



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

November 3, 2024

Worship Service

10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: **“How Firm a Foundation”**

*Processional Hymn: #500 “O For A World”

*Call to Worship:

Each morning we must hold out the chalice of our being
to receive, to carry, and give back.

Come, let us seek God.

(adapted Dag Hammarskjold)

*Prayer of Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

Special Music “Crimson Leaves” Composed and Performed by Noah Brant

Hymn #72 “There’s Wideness in God’s Mercy”

Children’s Message Cari Blanchard

Children’s Song: #364 “This Little Light of Mine”
(Children proceed downstairs. Congregation remains seated.)

Offering Invitation Claire Mbele and Annabelle Coppola

Offertory Anthem: **“Ave Verum Corpus”** by W.A. Mozart (1756-1791)

*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: “Come and Fill Our Hearts”

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al-le-lu-ia!

Scripture:

Ezekiel 36.26 Mark 8: 1-10

Delaney Donovan

Sermon: **“Reflections on the Run and the Sharing of Dignity over Quiche and Coffee”**

Rev. Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager with Joe Kazadi, Gabi Clark, Ella Ziolkovski,
Miles Coppola, Noah Brant, Henry Kyle, Zoe Eastman-Groessel

Closing Hymn: #477 “God of Grace and God of Glory”

Benediction

Benediction Response **“Go Now in Peace”**

by Don Besig

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: “How Firm a Foundation”

How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in God’s excellent Word!
What more can God say than to you has been said, To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
Fear not, I am with you. Oh, be not dismayed, For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

Offertory Anthem: “Ave Verum Corpus”

by W.A. Mozart (1756-1791)

Ave, ave verum corpus natum de Maria Virgine: vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine: cujus latus perforatum fluxit aqua et sanguine: esto nobis praegustatum mortis in examine.

Savior, source of every blessing, tune my heart to grateful lays; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for ceaseless songs of praise. Teach me some melodious measure, sung by raptured saints above; fill my soul with sacred pleasure, while I sing redeeming love.

Benediction Response: “Go Now in Peace”

by Don Besig

Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day. Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true. Know He will guide you in all you do. Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see. God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

Scripture Readings

Ezekiel 36.26

A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you, and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

Mark 8:1-10

At about this same time Jesus again found himself with a hungry crowd on his hands. He called his disciples together and said, “This crowd is breaking my heart. They have stuck with me for three days, and now they have nothing to eat. If I send them home hungry, they’ll faint along the way—some of them have come a long distance.”

His disciples responded, “What do you expect us to do about it? Buy food out here in the desert?”

Jesus asked, “How much bread do you have?”

“Seven loaves,” they said.

So Jesus told the crowd to sit down on the ground. After giving thanks, he took the seven bread loaves, broke them into pieces, and gave them to his disciples so they could hand them out to the crowd. They also had a few fish. He pronounced a blessing over the fish and told his disciples to hand them out as well. The crowd ate its fill. Seven sacks of leftovers were collected. There were well over four thousand at the meal. Then he sent them home. He himself went straight to the boat with his disciples and set out for Dalmanoutha.

(adapted from The Message by Eugene Peterson)

*The flowers are given this morning in loving memory of her late husband
and her parents by Barbara Smith.*

The host for the Fellowship Hour this morning is Cathy Mathis.

The nursery is open today with Miss Tiffany Goss.

Thank you Carleen, for being our organist this morning.

Events and Meeting

Youth Group Fall Cleanup TODAY November 3rd from 12:00 - 3:00 pm.

at The Major Edward Good House for Homeless Veterans in New London.

Ladies Who Stitch Monday, November 4th at 10:00 am in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Senior Choir Rehearsal Wednesday, November 6th at 7:30 pm in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Blood Drive Thursday, November 7th from 1:00-6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Bible Study Thursday, November 7th at 11:00 am in Hoag Parlor.

Endowment Committee Meeting Thursday November 7th at 6:30 pm in the Library.

Gregg Carlson (Convergence) visiting FCCOL Friday November 8th - Sunday Nov. 10th.

Shoreline Food Pantry Saturday, November 9th at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Youth Group Pequot Museum Trip Saturday, November 9th at 10:00 am.

Adult Forum with Gregg Carlson Sunday Nov. 10th at 11:15 am in the Fellowship Hall.

New Members Orientation Sunday, November 10th at 11:45 am in the Library.

Coming Soon...

Elephants in Winter Sale with the Partnership Store Sale Saturday, Nov 16th from 10:00 am till 2:00 pm and Sunday, November 17th from 9:00 am till 1:00 pm.

New Members Sunday November 24th at the 10:00 am service in the Meetinghouse.

“Gratitude” Service with St. Ann’s and Christ the King Tuesday, November 26th at 7:00 pm in the Meetinghouse.

