



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

October 26, 2025

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: **“God Be in My Head”**

by John Rutter (born 1940)

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

*Call to Worship:

We gather this morning
with our hearts turned to the work of justice and hope.

**We have inherited this tradition
from generations of people
who believed in the power of human beings
to bear love into the world.**

**We tend the spark of imagination and hope
for the generations still to come.**

Let us worship God.

*Prayer of Invocation and The Lord’s Prayer

Moment for Stewardship

Matt Muehl-Miller

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: #244 “Like a Tree Beside the Waters”

Children’s Message

Elsbeth Dowd

Children’s Song: “Let Justice Roll Down”

(see the words below)

(Children and youth proceed downstairs. Congregation remains seated)

There's a voice strong and clear, ringing out far and near,

"Let justice roll down, let justice roll down!"

Like the rush of a stream, comes a powerful dream,

Let justice roll down, justice rolls down!

Roll down! Roll down, justice!

Roll, like an everflowing stream.

Roll down! Roll down, justice!

Roll, like an ever flowing stream, flowing stream, roll down!

Offering Invitation

Offertory Anthem: **“Set Me as a Seal”**

by Dale Gerontius (1931-2012)

*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: "Spirit of the Living God"

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me; Spir - it of the
liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me,
use me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Scripture: Luke 18:9-14, Jeremiah 14:7-10,19-22, John 2:19-21

Sermon: "Destroy This Temple!"

Dr. Mark Braverman
(verses 1 and 3)

*Closing Hymn: # 411 "We Would Be Building"

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 Reading

Luke 18:9-14

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Jeremiah 14:7-10,19-22

Although our iniquities testify against us, act, O Lord, for your name’s sake;
our rebellions indeed are many, and we have sinned against you.

O hope of Israel, its savior in time of trouble,

why should you be like a stranger in the land, like a traveler turning aside for the night?
Why should you be like someone confused, like a mighty warrior who cannot give help?
Yet you, O Lord, are in the midst of us, and we are called by your name; do not forsake us!
Thus says the Lord concerning this people: Truly they have loved to wander;
they have not restrained their feet; therefore the Lord does not accept them;
now he will remember their iniquity and punish their sins.

Have you completely rejected Judah? Does your heart loathe Zion?

Why have you struck us down so that there is no healing for us?

We look for peace but find no good, for a time of healing, but there is terror instead.

We acknowledge our wickedness, O Lord, the iniquity of our ancestors, for we have sinned against you.

Do not spurn us, for your name’s sake; do not dishonor your glorious throne;
remember and do not break your covenant with us.

Can any idols of the nations bring rain, or can the heavens give showers?

Is it not you, O Lord our God?

We set our hope on you, for it is you who do all this.

John 2:19-21

Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” But he was speaking of the temple of his body.

Choir Anthems

Introit: “God Be in My Head”

by John Rutter (born 1940)

Text: God be in my head and in my understanding. God be in mine eyes and in my looking.
God be in my mouth and in my speaking. God be in mine heart and in my thinking. God be at my end and in my departing.

Offertory Anthem: “Set Me as a Seal”

by Dale Gerontius (1931-2012)

Text: Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm. Set me as a seal upon your heart, for love is strong as death. Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it.

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*The flowers this morning are given by Christie Darnell in honor of Rev. David W. Good.*

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The hosts for the Fellowship hour this morning are Lee Whitaker and Wendy Knight.

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*The nursery is open today.*

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Please welcome our Guest Organist today Doug Green.

Today at FCCOL

We are pleased to welcome back to FCCOL
Dr. Mark Braverman as our Theologian in Residence.

Today after the 10:00 am service there will be an Adult Forum in the Fellowship Hall.

Are We Still of Any Use? The Challenge to the Church in a Time of Crisis: A series of reflections, conversations, and sharing with Dr. Mark Braverman

- Bible Study Monday, October 27th at 12 pm, and bring a brown bag lunch.
- Potluck Dinner and Discussion Tuesday, October 28th at 5:30 pm.

Mark asks for those attending on Monday and / or Tuesday, to please bring a bible with you.

Mark has been a long time friend of Tree of Life and of FCCOL. Mark comes to us from the Jewish tradition, and he is the executive director of Kairos, USA, an organization dedicated to helping Christians, Jews, and Muslims recover the moral and prophetic dimensions of their faith. He is the author of two books, *Fatal Embrace: Christians, Jews, and the Search for Peace in the Holy Land* (2010), and *A Wall in Jerusalem: Hope, Healing and the Struggle for Justice in Israel and Palestine* (2013). During the present crisis, Mark’s voice has been crucial in disentangling Judaism and Christianity in particular from the logic and practices of nationalism, militarization, colonialism, and genocide. Mark’s reverence for the Bible has led him to find surprising and beautiful insights providing hope in a time of devastation.

