



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 26, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Easter

10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: **"Siyahamba"** arr. Charles Maggs performed by ReBELLion

*Processional Hymn: #366 "We Are Walking" (Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' Kwenkhos)

*Call to Worship:

In Christ, we are called outward into all the world.

**Into streets and stories not our own,
into lives that will change us as we listen.**

We are called to connect,

Not to speak over, but to stand alongside.

For the Sacred is not confined to this place—

it is already alive in every corner of creation.

We go to meet it, to honor it, and to join in its unfolding.

**Let us worship the One who sends us out—
and meets us everywhere we go.**

*Prayer of Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: #381 "In Christ There Is No East or West"

Children's Message:

Allison Hine

Children's Song: "This Little Light of Mine"

(Children and youth proceed downstairs. Congregation remains seated)

Offering Invitation

Offertory Anthem: **"Cantique de Jean Racine"**

by Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

*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: “Come and Fill Our Hearts”

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al-le-lu-ia!

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line in G major, 2/4 time, with lyrics: "Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly." The second system continues the vocal line with lyrics: "Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al-le-lu-ia!" Both systems include a piano accompaniment in the bass clef.

Scripture Readings: Mark 16: 14-15, 19-20, Titus 1: 15

Sermon: “Everything Else in the House of God”

Rev. Dr. Steven Jungkeit

*Closing Hymn: #382 “The House of Faith”

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.

(on the cover: painting by Edward F. Weidl)

Scripture Reading

Mark 16: 14-15, 19-20

Later Jesus appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table, and he upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation."

So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it.

Titus 1: 15

To the pure all things are pure...

ReBELLion Anthem

Introit: **"Siyahamba"** arr. Charles Maggs ReBELLion

"Siyahamba" is a handbell arrangement by Charles Maggs, based on a South African song, found in our hymnal as Hymn #366.

Today closes the handbell season for the ringers in ReBELLion. We wish to thank each child and parent for the time, talent, and dedication that each has contributed. The following have rung in ReBELLion for two years: Anderson Brant (5th grade), Lucy Byers (5th grade), Zoey Dowd (5th grade), Augie Jungkeit (8th grade), Devon Kiem (8th grade), and Connor Rice (7th grade). The following children have completed their first year in ReBELLion: Calvin Barnett (5th grade), Zak Benedetto (8th grade), Ethan Bochet (4th grade), and Emi DaPonte (4th grade).

Choir Anthem

Offertory Anthem: "Cantique de Jean Racine" by Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

Word equal to God, the Almighty, our only hope, eternal day of the earth and heavens; we break the silence of the peaceful night, divine Savior, look upon us! Fan the fire of your powerful grace upon us, so that all Hell may flee at the sound of your voice shake off the sleep of a languishing soul, who has forgotten your laws! O Christ, be kind to these faithful people who have now gathered in thanks. Listen to the chants they offer to your immortal glory, And may they come away fulfilled with your gifts!

*The flowers this morning are given by Christine Darnell in celebration of “Earth Day”
and our Youth Group and God’s Neighborhood, who are spending this morning
cleaning-up at White Sands Beach.*

The host for the Fellowship Hour this morning is Leslie Rawlings Slezak

The nursery is open today.

TODAY at FCCOL

Adult Forum with Marc Zimmer:

Hot Mess, Cool Science: How Climate Change Really Works

Today at 11:15 am in the Fellowship Hall, Marc will give a talk that is a mix of the history, science and politics of climate change. He has written two books that each have a chapter about climate change: “Solutions for a Cleaner Greener Planet” and “The State of Science.” Marc teaches an environmental chemistry course at Connecticut College and Semester at Sea.

Confirmation Class

Our Confirmation Class will meet today from 4-6 pm. Mentors are invited to join us. We will have a special guest, Lyricc Vargass, who will lead us in an interactive workshop. Tacos will be served!

New London Soup Kitchen: DINE

Today our church will serve at the New London Soup Kitchen: DINE as we do on the 4th Sunday of every 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 27th at 10:00 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

May Newsletter Folding *Tuesday, April 28th.*

TBS Meeting *Tuesday, April 28th at 10:00 am* in the Library.

Board of Missions Meeting *Tuesday, April 28th at 1:00 pm* in the Library.

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

Yoga Class *Wednesday April 29th at 4:00 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

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

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

Bible Study *Thursday, April 30th at 11:00 am* in the Library or on Zoom.

Reading the Bible in 1 Year Discussion *Thurs, April 30th at 6:30 pm* in the Sheffield Aud.

Endowment Committee Meeting *Thursday, April 30th at 6:30 pm* in the Library.

Shoreline Food Pantry and Diaper Bank *Sat, May 2nd at 8:30 am* in the Fellowship Hall.

Youth Group Cup-of Joe Café *Saturday, May 2nd at 8:15 am* in the Library.

Yoga Class with Isabelle *Saturday, May 2nd at 10:30 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Youth Group Sharing Humanity Overnight *Saturday, May 2nd begins at 4:00 pm.*

God's Neighborhood and Youth Group Clean-Up at White Sands Beach

Sunday, May 3rd kids drop off at 10:00 am.

FCCOL Orientation *Sunday, May 3rd at 11:15 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.



Weekly Bible Study

Please join us as we continue to discuss The Book of Leviticus on Thursday, April 30th at 11:00 am and continue every Thursday in the Library. Call or email the church for the Zoom link.

FCCOL 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.

Youth Group: Coming up May 2nd is our Sharing Humanity Night. Come at 4 pm to set up your tent/box to sleep outside overnight. At 5:00 pm, church member and artist, Nancy Gladwell will be here to work with us as we create pictures and learn about the organization, Public Art for Racial Justice Education (PARJE). In addition, a Public Advocate with the

Juvenile Detention system will offer a presentation to our young people. Dinner will be provided. After sleeping overnight, students will be served breakfast and attend church the next morning at 10:00 am! Friends, welcome!

Haitian Dinner: Save this Date!

On Sunday, May 17th at 5:30 pm join us for an authentic Haitian Dinner prepared by “Mommy’s Delicious Food” in Norwich. Becky Crosby will offer a presentation on their work in Haiti that will include a special guest...Hélène Clervius, a graduate of The Crosby Fund's scholarship program. She will be speaking about her journey from rural Haiti to becoming a doctor at SUNY University Hospital in Brooklyn, NY. The suggested donation is \$15 per person. Please call the office to RSVP.

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.

Pastoral Care

Please just let us know if a pastoral visit would be helpful to you or to someone you know. 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

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.