



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

December 22, 2024

God's Neighborhood Christmas Pageant

10:00 AM

Prelude

Handbell Introit: "*Gloria*" (*Angels We Have Heard on High*)

arr. Frances L. Callahan
Old Lyme Ringers

*Processional Hymn: #114 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (use lyrics as below)

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel Refresh us at your life-giving well.
All people long to feel your grace, Pour out your Spirit on every place.

Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel, shall come to thee wherever you may dwell.

2. O come to us, our Everlasting Home, Your people lost and broken, roam,
And seek a place of welcome and peace, From war and violence, may they know release.

Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel, shall come to thee wherever you may dwell.

3. O come Beloved, hear your peoples' plea The wounded soul, the homeless refugee.
May 'Welcome' be our own heart's call, 'Till there be room and justice for us all.

Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel, shall come to thee wherever you may dwell.

(Words by Juanita L. Austin – Nov. 29 2017)

*Call to Worship:

Gather us in to listen to the ancient story made new

Gather us in to savor the wonder

Gather us in to sing of our blessings

Gather us in with our hopes and challenges, preparations and dreams

Gather us in just as we are, the young and the young at heart, too.

May love abound!

O Come, O Come Emmanuel, God-Is-with-Us!

*Prayer of Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Wreath Lighting: The Candle of Love

The Dowd Family

Offering Invitation

Offertory Anthem: **"Ding Dong! Merrily on High"**

arranged by David Willcocks

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

Christmas Pageant: The Trial of the Not-So-Silent Night

Closing Hymn: #134 "Joy to the World"

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.

Handbell Ringers Introit and Choir Anthem

Handbell Introit: “Gloria” (*Angels We Have Heard on High*) arr. Frances L. Callahan
Old Lyme Ringers

The handbell Introit “Gloria (Angels We Have Heard on High)” is an arrangement of Hymn 135 found in our hymnal. While the carol is very popular today, it is an old French tune from either the 18th or 19th centuries.

Offertory Anthem: “Ding Dong! Merrily on High” arranged by David Willcocks

Ding dong! merrily on high in heaven the bells are ringing: Ding dong! verily the sky is riven with angel singing. *Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.*

E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen, and *io, io, io*, by priest and people sung. *Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.*

Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers; may you beautifully rime your evetime song, ye singers. *Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.*



*The flowers this morning are given in celebration of God's Neighborhood
and today's Pageant.*



The host for the Fellowship Hour this morning is Julie Martel.



The nursery is open today with Miss Tiffany Goss.



Events and Meeting

Christmas Eve Services Tuesday, December 24th.

5:00 pm The Living Manger for Families with Young Children.

8:00 pm Candlelight Services of Lessons and Carols.

10:00 pm Candlelight Services of Lessons and Carols.

The Church Office will close at 12:30pm on Tuesday Dec.24th, close all day Wed, December 25th for Christmas, and open Thurs, Dec 26th at 12:00pm.

The Meetinghouse will be open for Meditation and Prayer on Christmas Day.

Epiphany Worship Service Sunday, January 5th at 10:00 am followed by a Festive Fellowship Hour. God's Neighborhood resumes the same day.



The 2025 Offering Envelopes are now available in the connector hallway between the Meetinghouse and the Parish House.

Gifts for the Homeless Hospitality Center of New London

We've been collecting gifts for the Homeless Hospitality Center of New London under our tree. And we'll continue through January 5th. So if you've not had a chance to add a gift, please feel free to do so. They need not be wrapped.

Special needs are for coffee (ground) because they need so much of it. Also socks. And recently I was told that canes would be wonderfully helpful. They have plenty of crutches – but hardly any canes and there is a growing demand because, unfortunately, a great many of the incoming guests are older. If you have a cane at home you no longer are in need of – that would be just fine!

Children's Handbell Choir

There is a new handbell choir that is being formed just for children and youth. This group will focus on learning to read music, the basics of handbell ringing, and an experience in bell ringing in front of a congregation. The children ringers will meet on Wednesday afternoons from 4:15 to 4:45, starting on January 8 and continue until April 9. If you have an interest in having your child participate in this unique experience, please contact Gary Jungkeit, either in person, or by email: gjungkeit@charter.net, or by text: 423-782-6308.

