shall miss him tremendously.

While Mark has been in the hospital, we have become all the more aware of how deeply we have relied upon Mark. As ministers, we realized one Sunday that we didn't have water in the pulpit area - that was something Mark always provided. So too, we realized that the pulpit light hadn't been turned on, something we scarcely remembered how to do - Mark always had it on and waiting for us on Sundays. In truth, there are a thousand little things just like that all around the church that Mark quietly (and yes, sometimes not so quietly!) took care of without any of us noticing. But we sure notice now.

On a personal note, I recall our first Thanksgiving in Old Lyme as a family some ten years ago. We weren't traveling anywhere that year, and didn't know many people at that point. And so I reached out to Mark to see if he would join us for Thanksgiving dinner. He accepted. Rachael cooked a great meal, and Mark brought the pie. He told stories the entire afternoon and evening. The kids loved him - this garrulous and cheerful man who seemed interested in their lives as well. At the end of the evening, we built a fire in one of the fireplaces. Then we poured a little bourbon in our glasses, and enjoyed the glow of the night. It was a great Thanksgiving, and we were all grateful for Mark's company that year. It's not that we felt lonely, exactly, but we felt less lonely for his being with us.

We shall all miss Mark's good cheer. We shall miss his stories. We shall miss the rumble of his motorcycle. We shall miss the ringtone on his phone. (It was Bad to the Bone, and it always seemed to go off at full volume during staff meetings!) We shall miss his can-do spirit, and his presence behind that sound board on Sunday mornings. We shall miss his tinkering with the clock in the church bell tower, and the long narrations of each of his ventures into that tower. We shall miss the thousand and one tiny ways that he took care of the church, and all of us, in the tasks he accomplished daily. And we shall miss his willingness to turn the earth of the Memorial Garden once again whenever a member of our community passed away.

Now someone else will turn that earth, and Mark himself will rest in the garden that he so lovingly tended for 15 years as the sexton of the First Congregational Church of Old Lyme.

While we don't yet know the details, we will have a service to celebrate Mark's life, and to give thanks for all that he offered to our church.

Steve