



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

April 13, 2025

Palm Sunday

10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: **“Let Happy Hosannas Ring!”**

Tammy Waldrop (1958-)
Performed by ReBELLion

*Processional Hymn: #178 “All Glory Laud and Honor ”

Call to Worship:

God, we gather on this day at the gates
to begin a week of contrasts.

We’ll travel from hope to despair to hope again.

As we begin the week, as we join with the crowd,
**help us cut through the noise to see what is happening,
to see what is at stake.**

As the story unfolds,
open us to both the hope and the despair, the lauds and the lamentations.
And may we be faithful to the call of love, courage and justice
as Jesus was in his time.
Come, let us worship.

*Prayer of Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

Children’s Parade of Palms

Hymn: #366 “We Are Walking, Marching/Singing”

(Children, youth and friends will parade around the meetinghouse with their palms
two times and then go downstairs).

Offering Invitation

Offertory Anthem: **“The Palms”**

by Jean-Baptiste Faure (1830-1914)

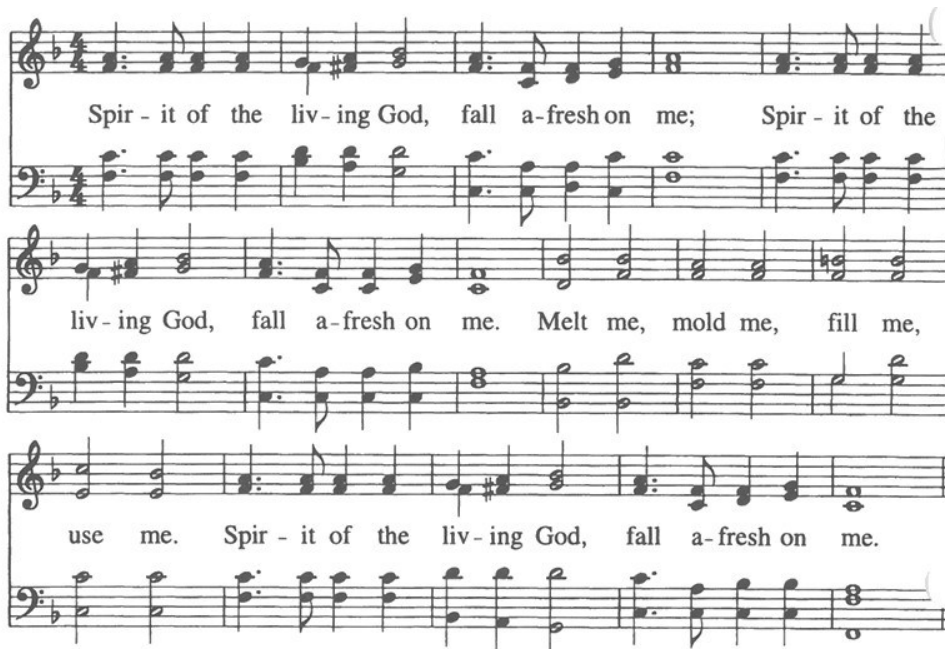
*Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

*Offering Prayer

*Hymn: #502 “Community of Christ”

Pastoral Prayer

Pastoral Prayer Response: “Spirit of the Living God”



Scripture: Psalm 118:19-24, Luke 19:35-42

Sermon: “On Shout Outs, Multitudes and the Things That Make For Peace”

Rev. Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager

*Closing Hymn: “Ride On, Ride On In Majesty”

(on the back cover)

Benediction

Today, following the morning service (weather permitting), the benediction will take place outside on the front lawn in one large circle, symbolizing church unity. Once you are outside, please join the circle and continue singing until the entire congregation is outside. We shall then receive the benediction.

**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

Psalms 118:19-24

Open the gates of justice!
I will enter and tell the Lord how thankful I am.
Here is the gate of the Lord!
Everyone who does right may enter this gate.
I praise the Lord for answering my prayers
and saving me.
The stone that the builders tossed aside
has now become the most important stone.
The Lord has done this, and it is amazing to us.
This is the day the Lord has made!
Let's celebrate and be glad today.

Luke 19:35-42

They brought the colt to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

“Blessed is the One
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!”

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.” As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, “If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.

Choir Anthems

Introit: “Let Happy Hosannas Ring!”

