



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

August 24, 2025

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

10:00 AM

Prelude

*Processional Hymn: #445 “Be Thou My Vision”

Call to Worship:

Out of the flames of fear

**We rise with the courage of our deepest convictions
to stand for justice, inclusion and peace**

Out of the flames of scrutiny

**We rise to proclaim our faith
With hope to heal a fractured and hurting world**

Out of the flames of doubt

**We rise to embrace the mystery, wonder and awe
of all there is and all that is yet to be**

Out of the flames of hate

**We rise with the force of love
Love that celebrates our shared humanity
Out of the flames we rise
Let us worship God!**

*Prayer of Invocation and The Lord’s Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: #443 “Seek Ye First”

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Solo: “Herr, wie du willst” from Church Cantata, BWV 73 by J.S. Bach
Sung by Oliver Holt

*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, O God"



Scripture: Judges 11:29-40

Sermon: "Weeping, Wailing, and Waging War"

Rev. Dr. Terrlyn Curry Avery

Hymn: #408 "Without the Fire, There Is No Burning"

Benediction

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 Reading

Judges 11:29-40

Then the spirit of the Lord came upon Jephthah, and he passed through Gilead and Manasseh. He passed on to Mizpah of Gilead, and from Mizpah of Gilead he passed on to the Ammonites. And Jephthah made a vow to the Lord and said, “If you will give the Ammonites into my hand, then whatever comes out of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return victorious from the Ammonites, shall be the Lord’s, to be offered up by me as a burnt offering.” So Jephthah crossed over to the Ammonites to fight against them, and the Lord gave them into his hand. He inflicted a massive defeat on them from Aroer to the neighborhood of Minnith, twenty towns, and as far as Abel-keramim. So the Ammonites were subdued before the Israelites.

Then Jephthah came to his home at Mizpah, and there was his daughter coming out to meet him with timbrels and with dancing. She was his only child; he had no son or daughter except her. When he saw her, he tore his clothes and said, “Alas, my daughter! You have brought me very low; you have become the cause of great trouble to me. For I have opened my mouth to the Lord, and I cannot take back my vow.” She said to him, “My father, if you have opened your mouth to the Lord, do to me according to what has gone out of your mouth, now that the Lord has given you vengeance against your enemies, the Ammonites.” And she said to her father, “Let this thing be done for me: grant me two months, so that I may go and wander on the mountains and bewail my virginity, my companions and I.” “Go,” he said, and he sent her away for two months. So she departed, she and her companions, and bewailed her virginity on the mountains. At the end of two months, she returned to her father, who did with her according to the vow he had made. She had never slept with a man. So there arose an Israelite custom that for four days every year the daughters of Israel would go out to lament the daughter of Jephthah the Gileadite.

(Painting on the cover by Andy King)

The flowers this morning are given by Chritine Darnell in honor of Julie Kuja, Charlie Hosley and Cathy Gentry for their many years of coordinating the meals our church serves every month at the New London Meal Center. Together they've orchestrated many, many thousands of Sunday dinners for those in need in New London.

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

The nursery is open today and throughout the summer, and there will be arts and crafts for elementary ages across from the nursery.

For a future Sunday 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. Thank you.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

New London Meal Center TODAY Sunday, August 24th departing at 3:30 pm.

Jennifer Hillhouse Memorial Service Monday, August 25th at 2:00 pm
in the Meetinghouse.

The Benevolent Society Meeting Tuesday, August 26th at 10:00 am in the Library.

Board of Deacons Meeting Tuesday, August 26th at 7:00 pm in the Library.

WES Meeting Wednesday, August 27th at 6:00 pm in the Library.

Free Event Salt Marsh Opera in the Park Friday, August 29th at 6:00 pm.
See the next page for more information.

Save these Dates:

The FCCOL Office will be closed Monday, September 1st for Labor Day.

Choir Rehearsals begin on Wed, September 3rd at 7:30 pm in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Homecoming Sunday Worship Service and the start of Sunday School
September 7th at 10:00 am. Followed by an Ice Cream Sundae Fellowship hour.

The Benevolent Society Luncheon *Tuesday, September 9th at 12:00 pm* in the Fellowship Hall. Featuring speaker Edie Twining presenting her new book.
Call the church to make your reservation: 860-434-8686.

Ensemble Altera at FCCOL *Saturday, September 13th at 7:00 pm* in the Meetinghouse.



This morning we are pleased to welcome **Rev. Dr. Terrlyn Curry Avery** back to our pulpit. Dr. TLC is the pastor of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Presbyterian Church in Springfield, MA. In addition, she is a well known author, speaker, and seminar leader. She is the author of *Dismantling Racism: Healing Separation From the Inside Out*. She also hosts the podcast *Dismantle Racism*, which airs on talkradio.nyc. Known to many of us, it is a privilege to have her back with us at FCCOL this morning.

Please join us in welcoming guest soloist **Oliver Holt**, son of Simon Holt. Praised for his “gentle gravity and warmth” (*New York Classical Review*), has been professionally performing since the age of seven. His career has taken him to venues across the U.S. and Europe, from Carnegie Hall to St. Peter’s Basilica in Vatican City. Notable credits include several studio albums and tours with the St. Thomas Choir of Men and Boys, and engagements with The English Consort, Voices of Ascension, and most recently as a soloist in Musica Sacra’s latest installment of their SurRound concert series. Oliver has had the privilege of working with renowned conductors such as Harry Pickett OBE, Kent Tritle, and the late John Scott OBE. He sings weekly at Holy Trinity RC Church under Dr. Andrew Yeargin and is thrilled to be singing with his father in Old Lyme this weekend.

**Tree of Life Educational Fund & The Center for Arabic Culture (CAC)
Presents Ramzi Aburedwan and his Dal'ouna Ensemble in Concert.**

Sunday, November 2, 2025 at The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme

~ Michael Dabroski will premier his "Violin Suite No. 5 -
A Prayer for David" as a tribute to Tree of Life's late founder Rev. David W. Good.

For information, contact Rev. Dr. Steve Jungkeit, steven@jungkeit.net

FREE Event - The Salt Marsh Opera in the Park: Friday, August 29th at 6:00 pm at the Old Saybrook Green 302 Main Street, Old Saybrook, CT. The Rain date is Saturday, August 30th. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets. For more information, please call 860-535-3456 or visit SaltMarshOpera.org.

Teacher Training: Please let us know if you might be interested in joining our class for volunteers or to be available as an occasional substitute when needed. Our Teacher/Helper Orientation will be held on Thursday, September 4th, from 5:00-6:30 in the FCCOL library. Contact Laura or Jolene.

Homecoming Sunday, September 7th: Homecoming Sunday begins at the 10:00 am service when church programming for the academic year begins in earnest and God's Neighborhood Sunday School kicks off! Followed by Ice cream Sundaes!

Sunday School Open House, Sunday September 21st: All families and supporters are invited during Sunday School time to an Open House downstairs during/after Sunday School to meet teachers, learn about our program for the year and visit with one another. Thanks to our Board of Youth Ed (BYE) a reception will follow.

FCCOL All Church Picnic, Kayaking and Fun at Camp Claire: located at Oakland Avenue, Lyme, CT. Sunday, September 21st from 3:00 to 6:00 pm.

Bible Study: The Book of Exodus: Stories of Exile and the Search for Freedom
Begins on Thursday, September 25th, from 11-12 in the Library.



The First Congregational Church in Old Lyme, 1933 artist unknown