



“Jesus Passes the Weeping Woman”
painting by Mariita Guevarra from the Stations of the Cross from Solentiname.

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

March 30, 2025

Sunday Worship Service

10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: **“Meditation on Beautiful Savior”**

arr. Cathy Moglebust
Old Lyme Ringers

*Processional Hymn: #78 “There Is Love All Around You”

Call to Worship:

In Scripture, we have been given the stories of persons who needed to
leave their homelands— Abraham, Sarah, Ruth, Moses, Jesus.

When we speak of immigrants and refugees, we speak of Christ.

In the One who had no place to lay his head, and in the least of his brothers and sisters,
Christ comes to us again, a stranger seeking refuge.

May we not turn away.

In the ministry of Jesus, we have been called to relate to persons
from different nations and cultures.

**In this time of worship, may our minds and hearts be opened
to the invitation issued by Jesus.**

Let us worship God.

*Prayer of Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: #95 “Be Still, My Soul”

Children’s Message

Eunice Taylor

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

(Children proceed downstairs. Congregation remains seated)

Offering Invitation

Offertory Anthem: **“Wash Me Thoroughly”** by Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)
Soprano soloist: Lisa Feltes

*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.

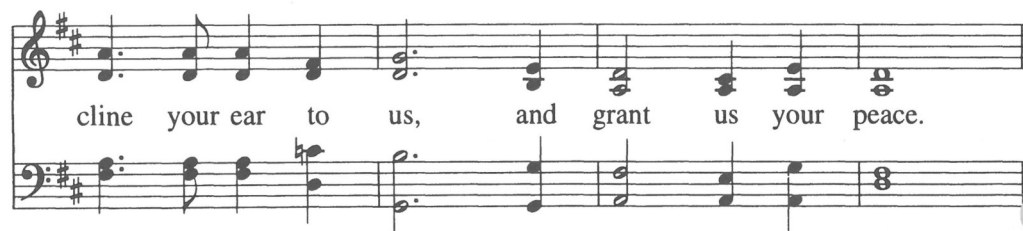
*Offering Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Pastoral Prayer Response: “Hear Our Prayer”



Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in -



cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.

Scripture: Luke 10: 25-37, I Corinthians 1 and 2 (Selected Passages)

Sermon: “The Deported God”

Rev. Dr. Steven Jungkeit

*Closing Hymn: #460 “They Asked, ‘Who’s My Neighbor’ ”

Benediction

Benediction Response: **“In Paradisum”** from *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

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, her or their 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

Luke 10: 25-37

An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself.” And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

I Corinthians 1 and 2 (Selected Passages)

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

For God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God.

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

Choir Anthems

Introit: “Meditation on Beautiful Savior”

arr. Cathy Moglebust
Old Lyme Ringers

Meditation on Beautiful Savior is a handbell arrangement based on the familiar hymn “Fairest Lord Jesus,” found as #109 in our hymnal.

Offertory Anthem: “Wash Me Thoroughly”

by Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

soprano soloist: Lisa Feltes

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, and forgive me all my sin. For I acknowledge my faults, and my sin is ever before me.

Benediction Response: “In Paradisum”

from *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

In paradisum deducant angeli: in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres, et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem. Chorus angelorum te suscipiat, et cum Lazaro quondam paupere, aeternam habeas requiem.

May the angels lead you into paradise: may the martyrs receive you as you arrive, and bring you into the holy city of Jerusalem. May the choir of angels receive you, and with Lazarus, once a beggar, may you have eternal rest.

The flowers this morning are given in honor of Malik and Zahida and their family
by Stephanie Webster.

The host for the Fellowship Hour this morning is Barbara Macgregor.

The nursery is open today with Miss Tiffany Goss.

(If you would like to would like to decorate our communion table with flowers in honor of, or memory of someone special in your life or a meaningful occasion, please call Jill Harned, 603-398-9004 to reserve a date.)

Events and Meetings The Week Ahead

Ladies Who Stitch Monday, March 31st at 10:00 am in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Dante’s *Paradiso* Reading Monday, March 31st at 6:30 pm in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Pottery Class with Paul Fitzpatrick-Nager Tuesday and Wednesday, April 1st and 2nd at 6 pm in the Pottery Studio.

Old Lyme Ringers Rehearsal Wednesday, April 2nd at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Choir Rehearsal Wednesday, April 2nd at 7:30 pm in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Bible Study Thursday, April 3rd at 11:00 am in Hoag Parlor.

The Kairos Document Reading Thursday, April 3rd at 12:00 pm in Hoag Parlor.

ReBellion Rehearsal Thursday, April 3rd at 4:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Moth Stories and Potluck Dinner Friday, April 4th at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Shoreline Food Pantry and Diaper Bank Saturday, April 5th at 8:30 am in Fellowship Hall.

