



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

March 17, 2024

10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* Hans Leo Hassler, arr. M. & S. Eithun
Handbell Quartet: Gary and Pat Jungkeit, Annie and Sean McCarty
Rachael Jungkeit, piano

*Processional Hymn: #400 “There is a Balm in Gilead”

*Call to Worship:

We come to worship, to pray, and learn.
We come looking for God in Scripture,
and in our own life experiences.

**We lay bare before God and one another
our own wilderness journey
filled with gladness and hope,
with reluctance and sorrow.**

O God, may our Lenten journey lead us toward Jesus,
**that we may show forth the same resolve and peace that he demonstrated
wherever our path might take us.**

Let us worship God!

*Prayer of Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: #293 “Deep in the Shadows of the Past”

Children’s Message

Bradley Mock

Hymn: #364 “This Little Light of Mine”

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

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Anthem: *Breathe on me, Breath of God* by J.T. Rees, arr. Haydn Morgan

*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 Fill Our Hearts*

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The lyrics are: "Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly." The second system also has a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The lyrics are: "Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al-le-lu-ia!" The music is in 3/4 time and the key signature has two sharps (F# and C#).

WORDS and MUSIC: Jacques Berthier and the Taizé Community, 1991

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Scripture: Matthew 5: 1-12 (NRSV)

Sermon: "**Like a Bandit Getting Over His Lawless Ways**" Rev. Dr. Steven R. Jungkeit

*Hymn: #399 "From the Crush of Wealth and Power"

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: *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

originally written by Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612) and is a meditation on Hymn #187

O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thy only crown,
How art thou pale with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn!
How does that visage languish which once was bright as morn!

Offertory Anthem: *Breathe on me, Breath of God* by J.T. Rees arr. Haydn Morgan

Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love what Thou dost love, and do what Thou wouldst do.
Breathe on me, breath of God, till I am wholly Thine,
until this earthly part of me glows with Thy fire divine.
Breathe on me, breath of God, so shall I never die,
but live with Thee the perfect life of Thine eternity.



Scripture Readings

Matthew 5: 1-12 (NRSV)

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.

Matthew 5: 1-12 (An Alternate Translation, from the Message)

When Jesus saw his ministry drawing huge crowds, he climbed a hillside. Those who were apprenticed to him, the committed, climbed with him. Arriving at a quiet place, he sat down and taught his climbing companions. This is what he said:

“You’re blessed when you’re at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule.

“You’re blessed when you feel you’ve lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you.

“You’re blessed when you’re content with just who you are—no more, no less. That’s the moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can’t be bought.

“You’re blessed when you’ve worked up a good appetite for God. He’s food and drink in the best meal you’ll ever eat.

“You’re blessed when you care. At the moment of being ‘care-full,’ you find yourselves cared for.

“You’re blessed when you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see God in the outside world.

“You’re blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That’s when you discover who you really are, and your place in God’s family.

“You’re blessed when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God’s kingdom.

“Not only that—count yourselves blessed every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort and they are uncomfortable. You can be glad when that happens—give a cheer, even!—for though they don’t like it, I do! And all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company. My prophets and witnesses have always gotten into this kind of trouble.

The flowers this morning given in loving memory of Bob Webster.

The host for the Fellowship Hour this morning is Kristen Clark .

The Nursery is open today with Miss Miriame.

Confirmands and Mentors Meeting Today, right after service in the Library.

Soup Bowl Supper: We would like to thank everyone who came out on Friday, March 8, for our annual Soup Bowl Supper. We raised \$3,900 for our church's food ministries.

No Room at the Inn Night: Sharing Our Humanity with the Unhoused. (Formerly "Box Night"), Saturday, March 23rd. Sleeping overnight on the church lawn, we'll also meet with someone who will share their experience of being without shelter and watch a movie together. The next morning, we'll have breakfast and attend church at 10 am. This is Palm Sunday, too. We are collecting donations of small toiletries (toothpaste/toothbrushes, deodorant, bars of soap, etc. to make overnight kits for Homeless Hospitality Center guests.

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

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.

