



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

September 17, 2023

10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: *Lead Me, Lord, In Thy Righteousness*

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

*Processional Hymn: #1 “We Limit Not the Truth of God”

*Call to Worship (from Father Mapple's Sermon, in *Moby Dick* by Herman Melville):

"But oh, shipmates, on the starboard hand of every woe, there is a sure delight, and higher the top of that delight than the woe is deep...Delight is to him who against the proud gods and commodores of this earth, ever stands forth his own inexorable self.

Delight is to him whose strong arms yet support him, when the ship of this base treacherous world has gone down beneath him. Delight is to him, whom all the waves of the billows of the seas of the boisterous mob can never shake from this sure Keel of Ages. And eternal delight and deliciousness will be his, who coming to lay him down, can say with his final breath - O Father...I have striven to be Thine, more than to be this world's, or mine own. Yet this is nothing; I leave eternity to Thee; for what is man that he should live out the lifetime of his God?"

*Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

"Scripture" Readings: from Emily Dickinson, Harriet Beecher Stowe and Frederick Douglass

*Hymn: #452 “Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me”

First Reading, *The Auburn Conference*, Tom Piazza

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Anthem: *How Can I Keep from Singing, Traditional American*

arranged Jeffrey Honore

*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

Elsbeth Dowd

Congregational Song: “Welcome Table”

led by Sabina Jungkeit

(After the 1st verse, children and youth will leave for Sunday School.)

Second Reading, *The Auburn Conference*, Tom Piazza

Pastoral Prayer

Pastoral Prayer Response: *As We Are Gathered*

The musical score is written for voice and piano in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. 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 score includes treble and bass clefs, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a time signature of 4/4. The lyrics are placed below the vocal line of each system.

Third Reading, *The Auburn Conference*, Tom Piazza

*Hymn: #372 "Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race"

Benediction

Benediction Response

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

### **Emily Dickinson, "The Brain is Wider Than the Sky"**

The Brain—is wider than the Sky—  
For—put them side by side—  
The one the other will contain  
With ease—and you—beside—  
The Brain is deeper than the sea—  
For—hold them—Blue to Blue—  
The one the other will absorb—  
As sponges—Buckets—do—  
The Brain is just the weight of God—  
For—Heft them—Pound for Pound—  
And they will differ—if they do—  
As Syllable from Sound—

### **Harriet Beecher Stowe, from *Uncle Tom's Cabin***

“Religion! Is what you hear at church religion? Is that which can bend and turn, and descend and ascend, to fit every crooked phase of selfish, worldly society, religion? Is that religion which is less scrupulous, less generous, less just, less considerate for man, than even my own ungodly, worldly, blinded nature? No! When I look for religion, I must look for something above me, and not something beneath.”

### **Frederick Douglass, "West India Emancipation," (A Speech from 1857)**

“Those who profess to favor freedom and yet depreciate agitation, are people who want crops without ploughing the ground; they want rain without thunder and lightning; they want the ocean without the roar of its many waters. The struggle may be a moral one, or it may be a physical one, or it may be both. But it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will.”

## Choir Anthems Today

### **Introit: Lead me, Lord, in Thy righteousness by Samuel Sebastian Wesley**

Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy righteousness, make Thy way plain before my face. For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.

*Psalm 4: 8 and Psalm 5: 8*

### **Offertory Anthem: How can I keep from singing, traditional American arranged Jeffrey Honore**

My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation. I hear the real though far off hymn that hails a new creation. No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to the Rock I'm clinging. Since Love is Lord of heaven and earth, How can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing; it sounds and echoes in my soul; How can I keep from singing?

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, A fountain ever springing; All things are mine since I am his; How can I keep from singing?

We are pleased to welcome Tom Piazza to FCCOL this morning. Tom has been a long time friend of our community. His novel *City of Refuge* helped to inspire our refugee resettlement efforts, and he visited us in 2018 during our Sanctuary project, as we helped Malik, Zahida, and Roniya remain in the US when they were threatened with deportation. During that visit, Tom read from his then-latest novel *A Free State*, which depicted an earlier moment in which individuals and communities were asked to provide sanctuary for those fleeing a different form of oppression, enslavement. Tom and his partner Mary Howell have given members of FCCOL a warm reception when we've traveled to New Orleans in recent years for St. Joseph's Night. Indeed, they have become honorary members of our community. It is an honor to welcome Tom back, as he reads from and discusses his latest novel, *The Auburn Conference*.

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*The flowers today are given by the Stubenbord family in celebration
of the life of Bill Stubenbord.*
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The host for Fellowship Hour today is Martha Gibson.
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The Nursery is open today with Miss Miriam.
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**Ladies Who Stitch** - Don't miss our fabulous women's jeans sale!

LWS will be selling women's jeans that were collected during the White Elephant Sale intake. We have sorted and tagged 69 pairs, sizes 2-18, and priced them at the bargain price of \$6.00 each. (Cash or checks only, please.)

Sale Dates/Times:

- September Mondays - 18th & 25th - 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

**Congregational Conversation:** On **Sunday, September 24th**, join us for a congregation wide conversation after the worship service. We'll gather in the Fellowship Hall at 11:30, and spend time reflecting together on the nature of our community. Among the topics we'll discuss will be questions like these: What is it that brought you to FCCOL in the first place? What is it you come hoping to find? What do you need most in a faith community? How might we strengthen what we do, in order to meet the deep needs of those around and among us? How might our global ministries and missions be sustained, and grown? What shall FCCOL become in the years ahead? We hope you'll come and help to be a part of the conversation!

**Youth Group Party:** Middle and high schoolers, join us at the home of the Brant Family, 67 Whippoorwill Road, Old Lyme, from 4-6 pm on **Sunday, September 24th**. We'll have some fun, eat pizza and plan our service projects for the coming year!

**Nehantic Heritage Day:** Saturday, September 30th, 1-4 pm at McCook Pavilion East Lyme. Join our community for Drumming, Traditional Wigwam, and Family Activities starting at 1pm! The Opening Ceremony is at 2pm, followed by presentations by Dr. David Naumec & Dr. John Pfeiffer, historical tour.

For more information: contact Elsbeth Dowd at [elsbeth.dowd@gmail.com](mailto:elsbeth.dowd@gmail.com).

**Help with Sunday Flowers.** We hope to start a schedule of members and friends who would like to provide pulpit flowers for a week. If desired, flowers can be given in memory of a loved one, with the loved one(s) mentioned in the bulletin. This system worked well before the disruption of Covid. Flowers or greenery can be fresh from your garden or ordered from florist. A house plant from home displayed for the morning would be lovely, as well. To sign up for a future week, please call Jill Harned, 603-398-9004. Thank you!

**God's Neighborhood Family Picnic** on Sunday, **October 1st** from 3-5 pm at home of Kim and Josh Thompson, Littlefield Road, Old Lyme. Sponsored by the Board of Youth Ed.

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

**LWS Monday, September 18 at 10:00 am** in Sheffield Auditorium.

**Board of Trustees Tuesday, September 19 at 7:30 pm** in the Library.

**Senior Choir Wednesday, September 20 at 7:30 pm** in Sheffield Auditorium.

**Writing at the Well Friday, September 22 at 10:00 am** in the Library.

**Congregational Conversation Sunday, September 24 at 11:30 am** in Fellowship Hall.

**Youth Group Sunday, September 24 at 4:00 pm** at the Brant's.