Church World Service Blanket Drive: The Blanket Drive ends on March 31st. The Blanket and Kits program was created by CWS to show that someone cares about people who have lost everything by disasters. Blankets, pack backs, clean up, school supplies, hygiene and baby kits are important and necessary to them. Please think of the less fortunate with a generous donation, especially to replenish the blankets in the warehouse. Each blanket costs only \$10. Please make checks payable to LBS. Special envelopes are available in the pews and can be put in the offering plate or sent to FCCOL c/o of LBS.

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 on Thursdays at 12:00 noon, in the Hoag Parlor, immediately after the weekly Bible study.

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

FCCOL Moth Storytelling Night Potluck

Join us for a evening of good food, good friends, and good storytelling! We will meet in the FCCOL Fellowship Hall on Friday April 4th at 6:00 for a Potluck Dinner and to hear an assortment of short Moth-style stories. (Don't know what "Moth" is? Come and find out!)

Open to all - please bring a dish to share and a friend (no reservations necessary)!

Questions? Contact Tom Sherer: tesjr299@outlook.com. If you would like to help with the potluck setup/cleanup, please contact Deb Heminway: dheminway9@gmail.com

God's Neighborhood

On Tuesday, April 15th at 8:00 am we will be taking the train with our Youth Group into NYC in order to then take the ferry over to tour the Statue of Liberty and then the Ellis Island Museum. This will be an exciting learning experience for all of us where we will be able to take a deep dive into our American history of welcoming and processing millions of immigrants mostly from Northern Europe into NYC in the late 1800's.

And on Sunday, April 13: It's Palm Sunday! We'll participate in a parade of palms during the church service and then, read the story of Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem on a donkey from the gospel of Luke 19:28-40 (which begins what we call "Holy Week"). Our Youth Group will be hosting guest and church member, Carolyn Wakeman, who will share her work with the Witness Stones and her research into the enslaved people of Old Lyme dating to the 1600's-1800's. We'll learn the names and stories of those people who were enslaved in our community and for whom we've honored by placing Witness Stones plaques on the front lawn of our church. Students will help to clean the Witness Stones together as a service project. Our Youth Group students are asked to provide a snack or drink to share during their meeting.

Dante *Paradiso* Reading on Maundy Thursday

On Maundy Thursday, April 17th, we will return to Dante for the third and final part of The Divine Comedy - the *Paradiso*. It's an often overlooked and underread section of the poem, as many readers have preferred the creative torments of the *Inferno* and the *Purgatorio*. But it's actually a beautiful and moving finale to the entire poetic journey - and it's loaded with theological and psychological, as well as social and political insights. Where the *Inferno* demonstrates the violent disorder that besets human lives and societies governed solely by self-interest, and the *Purgatorio* demonstrates what it is to heal from those disorders, the *Paradiso* is bold enough to imagine what flourishing human lives and communities might look like, refracted through the lens of a Divine love.

As in previous years, we'll be reading the entirety of the poem aloud on Maundy Thursday, following our traditional service. We'll begin at 7, and continue well into the night. Individual readers are encouraged to sign up for particular cantos. There are 33, and so we'll need 33 readers - there are still a few available! Those who have already signed up can pick up their assigned cantos in the church office. And, like the previous two years, commemorative posters will be made for the evening.

For those who might be interested, a few enthusiasts have been meeting on Mondays at 6:30 pm in the Hoag Parlor to read selected cantos. The conversations are lively, and we've been uniformly inspired by the insights that emerge from lingering with Dante's images. All are welcome to join us as we prepare for Maundy Thursday.

**Don't Forget to RSVP for the Benevolent Society Luncheon on
Tuesday, April 8th at 12:00pm.**

Nadine Pinede Book There are a few signed copies of her book "*When the Mapou Sings*" available in the FCCOL office and the partnership store for \$15.00.

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!

Caretaker Seeking Employment

Guili, who has worked with some of our families in the past, is seeking a fulltime, live-in, 24/7 caretaker position. She can be reached at 860-391-5691. References upon request .

Easter Schedule 2025

Maundy Thursday April 17th, 2025

A 6:00 pm service of communion and sacred music.

A reading of Dante's "*Paradiso*" will follow at 7:00pm.

Good Friday April 18th, 2025

The Meetinghouse is open for prayers and meditation.

Easter Sunrise Service April 20th, 2025

6:00am at Griswold Point
(if you need directions call the church at
860-434-8686).

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

Join us for a coffee and a light breakfast between services.

Childcare will be provided at the 9 o'clock service.

Sunday school will not meet,
but will resume on April 27th at 10:00 am.