



*"The Temptation and Fall of Eve,"
William Blake, from his Paradise Lost illustrations, 1807-1808.*

The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme

**2 Ferry Road,
Old Lyme, Connecticut
(860) 434-8686
Website: www.fccol.org**

*Offering Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Pastoral Prayer Response: "Spirit of the Living God"

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Spirit of the Living God". It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "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 Readings: Isaiah 14: 12-15, Matthew 4: 1-4, On Mr. Milton's Paradise Lost,
by Andrew Marvell readings by Robin Sedgwick

Sermon: "What In Us Is Dark, Illumine"

Rev. Dr. Steven Jungkeit

*Closing Hymn: #470 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

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:

Isaiah 14: 12-15

How you are fallen from heaven,
O Morning Star, son of Dawn!
How you are cut down to the ground,
you who laid the nations low!
You said to yourself,
“I will ascend to heaven;
I will raise my throne
above the stars of God;
I will sit on the mount of assembly
on the heights of Zaphon;
I will ascend to the tops of the clouds;
I will make myself like the Most High.”
But you are brought down to Sheol,
to the depths of the Pit.

Matthew 4: 1-4

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” But Jesus answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ”

On Mr. Milton's Paradise Lost, by Andrew Marvell

When I beheld the Poet blind, yet bold,
In slender Book his vast Design unfold,
Messiah Crown'd, Gods Reconcil'd Decree,
Rebelling Angels, the Forbidden Tree,
Heav'n, Hell, Earth, Chaos, All; the Argument
Held me a while misdoubting his Intent,
That he would ruine (for I saw him strong)
The sacred Truths to Fable and old Song,
The World o'rewhelming to revenge his Sight.

Pardon me, Mighty Poet, nor despise
My causeless, yet not impious, surmise.
But I am now convinc'd, and none will dare
Within thy Labours to pretend a Share.

That Majesty which through thy Work doth Reign
Draws the Devout, deterring the Profane.

(continued)

And things divine thou treats of in such state
As them preserves, and Thee in violate.

At once delight and horreur on us seize,
Thou singst with so much gravity and ease;
And above humane flight dost soar aloft,
With Plume so strong, so equal, and so soft.

Old Lyme Ringers

Introit: “*What Wondrous Love Is This*”

arr. Anna Laura Page

What Wondrous Love Is This is a tune first seen in the tune book *Southern Harmony*, published in 1835. This familiar Lenten hymn has endured through the many years and often is arranged for choral groups or for handbell choirs. Today’s arrangement is by Anna Laura Page (b. 1943), who uses both handbells and handchimes to express the hymn of the title as well as the hymn *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*.

Choir Anthem

Offertory Anthem: "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

by John Dressler
words by Washington Gladden (1836-1918)

Oh master, let me walk with Thee in lowly paths of service free; tell me Thy secret, help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care. Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear winning word of love; teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way. Teach my Thy patience; still with Thee in closer dearer company in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong. In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broadening way, in peace that only Thou canst give, with Thee, O Father, let me live.

Special thanks to Lisa Feltes who is directing the choir this morning, Carleen Gerber who is at the organ, and Christine Harrington our Cellist today.

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*The flowers this morning are given in honor of those who are working hard on behalf of our Immigration Assistance Ministry.*

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

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*The nursery is open today with Miss Erin Cameron.*

## TODAY at FCCOL

### The 'Reading the Bible in One Year' Discussion

Today at 11:15 in the Sheffield Auditorium.

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**Confirmation Class starts Today, March 1st at 4:00 to 5:30 pm** (tacos served).

At FCCOL, Confirmation is a way for us to affirm the amazing young adults growing into adulthood in our midst. Classes meet twice a month through May (once on a Sunday night for class together and once as a service or field trip).

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### Upcoming Events and Meetings

**Ladies Who Stitch** *Monday, March 2nd at 10:00 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

**ReBbellion Rehearsal** *Wednesday, March 4th at 4:00 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

**Board of Missions Meeting** *Wednesday, March 4th at 5:00 pm* in the Library.

**Grief Group** *Wednesday, March 4th at 5:00 pm* in the Hoag Parlor.

**Handbell Ringers Rehearsal** *Wednesday, March 4th at 6:30 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

**Choir Rehearsal** *Wednesday, March 4th at 7:30 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

**Bible Study** *Thursday, March 5th at 11:00 am* in the Library or on Zoom.

**Shoreline Food Pantry & Diaper Bank** *Sat, March 7th at 8:30 am* in the Fellowship Hall.

**Cup-A-Joe Café Youth Group** *Saturday, March 7th at 8:00 am* in the Library.

**Day Light Savings: Set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night March 7th.**

**Ladies Who Stitch** *Monday, March 9th at 10:00 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

**The Benevolent Society Luncheon** *Tuesday, March 10th at 12:00 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

**Board of Trustees Meeting** *Tuesday, March 10th. at 7:00 pm* in the Library.

### Weekly Bible Study

Please join us as we continue to discuss The Book of Exodus: Stories of Exile and the Search for Freedom on Thursday, March 5th and continue every Thursday from 11:00 -12:00 pm in the Library. Call or email the church for the Zoom link.

### The Benevolent Society's March Luncheon Tuesday, March 10th

Ready to escape? It's time to put the cold, snowy start of 2026 in the rear-view mirror and enjoy a warm brunch-inspired meal prepared by our own chef Rick Strickhart at the Benevolent Society's first spring luncheon on Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. As always, lunch will be served at noon, so arrive in time to get seated and comfortable.

