



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 Holt, Organist and Director

September 8, 2024

Homecoming Sunday

10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: “*Chorale Prelude on "St. Theodulph"*” by Melchior Teschner (1584-1635)
adapted by J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

*Processional Hymn: #327 “I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry”

*Call to Worship:

**We are called to joy,
Sure of the love that buoys us, Sure of the laughter that awaits.
We are called to play -
The play of creation, The play of relationship, The play that is the life of God.
Abandoning the grip of control,
Releasing solemnity
Basking in the warmth of God
In love, in light, in laughter.
Let us worship God!**

*Prayer of Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: #392 “Lord, You Have Blessed Us ”

Children's Message

Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager and Jolene Brant

Children's Song: “Peace Will Come” by Tom Paxton sung by Rachael Jungkeit
(Children proceed downstairs. Congregation remains seated.)

Peace,
Peace will,
Peace will come,
And let it begin with me.
We,
We need,
We need peace,
And let it begin with me.

Offering Invitation

Offertory Anthem: “*Cantate Sing to the Lord*” by Jim Leininger (born 1942)

*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.

*Offering Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Pastoral Prayer Response: *Spirit of the Living God*

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Spirit of the Living God". 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 flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me; Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me."

Scripture: Matthew 5:5-16, Hebrews 11:1, 2 Corinthians 5:7

Sermon: **"Religion is for Lovers"**

Rev. Dr. Steven R. Jungkeit

*Closing Song

Benediction

Benediction Response

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.

Choir Anthems Today

Introit: *“Chorale Prelude on “St. Theodulph”*

by Melchior Teschner (1584-1635)
adapted by J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring. Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son, who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One.

Offertory Anthem: *“Cantate Sing to the Lord”*

by Jim Leininger (born 1942)

Cantate Domino canticum novum. Sing to the Lord, Sing a jubilant song!
Cantate Domino omnis terra. Sing to the Lord, O sing all the earth!

Scripture Readings

Matthew 5: 5-16

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Hebrews 11: 1

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

2 Corinthians 5: 7

For we walk by faith, not by sight.

*The flowers this morning are given in memory of Jackie and Sam Walker
with love from their family.*

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*The hosts for the Fellowship Hour this morning are  
God's Neighborhood and Susan and Wayne Mountz.  
Please join us on the lawn after today's service to enjoy the "Emergency Ice Cream Truck!"*

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The nursery is open today with Miss Tiffany Goss.
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## **Events and Meetings**

- Ladies Who Stitch "Blue Jeans Sale"** Monday, Sept. 9th starting at 11:00 am in Sheffield Aud.
- Ladies Benevolent Society Luncheon** Tuesday, September 10th at 12:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- Ladies Who Stitch "Blue Jeans Sale"** Tuesday, Sept. 10th from 10 –12 pm in Sheffield Aud.
- Board of Trustees Meeting** Tuesday, Sept. 10th at 7:30 pm in the Library.
- Senior Center Lunch** Wed. 11th, Thurs.12th, and Fri. 13th at 12:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- Board of Missions Meeting** Wednesday, Sept. 11th at 4:00 pm in the Library.
- Ladies Who Stitch "Blue Jeans Sale"** Wed. Sept. 11th starting at 6:00 pm in Sheffield Auditorium.
- Senior Choir Rehearsal** Wednesday, Sept. 11th at 7:30 pm in the Sheffield Auditorium.
- ARC Blood Drive** Thursday, September 12th from 1:00pm –6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- Shoreline Food Pantry/Diaper Bank** Saturday, Sept 14th at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.

## **Coming Soon**

- Sunday School Open House and Reception** Sunday, September 15th at 10:00 am.  
Families are invited downstairs after the service to meet the teachers, learn about our curriculum, and share refreshments.
- Adult Forum with Stephen Barardo** Sunday, September 22nd after the 10:00 am service.
- Stewardship Sunday** September 29th at 10:00 am.
- God's Neighborhood Picnic and Kayaking and Fun** Sunday, September 29th at Camp Claire from 3:00 - 6:00 pm.

**Ladies Benevolent Society September Luncheon:** Come join us for some fellowship, delicious food and a wonderful program at the LBS luncheon on Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> from noon to 2pm. We're going Italian for the day! A delicious meal of pasta and sauce, meatballs & sausage and Italian bread, finished with a simple Italian Ice dessert will be followed by a program presented by our own Julie Martel. Suggested donation for the luncheon is \$5 plus an item for our food bank or our diaper bank. Please call FCCOL (860-434-8686) by Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup> to make a reservation.

### **Ladies Who Stitch “Blue Jeans Sale.”**

The sale begins Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. on the Sheffield Auditorium stage. The Ladies Who Stitch resume working on Monday, September 9, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the Sheffield Auditorium. We'll be knitting, sewing, crafting and organizing—making things to donate and sell. In addition to the women's jeans sale, the Partnership Store will be open. Visitors, shoppers, curiosity seekers, and potential new members are always welcome. The Partnership Store: Opposite the Fellowship Hall is a small room that we call the Partnership Cooperative. It's a gift shop where you will find creations and goods from Haiti, Palestine, the Lakota people of South Dakota, and our own Ladies Who Stitch. All sales directly support the artisans and the missions and programs of FCCOL.



**Join Ensemble Altera and Simon Holt: Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 pm at FCCOL. A "chamber choir of seamless perfection" (Boston Musical Intelligencer), for *A New Song: Psalms for the Soul*, as we offer a concert exploring the psalm texts in all their dizzying variety and poetic beauty. The concert features a wide variety of music, spanning many musical styles and periods, including Allegri's famous Miserere, as well as selections by Bruckner, Parry, MacMillan, and Rutter, along with world premieres by Michael Garrepy, as well as their 4<sup>th</sup> annual Composition Competition winner. Ensemble Altera is made up of the very best in local and national talent combined with singers from

top international choral groups The Tallis Scholars, Tenebrae, and Voces8. Tickets only \$25! Not to be missed! Order tickets online at: [ENSEMBLEALTERA.COM/TICKETS](https://ensemblealtera.com/tickets).