Tammy Waldrop (1958-)

“Let Happy Hosannas Ring!” is an original handbell piece composed especially for Palm Sunday. Today marks the end of the handbell season for ReBELLion. And a thank you goes to Bell Ringers parents!

Offertory Anthem: “The Palms”

by Jean-Baptiste Faure (1830-1914)

O'er all the way, green palms and blossoms gay,
Are strewn this day in festal preparation,
Where Jesus comes, to wipe our tears away,
E'en now the throng to welcome Him prepare;
Join all, and sing, His name declare,
Let every voice resound with acclamation, Hosanna!
Praised be the Lord!
Bless Him, who cometh to bring us salvation!

His word goes forth, and peoples by its might,
Once more regain freedom from degradation,
Humanity doth give to each his right,
While those in darkness find restored the light,
Join all, and sing, His name declare,
Let every voice resound with acclamation, Hosanna!
Praised be the Lord!
Bless Him, who cometh to bring us salvation!

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We give thanks for ReBELLion for the gift of their music this morning:

*Allie Mock, Anderson Brant, Anna William Fitzpatrick-Nager, Augie Jungkeit, Clarissa Mock, Colton Lodge, Connor Rice, David Rice, Devon Kiem, Ellison Lodge, Lucy Byers, Lucy Vautrain, Noah Brant, Zoey Dowd. And our thanks to Gary Jungkeit, the Director of the Hand Bell Choir.*

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The flowers this morning are given in loving memory of Sally McCracken by her family on the fifth anniversary of her passing.

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*The hosts for the Fellowship Hour this morning are Susan and Wayne Mountz.*

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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 at 603-398-9004 to reserve a date.)

Events and Meetings

Dante Organizational Meeting *Today at 11:30 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Witness Stone Cleaning will be rescheduled for a later date.

Ladies Who Stitch *Monday, April 14th at 10:00 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Dante's *Paradiso* Reading Group *Monday, April 14th at 6:30 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

God's Neighborhood Trip to Ellis Island *departing Tuesday April 15th at 8:00 am.*

Old Lyme Ringers Rehearsal *Wednesday, April 16th at 6:30 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

Choir Rehearsal *Wednesday, April 16th at 7:30 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Shoreline Food Pantry *Saturday, April 19th at 8:30 am* in Fellowship Hall.

Easter Schedule

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.
The Nicaraguan artists interpretations of the Stations of the Cross are also on display through Easter in the Meetinghouse.

Easter Sunrise Service April 20th, 2025

6:00 am at Griswold Point
(Call the church for directions at 860-434-8686).

Easter Sunday 9:00 am & 11:00 am Worship 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. A light breakfast will be served between services.

Calling all Dante Readers:

Today 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.

Immigration Ministry: At our March 30th Sunday service we heard about the need for family support volunteers for our Immigration Ministry. Many of you immediately stepped up and agreed to help. We are so grateful for your generosity of your time and desire to help others in need. We want to be sure that all members of the FCCOL community are aware of our request for volunteers for this special project. Sign-ups are continuing, therefore, If you are interested and have NOT yet signed up for this, please email Christine Harrington at cellobrate8@gmail.com We will be having an organizing meeting soon, so stay tuned!

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, There will be no meeting this week on Maundy Thursday, April 17th. We are currently reading the book of Exodus. Bible Study resumes on Thursday, April 24th at 11:00 am in the Library in person and on Zoom.
Email: fccol@fccol.org for the zoom link.

God's Neighborhood

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.

Ride On! Ride On in Majesty

Luke 19:36-38; Zech. 9:9

Henry H. Milman, 1827; adapt. Lavon Bayler, 1993

1 Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty!
 2 Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty!
 3 Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty!
 4 Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty!

O Christ, with brave hu - mil - i - ty,
 As crowds of peo - ple come to see
 Ride on in hum - ble dig - ni - ty;
 For you have set your peo - ple free

On low - ly colt, your road pur - sue,
 And shout ho - san - nas, lift - ing high
 Be - hold the ones you came to save
 And we, re - mem - bering all your pain,

as their palms and cloaks are spread for you.
 from praise for one a - bout to die.
 now sense - less life and end - less grave.
 meet a - gain to hail your reign.