



The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme

**2 Ferry Road,
Old Lyme, Connecticut
(860) 434-8686
Website: 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 19, 2026 Third Sunday of Easter Worship Service 10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: **“Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring”** by J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

*Processional Hymn: #260 “O Splendor of God's Glory Bright”

*Call to Worship:

We come as we are - unfinished, unfolding, becoming.

We gather on the far side of Easter, not as who we were, but who we are called to be.

There is a voice within us, deeper than fear, older than doubt—

A voice that whispers: you are more.

More than the roles we were given, more than the limits we have learned.

So let us lay down what confines us,

And rise into what calls us.

Together, we become—more whole, more alive, more ourselves.

Let us worship God!

*Prayer of Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: #353 “Called As Partners in Christ's Service” (verses 1 & 4)

Children's Message:

Children's Song: “This Little Light of Mine”

(Children and youth proceed downstairs. Congregation remains seated)

Offering Invitation

Offertory Anthem: **“Set Me As a Seal”** by Dale Grotenhuis (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: "Hear Our Prayer, O God"

The image shows a musical score for a two-part setting of the text "Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in - cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace." The score is written for a soprano or alto voice (treble clef) and a bass voice (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with the lyrics written below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Scripture Readings: John 21: 15-19

Sermon: "This Is the Moment We Have Been Waiting For!" Rev. Dr. Steven Jungkeit

*Closing Hymn: #330 "You Are Called to Tell the Story"

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

John 21: 15-19

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

Choir Anthems

Introit: “Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring”

by J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Jesu joy of man's desiring, holy wisdom, love most bright, drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring, soar to uncreated light. Word of God, our flesh that fashioned with the fire of life impassioned. Striving still to truth unknown, soaring, dying round Thy throne.

Offertory Anthem: “Set Me As a Seal”

by Dale Grotenhuis (1931-2012)

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

Pastoral Care

Years ago, hospitals and nursing homes often notified the church when a patient who said they were part of our congregation was admitted. In the post-HIPPA era, this just doesn't happen. Also, hospital stays are often remarkably short.

So if you know of someone who needs our pastoral care, please call Anne in the office or one of our ministers directly.

Also, please just let us know if a pastoral visit would be helpful to you.

*The flowers this morning are given by Becky and Ted Crosby
in Memory of The Rev. David W. Good, April 26, 1949 - April 2, 2024*

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*The host for the Fellowship Hour this morning is Kathy Sugland.*

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The nursery is open today.
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*Special thanks today to Violeta Chan-Scott, who is substituting at the organ today.*  
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Today at FCCOL

SECT Faith Based Community Organizing Project Lunch

Today at 11:30 am. Come and share what you would like to see changed in Southeastern CT. We're living in challenging times right now. Many of us want to take action to create lasting positive change. To weigh in, join us for lunch following worship. Share a story of the pressures you/your family are under, of what you care most deeply about, of what stirs you to do something, of an issue we might act on together. All are welcome! Childcare will be provided.

New London Soup Kitchen: DINE

Our church serves at the New London Soup Kitchen: DINE on the 4th Sunday of each month. The number of folks in need continues to increase. If you would like to volunteer to cook we would be very grateful. You can always cook ahead of time and freeze it. And you don't need to serve with us on our designated day. You also don't need to be Julia Child. We provide easy recipes and can reimburse you for the cost of the ingredients if that would be helpful. Please call Anne at the office at 860-434-8686 if you would like to help.

Events at FCCOL This Coming Week

Ladies Who Stitch *Monday, April 20th at 10:00 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

May Newsletter Deadline *Wednesday, April 22nd.*

ReBELLion Rehearsal *Wednesday, April 22nd at 4:00 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

Yoga Class *Wednesday April 22nd at 4:00 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

TransParent Group *Wednesday, April 22nd at 5:30 pm* in the Hoag Parlor.

Handbell Ringers Rehearsal *Wednesday, April 22nd at 6:30 pm* in the Fellowship Hall

Choir Rehearsal *Wednesday April 22nd at 7:30 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Bible Study *Thursday, April 23rd at 11:00 am* in the Library or on Zoom.

Board of Stewardship Meeting *Thursday, April 23rd at 4:00 pm* in the Library.

Writers at the Well *Friday April 24th at 10:00 am* in the Hoag Parlor.

Shoreline Food Pantry *Saturday, April 25th at 8:30 am* in the Fellowship Hall.

Yoga Class *Saturday, April 25th from 3– 4:00 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Memorial Deborah Warren (Putnam) *Sat, April 25th at 12:00 pm* in the Meetinghouse.

Musical Masterworks Concerts *Saturday April 25th at 5:00 pm and
Sunday, April 26th at 3:00 pm* in the Meetinghouse.

Adult Forum with Marc Zimmer *Sunday, April 26th at 11:30 am* in the Fellowship Hall..

Confirmation Class *Sunday, April 26th at 4:00 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.



Weekly Bible Study

Please join us as we continue to discuss The Book of Leviticus on Thursday, April 23rd at 11:00 am and continue every Thursday in the Library. Call or email the church for the Zoom link.

New Members Orientation

On Sunday, May 3rd following the 10:00 am worship service there will be an orientation meeting with Steve, Laura and Carleen for those wishing to learn more about the church and possibly considering membership. New members will be formally welcomed during our Worship Service on Sunday, May 10th. In the coming weeks, we look forward to talking more about what it means to become a member of FCCOL.

Confirmation Class

The Confirmation class and mentors will be meeting on Sunday April 26th, from 4-6 pm in the Sheffield Auditorium. We have a special guest joining us! Tacos served.

White Elephant Sale

It's that time of year again and the White Elephant Sale committee is hard at work preparing for the 88th sale, being held this year on July 10th and 11th. This is the beginning of the committee's annual request for volunteers to tackle multiple tasks; including a coordinator of the operation, people to receive, sort, price and sell donations, someone to run the food court, and more people with the time and interest in being a part of an incredibly effective team.

Please contact Jane Marolda at (860) 608-0257 or Deb Heminway at (860) 625-3144 to let us know how you would like to contribute. In the meantime, keep cleaning out your closets and filling boxes with your donations. Many thanks and we look forward to hearing from you.

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, 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 twin-sized bedding, personal care items, kitchen items (including dishes, glassware, baking pans, cookware) and diapers. Gift cards (e.g. to Walmart) are also welcome. A FCCOL volunteer regularly 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." With on going heartfelt gratitude for your continued generosity and kindness to our neighbors.

New Additions to the Church Library

Bible scholar Bart Ehrman's latest book, *Love Thy Stranger: How the Teachings of Jesus Changed the Moral Conscience of the West*, about the impact of Christianity on the Roman Empire's understanding of charity; Toni Morrison's novel about healing, *Home*, which Steve quoted from in a recent sermon; and some plays by the foremost African-American playwright, the late August Wilson (including *Radio Golf*, to be performed at Hartford Stage next season). Free for borrowing.

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.