



*“A Visit to the Sanctuary of the Virgin of Caridad del Cobre”*

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

**2 Ferry Road,  
Old Lyme, Connecticut  
(860) 434-8686  
[www.fccol.org](http://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

**April 6, 2025**

**Sunday Worship Service**

**10:00 AM**

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Prelude

Introit: **“They That Wait Upon the Lord”** by Douglas E. Wagner

\*Processional Hymn: #517 “O God of Every Nation”

Call to Worship: In unison from the hymn “Spirit of Jesus, If We Love Our Neighbor”

**Spirit of Jesus, if we love our neighbor  
out of our knowledge, leisure, power, or wealth,  
help us to understand the shame and anger  
of helplessness that hates our power to help.**

**And if we are hugging safety or possessions,  
uncurl our spirits, as your love prevails:  
to join our neighbors, work for liberation,  
and find our freedom at the mark of nails.**

**Let us worship God!**

\*Prayer of Invocation and The Lord's Prayer Eunice Mahler

Welcome and Announcements

\*Hymn: #508 “Spirit of Jesus, If I Love My Neighbor”

Children’s Message Rev. Becky Crosby

Children’s Song: #364 “This Little Light of Mine”  
*(Children proceed downstairs. Congregation remains seated)*

Offering Invitation

Offertory Anthem: **“Nobody Knows”** arranged by Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

\*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: “Come Fill Our Hearts”

The image shows a musical score for a pastoral prayer response. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: "Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly. Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al-le-lu-ia!"

Scripture: Ruth 1: 15-18, 2 Corinthians 5: 17-18

Maureen Plumleigh

Sermon: “Ministries of Reconciliation: A Report from Cuba”

Rev. Dr. Steven Jungkeit,

Lisa Feltes, Becky Crosby, and Susan Switzer

\*Closing Hymn: #458 “Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace”

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, 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

### Ruth 1: 15-18

Naomi said, “Look, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.” But Ruth said to Naomi,

“Do not press me to leave you,  
to turn back from following you!

Where you go, I will go;  
where you lodge, I will lodge;  
your people shall be my people  
and your God my God.

Where you die, I will die,  
and there will I be buried.

May the Lord do thus to me,  
and more as well,

if even death parts me from you!”

When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

### 2 Corinthians 5: 17-18

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

## Choir Anthems

**Introit: “They That Wait Upon the Lord”**

by Douglas E. Wagner

**Text:** But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up their wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint.

**Offertory Anthem: “Nobody Knows”**

arranged by Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

**Text:** Nobody knows the trouble I see, nobody knows but Jesus, nobody knows the trouble I see, Glory, Hallelujah. Sometimes I'm up, sometimes I'm down, oh, yes, Lord. Sometimes I'm almost to the ground, oh, yes, Lord. Oh, nobody knows the trouble I see, nobody knows but Jesus, nobody knows the trouble I see, Glory, Hallelujah. Although you see me going along so, oh, yes, Lord, I have my trials here below, oh, yes, Lord. Oh, nobody knows the trouble I see, nobody knows but Jesus, nobody knows the trouble I see, Glory, Hallelujah.

*The flowers this morning are given by Henry and Joanie May in loving memory of Eleanor Goldsborough May, Alfred Allen Cooley and Mildred McElvein Cooley.*

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*The host for the Fellowship Hour this morning is Cathy Mathis and Friends*

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*The nursery is open today with Miss Tiffany Goss.*

*(If you 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**

**Ladies Who Stitch** *Monday, April 7th at 10:00 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

**Dante's Paradiso Reading Group** *Monday, April 7th at 6:30 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

**Board of Trustees Meeting** *Tuesday, April 8th at 7:00 pm* in the Library.

**Pottery Class with Paul Fitzpatrick-Nager** *Tuesday, April 8th and Wednesday, April 9th at 6 pm* in the Pottery Studio.

**Old Lyme Ringers Rehearsal** *Wednesday, April 9th at 6:30 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

**Choir Rehearsal** *Wednesday, April 9th at 7:30 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

**Bible Study** *Thursday, April 10th at 11:00 am* in Hoag Parlor.

**The Kairos Document Reading** *Thursday, April 10th at 12:00 pm* in Hoag Parlor.

**ReBellion Rehearsal** *Thursday, April 10th at 4:15 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

**Shoreline Food Pantry** *Saturday, April 12th at 8:30 am* in Fellowship Hall.

**Dante Preparation Meeting** (for the Dante Reading on Maundy Thursday)  
*Sunday, April 13th at 11:30* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

**Palm Sunday followed by Witness Stone Cleaning** *Sunday, April 13th., sign up in the Fellowship Hall after the service.*

### **The Benevolent Society April Luncheon**

Come join us for some fellowship, delicious food, and an entertaining program at The Benevolent Society second Spring luncheon on Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> from noon to 2pm in Fellowship Hall. Chef Rick promises a delicious chicken recipe with all the fixings.

As always, the luncheon program begins at 1pm, and this is one that should not be missed! There will be a presentation by Lucretia Bingham, grand-daughter of Hiram Bingham who rediscovered Machu Picchu. Ms. Bingham, a writer and a painter, who followed her grandfather's steps along the Inca Trail, will present "Invaders of an Ancient Culture: Conquistadors, Explorers and Tourists in Peru."

Suggested donation for the luncheon and program is \$5 per person, plus a nonperishable food item for our food bank or a package of disposable diapers for our diaper bank. If you plan to join us at the luncheon, please call the FCCOL office at (860) 434-8686.

### **Green Grass, South Dakota Trip: June 18th-25th**

We're hoping to take an intergenerational group to Green Grass South Dakota this June (tentative dates: June 18th-25th). We'll visit our friends at the Cheyenne River Reservation, honor our 40-year partnership with the Green Grass community, travel to Wounded Knee, and visit the Badlands, Crazy Horse, Bear Butte and other sacred sites of the Lakota. Join us after church on Sunday, April 27th in the library if you'd like to explore this possibility.

**Bible Study Goodness, Greed and Grace:** We are reading the book of Exodus. Bible Study continues every Thursday, at 11:00 am. In person and on Zoom. Email: [fccol@fccol.org](mailto: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](mailto:fccol@fccol.org) for the zoom link.

### **God's Neighborhood**

**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 help to clean the Witness Stones together as a service project.

**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.

**The Southeastern Connecticut World Affairs Council (SECWAC)** is sponsoring a talk *Burnin' Down the House: The Unexpected End to a Career in USAID* by David Hess on Thursday, April 10th at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. David has decades of experience with US AID across multiple continents and had just arrived at an assignment in Tanzania when his contract was terminated. You

can join SECWAC (<https://secwac.org/>) to attend all talks they offer on global issues, or come as a guest (\$20). Members of FCCOL have been invited free of charge. To RSVP call the church office to make a reservation at 860-434-8686.

### **Calling all Dante Readers:**

On Sunday, April 13, we will have a short organizational meeting right after church (11:30 or so), in the Sheffield Auditorium to prepare for the reading of Dante's *Paradiso* on Maundy Thursday. If you haven't yet picked up your canto in the church office, you can do so at this meeting. We'll talk about preparation, things to consider when reading, timing of the evening, etc. There are still a few cantos available for interested readers.

### **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.

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.

**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 Issues:** 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. And we have a possibility of a room to rent 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.

### **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 on Easter day  
but will resume on April 27th at 10:00 am.**