Church World Service Blanket Drive: CWS is named one of the top 100 highly rated Charities by "GiveSpot" and a B+ rating from The American Institute of Philanthropy, and a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator. Last September, our congregation received a plaque honoring FCCOL for having donated \$90,000 for blankets over the last 25 years. Blankets can be rolled up and therefore ideal for carrying belongings, or providing padding for someone sleeping on the sidewalk, in cars or under bridges. Blankets are urgently needed domestically and abroad. Each blanket costs only \$10. Please make checks payable to LBS. Special CWS envelopes are available in the pews. They can be put in the offering plate or sent to FCCOL c/o LBS, 2 Ferry Road, Old Lyme, CT 06371. The Drive ends on March 31.

One Great Hour of Sharing is a special annual offering sponsored by The United Church of Christ in conjunction with the National Council of Churches. This appeal makes it possible for monies to be available for immediate help across the globe to respond to humanitarian and climate disasters. Our church has participated in this special appeal for many years, and we were recognized a few years ago as one of the most generous contributors nation-wide.

Our goal this Easter season is to raise \$10,000 for the work of OGHS. You may contribute at any time, (put OGHS on checks memo line), and all undesignated contributions at our Easter services will be dedicated to OGHS.

Book for Sale by Prue Allen

The book entitled “Accidental Activist,” a first-hand account of Prue Allen’s work with Martin Luther King Jr. during the Civil Rights Movement, is now for sale at Fellowship Coffee Hours after worship services. The book was self published and the price is \$40.

Springtime Gardening/Yard Work Help: a group of Connecticut College students are ready to help you prepare your yards and gardens for the spring and summer. They are available to work most weekends starting in mid-March. Please contact their faculty mentor if interested, Prof Eileen Kane ekane2@conncoll.edu.

Calendar of Events and Meetings

Dante Readers Meeting Today! *at 11:30 am* in Sheffield Auditorium.

Confirmands and Mentors Meeting *Today, right after service* in the Library

LWS Monday, March 18th at 10:00 am in Sheffield Auditorium.

Senior Center Luncheon *Tuesday, March 19th at 12:00 pm* in Fellowship Hall.

Board of Adult Education *Tuesday, March 19th at 5:00 pm* in the Library.

Deacons Meeting *Tuesday, March 19th at 7:00 pm* in the Library.

Senior Center Luncheon *Wednesday, March 20th at 12:00 pm* in Fellowship Hall.

Grief Group Meeting *Wednesday, March 20th at 5:00 pm* in Hoag Parlor.

Green Grass Committee Meeting *Wednesday, March 20th at 5:00 pm* in the Library.

Bell Ringers *Wednesday, March 20th at 6:30 pm* in Fellowship Hall.

Senior Choir *Wednesday, March 20th at 7:30 pm* in Fellowship Hall.

Bible Study *Thursday, March 21st at 11:00 am* in the Library.

Senior Center Luncheon *Thursday, March 21st at 12:00 pm* in Fellowship Hall.

Board of Stewardship Meeting *Thursday, March 21st at 4:00 pm* in the Library.

Food Pantry *Saturday, March 23rd, 8:30-10:30 am* in Fellowship Hall.

No Room at the Inn, “Box Night” *Saturday, March 23rd* at the Meetinghouse.

Dante’s “Purgatorio” Reading, *Thursday, March 28th at 7:00 pm* in the Meetinghouse.

Everyone is invited to sign a postcard addressed to our Senators, Chris Murphy & Richard Blumenthal as well as President Joe Biden, encouraging them to enforce a ceasefire in Gaza. Postcards will be available in the vestibule and at the Fellowship hour, as well as outside the church office.

Easter Schedule

Easter Memorial Music and Flowers

As in years past, you can make a donation to our
Easter Memorial Music and/or Flowers.

(Donation cards are in the pews)

Prior to March 22nd, please email the church office (fccol@fccol.org)
or include a note with your check, with your name and the names for
whom you would like a memorial or honorary dedication.

Maundy Thursday March 28, 2024

A 6:00 pm service of communion and sacred music.
A reading of Dante's "Purgatorio" will follow at 7:00 pm.

Good Friday March 29, 2024

Meetinghouse open for prayer and meditation.

Easter Sunrise Service March 31, 2024

6:15 am at Griswold Point
(if you need directions, call the church).

Easter Sunday 9:00 am & 11:00 am Worship Services

Childcare will be available at the 9 o'clock service.
Sunday School will not meet, but will resume on April 7th at 10 am.

We will be reading the middle section of Dante's Divine Comedy— Purgatorio —on
Maundy Thursday, March 28th starting at 7:00 pm.

