



John Coltrane's Cosmic Circle of Fifths

The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme

2 Ferry Road,
 Old Lyme, Connecticut
 (860) 434-8686
 www.fccol.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Steven R. Jungkeit, Senior Minister
Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager, Senior Associate Minister
Carleen R. Gerber, Associate Minister
Simon Holt, Director of Music

February 23, 2025

Sunday Worship Service

10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: **“Purcell Canon”**

Henry Purcell (1659-1695), arr. Robert de Frece
performed by ReBELLion

*Processional Hymn: #98 “God of the Sparrow God of the Whale”

*Call to Worship:

We lift up our eyes to the hills—
from where will our help come?
**Our help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**
God will not let your foot be moved;
the One who keeps you will not slumber.
**The Lord is our keeper;
the Lord is our shade at our right hand.**
The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
**The Lord will keep
our going out and our coming in
from this time on and forevermore.
Let us worship God.**

*Prayer of Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: #91 “I to the Hills Will Lift Mine Eyes”

Children’s Message

Eddie Twining

Children’s Song: #364 “This Little Light of Mine”

(Children proceed downstairs. Congregation remains seated.)

Offering Invitation

Offertory Anthem: **“Stay With Us”**

by Walter L. Pelz
with flutist Jill Maurer-Davis

*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: “Hear Our Prayer”

The image shows a musical score for the prayer response. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in - cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

Scripture: Matthew 17: 1-9

Sermon: “Up Above My Head, I Hear Music in the Air”

Rev. Dr. Steven Jungkeit

*Closing Hymn: #96 “Creating God, Your Fingers Trace”

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.

Scripture Readings

Matthew 17: 1-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

Choir Anthems

Introit: Introit Music Notes:

The children and youth of ReBELLion participating in this morning’s Introit are the following:

Anderson Brant, handbells

Noah Brant, piano

Ellison Lodge, soprano metallophone

Zoey Dowd, handbells

Anna Williams Fitzpatrick-Nager, alto glockenspiel

Augie Jungkeit, bass xylophone

Lucy Vautrain, handbells

Devon Kiem, alto metallophone

Colton Lodge, handbells

Lucy Byers, handbells

Allie Mock, handbells

Connor Rice, alto xylophone

David Rice, handbells

Offertory Anthem: “Stay With Us”

by Walter L. Pelz,
with flutist Jill Maurer-Davis

Stay with us, till night has come: our praise to you this day be sung. Bless our bread, open our eyes: Jesus, be our great surprise. Walk with us, with us our spirits sigh: hear when our weary spirits cry feel again our loss, our pain: Jesus, take us to your side. Walk with us, the road will bend: make all our weeping, wailing end. Wipe our tears, forgive our fears: Jesus, lift the heavy cross. Talk with us till we behold a joyful life you will unfold: heal our eyes to see the prize: take us to the light. Stay with us, till day is done: no tears nor dark shall dim the sun: cheer the heart your grace impart. Jesus, bring eternal life.

The flowers this morning are given in memory of Michellee Speirs.

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

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The nursery is open today with Miss Tiffany Goss.

Events and Meetings

Adult Forum FCCOL Moth Stories *Today at 11:15 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Dine New London Meal Center *Today at departing at 3:30 pm* for New London.

Ladies Who Stitch *Monday, February 24th at 10:00 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Dante 's Paradiso Reading Group *Monday, Feb.24th at 6:30 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Board of Deacons Meeting *Tuesday, February 25th at 7:00 pm* in the Library.

Grief Group *Wednesday, February 26th at 5:00pm* in the Hoag Parlor.

Old Lyme Ringers Rehearsal *Wednesday, February 26th at 6:30 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

Senior Choir Rehearsal *Wednesday, February 26th at 7:30 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Bible Study *Thursday, February 27th at 11:00 am* in Hoag Parlor.

The Kairos Document Reading *Thursday, February 27th at 12:00 pm* in Hoag Parlor.

ReBellion Rehearsal *Thursday, February 27th at 4:15 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

Shoreline Food Pantry and Diaper Bank *Saturday, March 1st at 8:30 am* in Fellowship Hall.

Convergence Workshop *Saturday, March 1st at 9:30 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Task Force Meeting *Saturday, March 1st at 12:00 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Youth Group Mardi Gras Breakfast *Sunday, March 2nd at 8:30 am until 9:30 am*
in the Fellowship Hall.

Convergence Adult Forum *Sunday, March 2nd at 11:15 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Coming Soon

Ash Wednesday Service *Wednesday, March 5th at 6:30 pm* in the Meetinghouse.

Adult Forum Today after the 10:00 am Service - A NEW IDEA!

Please join us after the worship service. The NEW IDEA is to introduce a periodic MOTH story telling session! Copying from the popular NPR “Moth” series, we’ll be having our own members and friends share their 5-minute personal story. All voluntary – and the only requirements for the stories are that they (a) be short, (b) they be true and (c) hopefully engaging! This first time Tom Sherer will have a short presentation on the “Moth” system, and then we’ll have a couple of live stories. One will feature Bob McCracken – so join us! Should be enjoyable.