Bible Study 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 is every Thursday, 11:00 am till 12:00 pm. 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.”*

Youth Group Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center

Saturday, November 9th at 10:00 am. All ages are welcome to the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center 10am- go at your own pace. We are getting a group rate going together, and we get to experience learning about this culture together! Then the next day, the kids will do a craft similar to something we see at the museum, during Sunday School. \$13 for youth, \$13 for chaperones, and \$18 for adults. Please reach out to Jolene Brant at 860-460-9511 if you'd like to go, or if you'd like to drop your child off at FCCOL and they go with us to the museum! We will plan to meet at the church at 9:00 am and drive as many as we can with us! Just need a headcount.

Next Opportunity to Interact with Convergence -Worship and Adult Forum Nov. 10th

Our engagement with the Convergence consulting firm is progressing. So far Convergence has received 236 completed surveys from the congregation which they are now analyzing, we have submitted a companion “leaders” survey, and we have held two very informative webinars with Convergence CEO, The Rev. Cameron Trimble, at our adult forums on October 13th and 27th.

The next step is to host an on-site visit by the Rev. Gregg Carlson, director of consulting at Convergence. He will be with us personally on **Sunday November 10th** for both the worship service and the Adult Forum. Gregg will share what he has learned so far about our church, and how we will work together going forward. We hope all can attend this important next step in our work with Convergence.

Elephants in Winter Sale

Save the Dates for the Elephants in Winter Sale, Saturday November 16th from 9:00 till 2:00 pm and Sunday, November 17th from 9:00 am till 1:00 pm. Also the Partnership Store will be having a sale of their own, same dates and times!

Save the Date: Adult Forum

November 17th after the 10:00 am service Fred Behringer, Tom Sherer and Mariette Brown will present **"Climate is Changing - What Can We Do?"**

"Gratitude" Worship Service November 26th, 2024

As we have in years passed, the Old Lyme Churches will be joining together on Tuesday, November 26th at 7:00 pm, for a "Gratitude" Worship Service. FCCOL will be hosting, joined by St. Ann's and Christ the King. One highlight of the service is the joining together of the choirs of our three churches. We hope you will consider being with us for this service!

Sunday Flowers

We're scheduling members and friends who would like to provide pulpit flowers for Sunday. 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 a florist, or a house plant would be lovely, as well. To sign up, call Jill Harned, 603-398-9004. Thank you!

Housing Wanted

We regularly hear from folks who are in need of an affordable rental. If you have any information that could be helpful, please let Anne in the office know. Even for a room to rent for a period of time would be greatly appreciated.

An Update on the David W. Good Memorial Fund

Shortly after David Good's memorial service this past April, FCCOL invited members and friends to contribute to a fund established in his honor. Thanks to the generosity expressed by many of you, that fund now stands at a little over \$22,000, and counting. To reflect David's long commitment to mission partnerships and education, the ministers, in consultation with the Board of Trustees and the Endowment Committee, have decided that the fund will be used to support the ongoing work of our partnerships. The fund will be invested along with our endowment, though unlike the endowment itself, it will be available for use when needed. Whether for Green Grass or Palestine, for South Africa or Haiti, or a newer venture, the David W. Good Memorial Fund will be used to expand upon the work that David began, and that we continue in his memory.

Nehantic Land Acknowledgement

We, the First Congregational Church of Old Lyme, acknowledge that we occupy and benefit from the Indigenous land upon which our church and our homes are standing. For thousands of years, this has been, and continues to be, the traditional territory of the Nehantic people, along with the Indigenous kin of other tribes.

We hereby acknowledge the continued presence, resilience, and sovereignty of the Nehantic community today.

We commit ourselves to collaborating with all Indigenous communities in the challenge of decolonizing, recovering, and restoring Indigenous histories, lives, and futures.

We give thanks to those first Nehantic people and their present day descendants. And we affirm that any land acknowledgement must also contain an acknowledgement of the wisdom of the land itself: the trees, the water, the rocks, the soil on which we live.

We have been taught by Indigenous elders to draw our minds together at the beginning of any gathering and that we should remember to be grateful and thankful for all that we have been given by the Creator. And so we give thanks:

For this beautiful day; to the four directions; to all creatures who are our kinfolk and teachers; to the river and the ocean that have sustained us; to the last 7 generations and the next 7 generations; to our ancestors who have guided us and who are here with us now. We do not have to ask for anything. All this has been given to us.

But finally, we recognize that acknowledgement in a sentence or paragraph is not enough. And so we at the First Congregational Church of Old Lyme commit to listen to Native voices who can remind us and teach us how to live in balance and reciprocity. We commit to a continual process of discernment, asking what is to be done, seeking to include voices that have not been heard. We confess that, in such a great task, we are always at the beginning, and that acknowledgment is but the first step in a long process of self-education and relationship building.

With our Nehantic friends, as well as Lakota and other Indigenous partners, we affirm that we are all in this together, brothers and sisters of Spirit, dwelling under the same sky. What shall we do with the many gifts we have been given?