Upcoming Events this Week

Ladies Who Stitch *Monday, October 27th at 10:00 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Monday Bible Study and Brown Bag Lunch with Dr. Mark Braverman *Monday, October 27th at 12 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

The Benevolent Society Meeting *Tuesday, October 28th at 5:30 pm* in the Library.

Potluck Dinner and Bible Study with Dr. Mark Braverman *Tuesday, October 28th at 5:30 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

Board of Deacons Meeting *Tuesday, October 28th at 7:00 pm* in the Library.

Walt's Pottery Class *Tuesday, October 28th at 6:00 pm* in the Pottery Studio.

Newsletter Folding *Tuesday, October 28th.*

Handbell Ringers Rehearsal *Wednesday, October 29th at 6:30 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

Senior Choir Rehearsal *Wednesday, October 29th at 7:30 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Bible Study: The Book of Exodus: Stories of Exile and the Search for Freedom

Thursday, October 30th, 11:00 am in the Library. Email the church at fccol@fccol.org or call 860-434-8686 for the link to the zoom Bible Study.

Youth Group Halloween Night *Friday, October 31st starting at 5 pm* on the front lawn.

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

Kick-Off Event: Nov 1st Youth Group serving at Cup of Joe's Pop-Up Cafe at Saturday Food Pantry from 8:00-10:30. Sign up with Laura

All Saints Sunday Next Week on November 2nd we will celebrate All Saints Sunday. As in previous years, we invite the community to bring pictures of loved ones to display on the communion table. If you have lost someone in the past year, we invite you to call the office to share the name of the person you would like to honor. At the end of the service, there will be a time in which all the names are read, and remembered.

More Upcoming Events

Tree of Life Educational Fund & FCCOL present a concert in celebration of the Tree of Life's late founder, The Reverend David W. Good. **Sunday, November 2, at FCCOL.** See the insert for more information on the concert and the Palestinian dinner, RSVP at 860-434-8686, seats are limited.

Elephants-In-Winter and Partnership Holiday Sales

The Benevolent Society and the Partnership Committee are excited to jump start your holiday experience with their annual Elephants-in-Winter and Holiday Sale. As in the past few years, there will be two unique and different sales held at FCCOL that will help all shoppers, young and old, get everything they could possibly need for the 2025 holiday season.

Seriously.....gifts and decorations, dinnerware and olive oils, mittens and wrapping paper. Two very different types of sales, held in multiple rooms, over the same two days.

Both sales will be held on Saturday, November 15th (9am-2pm) and Sunday, November 16th (9am-1pm).

Homeless Hospitality Concert and Fundraiser at FCCOL: Community Benefit Concert with the **Yale Whiffenpoofs** and a wine reception in support of the New London Homeless Hospitality Center at FCCOL on Sunday, November 30th from 4:00 - 6:00 pm Tickets are \$50. Join us to celebrate music, community and compassion in helping HHC continue its important work helping our neighbors get a home. Tickets can be purchased at: givebutter.com/whiffs.

IRIS Donations for Families Requested: With the onset of fall and chillier temperatures, we have heard from recent discussions with IRIS (the Integrated Refugee and Immigration Services in New Haven) that there is a special need for gently used blankets, twin size bedding, towels, hats, gloves and socks. If anyone might have something they would like to clear out of their closets, please feel free to leave your greatly appreciated donations on the Sheffield stage over the next few weeks. We are planning a 'run' to IRIS in the first week of November. Warm thanks!!

The 2026 Stewardship Campaign We are deeply grateful to the 147 members and friends who have come forward with commitments so far of \$380,295, or 59% of the 2026 goal of \$650,000. Without the continuing generosity of our congregation we could not support the missions and ministries of our church year to year. Contributions from individual members and friends provide funding for over 75% of our annual needs. We hope that those who have not yet responded will do so generously. If you have not received our letter and commitment card, please call the church office (860-434-8686) and we will remedy that! **THANK YOU!**

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*If you would like to contribute flowers for our communion table,  
please call Jill Harned at 603-398-9004 to reserve a date. Thank you.*



To paraphrase that old favorite hymn, WE love to tell the story of this church! Why?

We welcome everyone, including those of every race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender expression, economic circumstance and faith background into the full life of our church.

We encourage each person to grow on their own journey of faith according to their own conscience.

We have six vibrant ministries of Worship, Christian Education, Music, Pastoral Care, Community Support and Mission Outreach.

We are committed to social justice both here and around the world.

We nurture mutually enriching partnerships with Native Americans, the people of Haiti, Palestine and the churches of South Africa.

We actively support immigrants in need.

We minister to the local community supporting the Homeless Hospitality Center, the Community Meal Center, the Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantries, and more ...

We have a benevolence giving budget that extends our ministries locally and worldwide.

And our story continues to inspire. Is it any wonder we love telling it?

Sustaining this story needs the financial support of all our members and friends. Your support accounts for over 75% of our annual needs.

We are grateful for all your generous support.

The Board of Stewardship