Church World Service Blanket Drive in 2024, 26 States received blankets and various kits. They were in response to tornadoes, hurricanes, flooding and wildfires. The warm blankets are water resistant and fireproof. They can serve as coverings for drafty windows for people who cannot afford to heat their houses, for homeless people living under bridges and sidewalks or spend nights in their cars. They can be used as carriers to hold their meager belongings; for privacy and comfort to children, (think of Linus). There are thousands of challenged people who are grateful to receive CWS help. Each blanket costs only \$10. Please make checks payable to LBS. Special envelopes are available in the pews. They can be put in the offering plate or sent to FCCOL c/o LBS. Thank you for thinking of the less fortunate among us!

Bible Study Goodness, Greed and Grace: We have started to read the book of Exodus

Bible Study continues every Thursday, at 11:00 am. In person and on Zoom.

Email: fccol@fccol.org for the zoom link.

Reading the South African Kairos Document

Members and friends are invited to gather for a reading and study group of the South African Kairos Document with Steve. 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. Large format copies are available as well. Email: fccol@fccol.org for the zoom link.

Dante's *Paradiso* Reading Group

In preparation for our Maundy Thursday ascent with Dante through the *Paradiso*, all are invited to gather on a series of Mondays leading up to Maundy Thursday. We'll read key portions of the *Paradiso* together, and discuss their significance. The adventure begins on Monday, February 24, at 6:30 PM in the Sheffield Auditorium. All translations are welcome, but we'll refer most often to the Hollander and the Palma translations.

The schedule is as follows: Feb. 24, March 3, (no meetings on March 10 and 17 - Steve will be in Cuba), March 24, March 31, April 7, and April 14. No need to sign up. Just come if you're interested. There will also be a Zoom option. Call the office for the link.

Mardi Gras Breakfast Sunday, March 2nd from 8:30-9:30 am. Join us for our annual Mardi Gras breakfast celebration at FCCOL. Our Middle and High Schoolers will be making breakfast (pancakes anyone?) for our congregation with the assistance of Chef Phil Brant. This annual celebration is also a way for them to raise donations for scholarships for upcoming trips to Ellis Island in April and our trip to Green Grass, South Dakota (June 21st-June 26th). Planning is underway for both of these journeys. Email Jolene for details and to sign up to help.

Next Week Adult Forum with Convergence

Our adult forum, next week March 2nd, will be a second presentation by Gregg Carlson from the consulting firm Convergence. He will bring us up to date on the work that has been done since his last visit, along with some recommendations for moving forward. We hope many can attend.

Petition to State Legislators supporting Environmental Efforts: If you are interested in information or want to sign the CT Coalition for Climate Action petition from the Inter-religious Eco-Justice Network, contact Mariette Brown for more information at: marietteb98@gmail.com.

Homeless Hospitality Donations: We are grateful to everyone who helped with the donations of socks and coffee for the Homeless Hospitality Center of New London. Their request for canes (used canes are just fine!) and ground coffee and socks will continue. Please bring them to church and leave them with the deacons at the front door if you have one to donate; or bring it to the church office during the week. Many thanks.

2025 Stewardship (Financial) Campaign Update

Our 2025 campaign, which provides the financial resources for the church to operate every year, is nearing the “home stretch.” So far, we have received 255 generous commitments totaling \$585,604 which is very close to our goal of \$600,000. Last year we received 280 commitments. So, we would very much appreciate for those who have not yet made a commitment to come forward. We would like to exceed the goal this year, so that we don’t have to rely on a contribution from our Endowment Fund, which we needed to do last year. If you have not yet made a commitment, and/or have misplaced your commitment card, please call the office (860-434-8686) and we will make sure you get one. You can also give us your commitment over the phone or enter a pledge on our website at www.fccol.org/ donate. THANK YOU!

Nadine Pinede. There are a few signed copies of her book “*When the Mapou Sings*” available in the FCCOL office for \$15.00.

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 a room to rent for a period of time would be greatly appreciated.

A Room to Rent is available in the home of one of our church members. If you'd like more information please give your contact information to Anne in the church office and she'll connect you with the home owner.

Car Wanted: Our caretaker, Bill Slivinski, is in need of a car. Please let us know if you can help. Call the office at 860-434-8686. Thank you!

Convergence Consulting Workshop

March 1st To Help Determine Our Church's Future

You're invited!

Our church is ready to take the next step to help determine our future – and we'd like you to be part of the process.

On Saturday, March 1, from 9:30 am till noon, we will be holding a workshop in the Sheffield Auditorium that will help our congregation visualize the ministries, outreach efforts and issues that we will focus on in the next five years. Light refreshments will be served including lots of coffee.

The workshop is open to all members and friends – and we'd love to have you participate. The workshop will be facilitated by Rev. Gregg Carlson from Convergence, the consulting firm we engaged to help our church thrive. Gregg previously updated us on the Convergence work at a November adult forum, and this is a next step in the process.

The goal of the workshop is to help our congregation articulate a clear, concrete vision of how we can best position our church to meet the needs of our members and our Old Lyme community.

Please RSVP no later than February 28th by sending an email to fccol@fccol.org. Thank you.