Bible Study Goodness, Greed and Grace: Journeys through Genesis and Exodus

Bible Study will resume on Thursday, January 16th at 11:00am.

Reading the South African Kairos Document

Beginning on Thursday, January 16th at 12:00pm, members and friends are invited to gather for a reading and study group of the South African Kairos Document. Written at the height of the apartheid struggles in South Africa in 1985, this brief theological statement remains stunningly relevant. We'll meet every Thursday at 12:00 noon, in the Hoag Parlor, immediately after the weekly Bible study. Copies of the Document will be available in the church Narthex, on the table at the bottom of the stairs between the Meetinghouse and the Fellowship Hall, and in the church office.

Sunday Flowers

We're scheduling members and friends who would like to provide pulpit flowers for Sundays. 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.

A Note from the Treasurer:

As we approach the end of the year, we hope that everyone will be able to satisfy their pledge commitments for 2024. Almost a year ago we reluctantly had to present a deficit budget to the congregation since our projected income was not forecast to cover expected expenses. As always, and especially this year, additional contributions are welcome and needed. Thanks to all who faithfully support our church!

ACLU Civil Rights Town Hall in Old Lyme

On Thursday, January 9, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Connecticut will hold a town hall at the First Congregation Church of Old Lyme (FCCOL) entitled "Civil Rights Town Hall: Implications of a Second Trump Administration."

Legal, policy and communications experts from the ACLU of CT will outline how the organization plans to use every tool at its disposal – litigation, advocacy and grassroots organizing – to protect civil rights and discuss the critical role Connecticut residents can play.

Old Lyme Meeting

Several of our members have been active in a plan to make some changes in the layout of the Halls Road business area. There is an important hearing that is critical to the progress of this work which will be held on Monday, January 13th at 6:30 in the Old Lyme Town Hall. This is perhaps mostly pertinent to residents of Old Lyme, though the shopping district is an important part of our region. The meeting is public.

PLAYBILL®

The Trial of the Not-So-Silent Night
The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme



**The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme
Presents**

“The Trial of the Not-So-Silent Night”

Written By

Gavin K. Lodge, The Students of God's Neighborhood, FCCOL

Starring

Bailiff	Wren Yates
Judge ..	Clarissa Mock
Prosecutor 1	Miles Coppola
Prosecutor 2	Anna Williams Fitzpatrick-Nager
D.A. 1	Ellison Lodge
D.A. 2	Finn Barrett
Sophia Busybody	Naomi Cameron
Ms. Jacobson	Maeve Gosman
Pig 1	Colton Lodge
Pig 2	Auggie Jungkeit
Pig 3	Devon Kiem
Sheep	Zoey Dowd
Sheep 2	Connor Rice
Shepherd 1	Joe Kazadi
Shepherd 2	Ace Bairos
Shepherd 3	McCoy Gosman
Star	Anderson Brant
Star Friend	Abbie DaPonte
Star Friend	David Rice
Angel 1	Lucy Hartenstein
Angel 2	Lucy Byers
Angel 3	Lane Cameron
Angel 4	Izzy Thompson
Angel 5	Emilia DaPonte
Angel 6	Kate Ardrey
Wise One 1	Trent Cameron
Wise One 2	Nora Donovan
Wise One 3	Declan Donovan
Mary	Allie Mock
Joseph	Sebastian Parker

Angels: Lilah, Ingrid, Hailey, Emberly, Phoebe, Zoey
Animals: Abigail (sheep), Estelle (unicorn), Cassidy (sheep), Emerson (llama), Zach (turtle),
Harper (donkey), Nora (llama), Julia (sheep)

Directed by Gavin Lodge

Music Performed by Rachael Jungkeit and Simon Holt

Special thanks to CJ Bairos on the guitar and our Director of Sunday School, Jolene Brant.

*Please pardon any unintentional omission or errors.
Additions and changes to the cast made without notice.*