As well as running the kitchen and preparing the meal, chef Rick will also be entertaining and educating us with a presentation, beginning at 1pm, that reflects on his travels last year in Korea and Japan. Along with his spectacular photographs, he will discuss topics which include Sumo, Geisha, Shintoism and Korean Costco.

*(continued)*

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 (860-434-8686) by Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> to make a reservation so we can be sure to have enough food prepared for all to enjoy.

### **Flowers Needed for the Sunday Worship Services**

We are in need of people to donate flowers for the Sundays worship services. It can be flowers that you have arranged yourself, or you could order flowers and have them delivered, or a plant that you could take home after the service. **Please call** Jill Harned (603) 398-9004 to reserve a date and then call the office (860-434-8686) or email at [fccol@fccol.org](mailto:fccol@fccol.org), to let us know the dedication you would like to be printed in the bulletin on the date you picked. Thank you!

### **IRIS (Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services)**

**IRIS** is helping the homeless and is especially in need of warm adult clothing and twin-sized bedding. Twice a month, a FCCOL volunteer travels to New Haven to deliver collected items. LWS will help by accepting new and gently-used donations for IRIS and for the New London Homeless Hospitality Center. Please leave donations on the Sheffield Stage clearly marked "LWS." (<https://irisct.org>.)

### **Church World Service Blanket Drive**

During February and March, The Benevolent Society collects the annual offering for the CWS Blanket Drive. The Blanket and Kit program was created by CWS to aid those who have lost everything due to disasters. Blankets, backpacks, clean up supplies, school supplies, hygiene and baby kits provide support during critical times. Each blanket costs \$10. Please make checks payable to TBS, indicating on the memo line "Blanket Drive." CWS envelopes are available in the pews and may be placed in the offering plate or sent to FCCOL, 2 Ferry Road, c/o TBS. Thank you for remembering those in their time of need.

### **RSVP: April Vacation: Walking in Their Footsteps Civil Rights Trip - April 11 - 16th**

Join us for this special FCCOL Youth trip to Koinonia Farm and other civil rights sites in Georgia! We'll fly into Atlanta and stay one night, then drive to Koinonia Farm (<https://koinoniafarm.org>) in southern Georgia, which will be our home base for 4 nights. While on the Farm, we'll learn about its 80-year civil rights history, engage in service projects, see the birthplace of Habitat of Humanity, explore the Jimmy Carter National Park, and visit the Albany Civil Rights Institute among other highlights.

We have spots available and will be making plane **reservations asap**. Contact Laura for more information: [lfitz.nager@gmail.com](mailto:lfitz.nager@gmail.com). Youth scholarships available.

### **Walt's Pottery at FCCOL: Two Classes Offered**

Are you interested in throwing clay on the wheel and getting into some mud up to your elbows? Morning and evening classes begin Tuesday, **March 17th through April 14th**. Open to adults of all levels. Tuesdays from 10:00-12:00 pm or 6:00-8:00 pm. Email: [fccol@fccol.org](mailto:fccol@fccol.org). or call (860) 434-8686 to reserve a spot. Seating is limited. Cost: \$195 plus materials. The morning class will be taught by Betsey Copp and the evening class by Paul Fitzpatrick-Nager.

### **"Parents of Younger Children (infants to 4th grade) Fellowship Hour"**

Sunday, March 8th at 11:15 am in the Hoag Parlor at 11:15 am. Parents can meet and connect while the kids play!! We will be asking YG babysitters to be there to help!

## All This Sainted Difference: A Spiritual Pilgrimage to Brazil, August 10-20, 2026

In her poetry collection *The Cachoeira Tales*, Marilyn Nelson writes of a contemporary group of pilgrims, each with a story to tell, traveling together not to Canterbury, but to Cachoeira, Brazil. There, the pilgrims encounter the Sisters of Our Lady of the Good Death, who blend African, Indigenous, and Catholic ritual elements. Founded by those who had been enslaved



during the 19th century, the sisterhood was established to serve the poor, while keeping alive the sacred traditions of Africa, handed down as a precious inheritance from one generation to the next. Every year in Cachoeira, the Sisters offer a three-day celebration of music and of dance, where the Orixas (African divinities who bear a striking resemblance to Christian saints) come in order to bless, heal, chasten, and encourage contemporary people. It is in Cachoeira that the pilgrims in Marilyn's poems converge. And it is in Cachoeira that pilgrims from FCCOL shall converge this coming August.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to explore the African ritual traditions of Brazil. Visiting not only Cachoeira, but locating ourselves in and around the city of Salvador, we'll encounter the rituals, music, dance, foodways, and visual art that have sheltered and protected human lives through generations of hardship. We'll visit *terreiros* (house temples) around the city and throughout the surrounding countryside. And we'll discover how these dynamic and aesthetically charged spiritual systems (Candomblé and Umbanda) have evolved across time. The centerpiece of our journey will be the Feast of Our Lady of the Good Death, where we shall witness how the Sisters become a living bridge between this world and the other.

Designed to resonate and to link with our travels to Haiti, Cuba, New Orleans, and West Africa, our pilgrimage to Cachoeira and Salvador will be organized with the help of our friend Ned Sublette, and his vast network of contacts in Brazil. It is a fabulous opportunity to explore a beautiful part of Latin America (it will be winter in Salvador, meaning we can expect temperatures in the 70's and 80's), together with the history and spirituality of the African descended peoples of Bahia.

Contact Steve Jungkeit for more information, at [steven@jungkeit.net](mailto:steven@jungkeit.net).