



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

November 26, 2023

10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: *Chorale*

G.F. Handel

*Processional Hymn: #21 “All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

*Call to Worship:

The Spirit of God that breathes us into life, whispers: Come home.

We come home to the open arms of Love.

We come as we are.

We come with joy.

We come hungry for nourishment.

We come fatigued.

We come eager to find our place in the whole.

We come bringing all of who we are;

We give God thanks, for there’s still room at the table for all.

Come, let us worship God.

*Prayer of Invocation and Lord's Prayer:

“O Great Spirit, our Father/Mother from above, your name is sacred and holy. Bring your good road to us, where the beauty of your ways in the spirit-world above is reflected in the earth below. Provide for us day by day—the elk, the buffalo, and the salmon. The corn, the squash, and the wild rice. All the good things we need for each day. Release us from the things we have done wrong in the same way we release others for the things done wrong to us. And guide us away from the things that tempt us to stray from your good road.”

– Luke 11:2b-4, [*First Nations Version:
An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament*]

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: For Everyone Born, a Place at the Table (insert)

Children’s Moment

Elsbeth Dowd

“Welcome Table”

Sunday School students

(After the 1st verse, children and youth will leave for Sunday School. **The middle school and high school students will be staying in the sanctuary for the service today.**)

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Anthem: *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

John Rutter

*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*

Refrain

As we are gath-ered, Je - sus is here; one with each

Fine

oth - er, Je - sus is here. Joined by the Spir - it

to Refrain

built up in love, part of the bod - y, the church of God.

Readings: Exodus 3:5b; Luke 14: 15-23

Annabelle Coppola

Meditation: **Still Room at the Table**

Rev. Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager
with Youth Group members, Allison Hine

*Hymn: #27 "Now Thank We All Our God"

Benediction

Benediction Response

Postlude

**Congregation Standing*

Choir Anthems Today

Introit: *Chorale* by G.F. Handel

Lord, my spirit longs to know thee; friend of man, thy goodness show me!
Ah! my hungry soul is yearning, Lord, for strength from thee returning!
Quench my thirst, and hear my crying: of thy grace new life supplying,
So, at last, my prayers requited, I may be with thee united.

Offertory Anthem: *All Things Bright and Beautiful* by John Rutter

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise
and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, He made their
glowing colors, he made their tiny wings.

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise
and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

The purple-headed mountain, the river running by, the sunset and the
morning that brightens up the sky;
the cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the
garden, He made them every one.

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise
and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God
Almighty, who has made all things well.

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise
and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

Scripture Readings

Exodus 3:5b

And God said, “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.”

Gospel of Luke 14: 15-23

Jesus was at a dinner with his friends and said, “Blessed is the one who will eat at the feast of the kin-dom of God.” Jesus told them a story: “A certain person was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests to the party. At the time of the banquet he sent his helper to tell those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ “But they all began to make excuses. And they acted as though they were just not interested. “The helper came back and reported to the host of the dinner that no one was interested in the kind things he was offering them. Then the host’s feelings were hurt and he asked his assistant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.’ Everyone who was hungry. ““The helper said to the party host, ‘what you have asked has been done, but there is still room.’ “Then the host of the party told them, ‘Go out to the roads and country lanes and invite friends and strangers to come in, so that my house will be full of joy and they will be happy.

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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*The memorial flowers this morning are given in loving memory of Sue Wood from Austin.*

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The host for the Fellowship Hour this morning is Barbara Macgregor.

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The Nursery is open today with Miss Miriame.

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Youth Group Serving at the New London Meal Center: FCCOL Youth Group will be serving in the evening to our neighbors in need at the New London Community Meal Center. We meet at the church TODAY at 4pm and we will all drive to New London together.

Senior Center Luncheons: The Lymes' Senior center will be holding their luncheons in the Church's Fellowship Hall on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays each week for the foreseeable future while their facility on Town Woods Road undergoes a major renovation. Any questions about attending the luncheons should be directed to the Senior Center's executive Director, Stephanie Gould, who can be reached at 860-514-5425.

Diaper Bank: The next Diaper Bank Saturday distribution will be December 2nd. Diaper sizes 4, 5, and 6 continue to be needed every month. The Diaper Bank now averages 50 requests for diapers on a monthly basis.

Holiday Sales in December at FCCOL: There are going to be two unique and different sales held at FCCOL to help all shoppers, young and old, get everything they could possibly need for the 2023 holiday season. Seriously.....gifts and decorations, dinnerware and olive oils, mittens and wrapping paper. Two different sales on two different weekends!

On December 2nd (9am-3pm) and December 3rd (9am-1pm), LBS will have the always popular Elephants-in-Winter sale. All the holiday items collected during the intake days for the White Elephant Sale this past July will be arranged throughout the Sheffield Auditorium and sold at bargain basement prices. If you've come to this sale before, you know from experience the vast assortment of delightful treasures that await. If this will be your first time attending, you will find Christmas decorations, greens and wreaths, holiday china and glassware, linens and sweaters and stockings, toys, books, CD's and DVD's, paper goods, lights, candles, and ornaments.

On December 9th (9am-3pm) and December 10th (9am-1pm), the Partnership Committees of FCCOL will have their third annual Holiday Sale in the Fellowship Room. Here is your chance to get beautiful, thoughtful and unusual gifts for everyone on your holiday list. There will be Haitian arts and crafts, Palestinian olive oil and soaps, Lakota jewelry and crafts, and (of course) one-of-a-kind handmade items from “The Ladies Who Stitch”. Everything for sale is wonderfully unique, and the support provided to the partnerships helps so many.

Come and shop, immerse yourselves in the holiday spirit, meet old acquaintances and make new friends. These sales would make the Grinch smile!

Help with Sunday Flowers. We're scheduling 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.

Calendar of Events and Meetings

Youth Group Serving at the New London Meal Center *TODAY at 4-6:00 pm.*

LWS Monday, November 20th at 10:00 am in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Memorial: Sue Wood Monday, November 27th at 11:00 am in the Meetinghouse.

Deacons Tuesday, November 28th at 7:00 pm in the Library.

Senior Center Luncheon Tuesday, November 28th at 12:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Senior Center Luncheon Wednesday, November 29th at 12:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Grief Group Wednesday, November 29th at 5:00 pm in the Hoag Parlor.

Senior Choir Wednesday, November 29th at 7:30 pm in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Bible Study Thursday, November 30th at 11:00 pm in the Library.

Senior Center Luncheon Thursday, November 30th at 12:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Bible Study at Essex Meadows Friday, December 1st at 11:00 am.

Elephants in Winter Saturday, December 2nd at 9:00 am - 3:00pm.

Elephants in Winter Sunday, December 3rd at 9:00 am - 1:00pm.