### **Goodness, Greed and Grace: Journeys through Genesis and Exodus**

Curious about what we do in Bible Study? Wondering about the problem of evil and where the heck God might be found on any given day? Bible Study begins Thursday, September 26, 11-12. Hybrid format in person and on Zoom. Join us for rich discussion and wanderings as we pick up our reading of Genesis with Joseph, his brothers and that famous technicolor coat. Our companion book this fall will be Reading Genesis by Marilynne Robinson. Robinson wrote, **“The whole of human existence is like some sweet parable told in the most improbable place and circumstances...God values our humanity. One of the things that's fascinating about the Hebrew Bible is that it declared and was loyal to the fact that God is good and creation is good.”**

**New London Meal Center:** Our Mission Board supports The New London Meal Center on the fourth Sunday of every month, serving a healthy meal at the Center which includes sending meals to the Homeless Hospitality Center. Various church committees, and other groups, provide a meal and servers.

We are always in need of people who are willing to help out, either by cooking or shopping for items ahead of time or helping when we serve at the site. We meet at the church at 3:30 to pick up prepared food and donated drinks plus food, and then carpool to the Center. It remains a very important mission supported by our church.

If you have questions and are interested in helping out any month, or especially during August, you may contact either Charlie Hosley at [hosleycs@aol.com](mailto:hosleycs@aol.com) or [julie.kuja@yahoo.com](mailto:julie.kuja@yahoo.com).

### **Christ the King's Fall Festival and Rummage Sale:**

Saturday, September 21st from 8:30 till 3:00 pm and Sunday, 22nd from 9:00 am till 12:00 pm (when many items are 50% off). Here is a chance to support our neighbor church who lets us use their parking lot (takes 160+ cars off the street) and to say thanks to those 20+ Christ the King parishioners who actually come and work at our WES.

Not as big as the White Elephant Sale but one of the better Church sales. Food, music, baked goods, games for the kids, toys & sporting goods, yard goods, plants, hardware, furniture, kitchenware, lamps, art, silent auctions, Christmas decorations and décor, linens, but **no** clothing.

### **Volunteer to Host a Fellowship Hour!**

Hosting a fellowship hour is a greatly appreciated way to contribute to our community! Just bring a few snacks, milk and Half and Half. Platters, pitchers, etc. are all available in the church kitchen and the coffee is prepared by the generous members of the Coffee Committee. If you are interested in volunteering to host one Sunday morning in either November, December or January, please contact Wendy Knight at [wendyknight@gmail.com](mailto:wendyknight@gmail.com).

### **Communion Table 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 a dedication in the bulletin. Flowers or greenery can be fresh from your garden or from florist, or house plant would be lovely, as well. To sign up, call Jill Harned, 603-398-9004. Thank you!

### **Poll Chaplain/Peacemakers wanted!**

Faiths United to Save Democracy (FUSD) are training clergy and lay volunteers to be a "moral and calming presence" at poll sites on November 5th, Election Day. One must be certified and trained on-line for this voluntary position through [www.TurnOutSunday.com](http://www.TurnOutSunday.com). Laura has been trained and is heading to Philadelphia via train for Election Day. Feel free to contact her if interested at [lfitz.nager@gmail.com](mailto:lfitz.nager@gmail.com)

## **Southeast CT's Faith-Based Organizing Org in 2025**

For two and a half years, sixteen Churches in Southeast Connecticut have been meeting to build a faith-based organizing community. The organizing group has named itself *Interfaith Covenant Initiative* (ICI).

Steve and Laura have participated in the ICI meetings, and most recently Susan Switzer has joined, too. Also, back in January, six FCCOL members participated in the 90-minute orientation to learn about this form of faith-based organizing.

What's unique about this type of organizing is that it's grounded in relationship building. Through one-on-one meetings people come together and share their life experiences. They share their struggles and triumphs, fears and hopes, joys and concerns. People learn how similar they are regardless of how we present on the outside. And from such exchanges, common issues of humanity surface. THEN, from that place, a community organizes around any issues that have emerged. It's inside-out kind of organizing versus an outside-in model.

FCCOL has already begun to quietly engage in this model. Throughout 2024, FCCOL members were invited to participate in one-on-one meetings with other worshippers in the Church - our Sacred Bowl conversations. It's a practice we'll be continuing throughout this coming year, as a way of building a deeper relational community at FCCOL.

It's our hope that we get a dozen people to attend one of the October 90-Minute Orientation Sessions, and from that, a core group develops who are willing to go further with one of the Leadership Institutes.

To learn more about this model of faith-based organizing, check out the organizations listed below and if you're interested in participating email Susan Switzer at [sswitzer790@gmail.com](mailto:sswitzer790@gmail.com). She'll be reaching out to folks after she returns mid-September.



**To honor the memory and legacy of David Good and his tireless work with our Tree of Life partnership, Anne McCarty & Nick Westbrook will be selling a variety of Palestinian goods including olive oil in both bottles and tins, soap, za'atar, and bracelets during Fellowship Hour until September 15th. David's book of compiled sermons, "*A Place Of Grace*," will also be for sale with the proceeds going to the David Good Memorial Fund.**



**The Reverend David W. Good**  
April 26, 1949 - April 2, 2024

### **In Memoriam**

FCCOL is establishing a Memorial Fund in memory of Rev. David W. Good which we hope will continue to fund ministries to which David was devoted. Please mark your donations "David Good Memorial."