

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

February 18, 2024

10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: Call To Remembrance by Richard Farrant (1525-1580)

We dream a world where person

*Processional Hymn: #371 "Living God, Your Joyful Spirit"

*Call to Worship: (based on "I Dream a World," by Langston Hughes):

No other person will scorn,
Where love will bless the earth
And peace its paths adorn.
We dream a world where all
Will know sweet freedom's way,
Where greed no longer saps the soul
Nor avarice blights our day.
A world we dream where black or white,
Whatever race you be,
Will share the bounties of the earth
And every person is free;
A world where wretchedness will hang its head
And joy, like a pearl,
Attends the needs of all humankind-

And joy, like a pearl,
Attends the needs of all humankindOf such we dream, our world!
Let us worship God.

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: #373 "We Are Your People" verses 1,3,and 6

Children's Message Rev. Becky Crosby

Hymn: #364 "This Little Light of Mine"

(First verse only, as children proceed downstairs. Congregation remains seated.)

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Anthem: Ave verum corpus by Edward Elgar (1857-1934), soloist: Lisa Feltes

^{*}Prayer of Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

*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: Come and Fill our Hearts



Scripture: Matthew 22: 34-40, Revelation 7: 9,13-17

Sermon: Souls Growing Deeper Still: The Legacy of the Black Social Gospel in the 21st Century.

Rev. Dr. Steven Jungkeit

*Hymn: #413 "How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord"

Benediction

Benediction Response

Postlude

*Congregation Standing

Choir Anthems Today

Introit: Call To Remembrance by Richard Farrant (1525-1580) Call to remembrance, O Lord, Thy tender mercy and Thy loving kindness, which have been ever of old. O remember not the sins and offences of my youth, but according to Thy mercy think Thou on me, O Lord, for Thy goodness.

Offertory Anthem: Ave verum corpus by Edward Elgar (1857-1934), soloist: Lisa Feltes

Ave verum corpus, natum ex Maria Virginae, vere passum immolatum in cruce pro homine. Cuius latus perforatum vero fluxit sanguine; esto nobis praegustatum, mortis in examine. O clemens, O pie, O dulcis Jesu, Fili Mariae.

Jesu, Word of God Incarnate, of the Virgin Mary born, on the cross thy scared body for us with nails was torn. Cleanse us, by the blood and water streaming from thy pierced side; feed us with thy body broken, now, and in death's agony. O Jesu, O hear, us Son of Mary.

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

Matthew 22: 34-40

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

Revelation 7: 9, 13-17

After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed with palm branches in their hands.

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal."

For this reason and before the throne of God and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more and thirst no more: the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat, for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The flowers this morning given in loving memory of Joan Bennett Kratzer
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The host for the Fellowship Hour this morning is Barbara Smith
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The Nursery is open today with Miss Miriame.
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We welcome our guest organist this morning, Kathleen Cooper.

<u>Church World Service Blanket Drive</u>: When a series of deadly tornadoes swept across Tennessee and neighboring states in December of last year and temperatures dipped below freezing, CWS blankets were immediately distributed. The wool blankets are warm, water-resistant and flame-retardant. They are appreciated by people who have lost everything due to floods and wildfires. Each blanket costs only \$10. Please make checks <u>payable to LBS</u>. CWS envelopes are available in the pews and may be put in the offering plates or sent to FCCOL, 2 Ferry Road, Old Lyme, 06371 c/o LBS.

**Interested in Confirmation?** Confirmation classes for 1st, 2nd or 3rd year high school students have begun. Classes will meet January-May and include field trips, films and a service project. Confirmation is offered every other year. For more information or if you would like to be a mentor, please contact Laura at 860-304-9096 or lfitz.nager@gmail.com.

**Soup Bowl Supper - Save the date!** The Soup Bowl Supper makes its triumphant return on Friday, March 8th, 5:00-7:00 pm. Choose from an assortment of amazing handcrafted bowls donated by Walt's Pottery and friends. Enjoy delicious homemade soups and donate to a great cause! Proceeds will go toward the church's food pantry and food ministry programs. We hope you'll join us!

Walking in their Footsteps: A 5-day Civil Rights Learning Trip for Teens during April vacation from April 6th-11th. We will fly round trip to Atlanta, Georgia and visit sights there and drive to Birmingham, Alabama among other places. For more information or to reserve a spot, email Jolene Brant at jmbrant2023@gmail.com. Our next planning meeting will be on February 25th in the Library following the service.

**Bible Study**: Bible Study meets on Thursdays, 11am-12pm in the library. Available also on Zoom. All are welcome!

The Bible is chock full of legendary characters, strange plot twists, tricksters and thieves, mystics and musicians as well as the horror and the holy within its pages. How does it all end up and what's love got to do with it? We're making our way through Genesis and someday we'll get to the book of Revelation. Join us!

The Way of the Cross: From February 14-21, clergy and leaders from African American congregations have organized a March to demand an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. The March began on Ash Wednesday, when people of faith have historically received ashes in the shape of a cross upon their foreheads, a commitment to follow Jesus toward Jerusalem during Lent. That will take on new meaning this year, as the March commenced that day at Independence Hall in Philadelphia. It concludes on the 21st in Washington D.C., proceeding in stages day by day. There is an open call for all of those who are committed to human rights for Palestinians to attend, or to otherwise support the effort. Steve, Laura and Carleen and others from our church participated in parts of the March this weekend. Further details and information can be found at pilgrimageforpeace.org.

Dante Returns! *The Preparation Begins on Sunday, February 25, at 11:30am* in the Sheffield Auditorium with a lecture from Prof. Peter Hawkins, professor emeritus of religion and literature at Yale Divinity School. While he is unable to be with us in person, he will be offering a presentation via Zoom. As he did last year, Peter will help us to understand the contours of the *Purgatorio*, and to connect it to our own lived experiences. We will have the opportunity at that time to sign up to be readers of individual cantos on Maundy Thursday.

On Maundy Thursday, March 28th, we will continue our exploration of Dante's *Divine Comedy*, making the arduous ascent up Mt. Purgatory. Beginning at 7pm, and continuing until we're done, we'll read the entirety of the *Purgatorio* canto by canto.

**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, 860-514-5425.

**Home to Rent Desperately Needed:** A family of four who are good friends of the church need a home to rent in the immediate future. While we sponsored and settled this family of former refugees a few years ago, they now need to move from their present home. Any location on the shoreline would be acceptable. Please call the church office (860-434-8686) if you can help or know someone who can. Thanks!

**Book for Sale:** The book entitled "Accidental Activist" by our late friend and member Prue Allen is now for sale at Fellowship Coffee Hours after worship services. The book was self-published and funded by two of her friends. The price is \$40.00.

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

Memorial Service for Joan Bennett Kratzert Today at 1:00 pm LWS Monday, February 19th at 10:00 am in Sheffield Auditorium. Senior Center Luncheon Tuesday, February 20th at 12:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Senior Center Luncheon Wednesday, February 21st at 12:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Bell Ringers Wednesday, February 21st at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Senior Choir Wednesday, February 21st at 7:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Bible Study Thursday, February 22nd at 11:00 am in the Library. Senior Center Luncheon Thursday, February 22nd at 12:00 pm in Fellowship Hall Food Pantry Saturday, February 24th, 8:30-10:30 am in Fellowship Hall.

Note: The deadline for the March Newsletter was Friday, February 16th,

If you haven't submitted your articles now, please do so now.