



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

May 3, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: **“Lead Me, Lord, in Thy Righteousness”** by Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

*Processional Hymn: #407 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

*Call to Worship:

“When I became an adult, I put an end to childish things.”

So says the Apostle Paul in his letter to the Corinthians.

We are called to put away what no longer gives life:

the need to be right at all costs,

the habits that harden the heart,

the stories that keep us small.

And we are called to take up what endures:

compassion that stretches beyond comfort,

courage that tells the truth,

love that deepens and does not let go.

Here, we honor the child within us—

but we do not remain there.

We grow into wisdom, into responsibility, into grace.

Let us worship God.

*Prayer of Invocation and The Lord’s Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: #53 “Let Us With a Gladsome Mind”

Children’s Message:

Gavin Lodge

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

(Children and youth proceed downstairs. Congregation remains seated)

Offering Invitation

Offertory Anthem: **“Jubilate Deo”**

by Orlando di Lasso (1532-1594)

*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.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. 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." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

Scripture Readings: I Corinthians 13: 4-13

Sermon: "Something To Do With Paying Attention, With a Nod To David Foster Wallace"

Rev. Dr. Steven Jungkeit

*Closing Hymn: #354 "Lord, We Would Be Instruments of Loving Service"

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

I Corinthians 13: 4-13

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see only a reflection, as in a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love.

Choir Anthem

Introit: “Lead Me, Lord, in Thy Righteousness” by Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

Text: Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy righteousness, make Thy way plain before my face. For it is Thou, Lord, You, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.

Offertory Anthem: “Jubilate Deo” by Orlando di Lasso (1532-1594)

Text: Jubilate Deo omnis terra, servite Domino in laetitia. Intrate in conspectu ejus, in exultatione, quia Dominus ipse est Deus.

Sing to God all ye nations, serve the Lord with gladness. Enter into His presence with exultation and joy, know ye that the Lord alone is our God.

The flowers this morning are given by Christine Darnell.

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*The host for the Fellowship Hour this morning is Cathy Mathis.*

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The nursery is open today with Miss Kristin Kennedy.

TODAY at FCCOL

New Friends Orientation today. 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.

Events at FCCOL This Coming Week

Ladies Who Stitch *Monday, May 4th at 10:00 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Yoga Class *Tuesday May 5th at 5:30 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

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

Grief Group *Tuesday, May 5th at 5:00 pm* in the Hoag Parlor.

Old Lyme Ringers Rehearsal *Wednesday, May 6th at 6:30 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

Choir Rehearsal *Wednesday May 6th at 7:30 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Bible Study *Thursday, May 7th at 11:00 am* in the Library or on Zoom.

Shoreline Food Pantry *Saturday May 9th at 8:30 am* in the Fellowship Hall.

Yoga Class with Isabelle *Saturday, May 9th at 10:30 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

New Friends Sunday *May 10th* at the 10:00 am Worship Service.

Weekly Bible Study

Please join us as we continue to discuss The Book of Leviticus on Thursday, May 7th at 11:00 am and continue every Thursday in the Library. Call or email the church for the Zoom link.

Introduction to the Potter's Wheel: New and Returning Students starting May 12th

In this four-week pottery class, you'll learn to center clay with your hands, steady your body at the wheel, and pull the walls upward into a cylinder. Then on to shaping, glazing, and firing, following the clay through each stage of its transformation.

Held on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, this class meets May 12, 19, 26, and June 2, and the full four-week session is \$200. No experience is necessary—just a willingness to let the clay teach you. Taught by local artist Paul Fitzpatrick Nager.

The Benevolent Society's May 12th Luncheon

Join us for the TBS May luncheon on Tuesday, May 12th. Chef Rick will have a delicious and seasonally appropriate meal prepared for you to enjoy. As always, lunch will be served at noon. Our after-meal program will introduce you to Helen Charov, author of *"Tatyana's War – Escape and Survival on the Eastern Front in World War II."* Finding her mother's diaries in the attic of her mother's Connecticut home, Helen translated them into English and composed this book. It promises to be a presentation that will inspire us all as we learn about Tatyana's strength and perseverance that will encourage us to seek and find our own grit! Books will be available for purchase following the program.

The suggested donation is \$5 per person, plus a nonperishable food item for our food bank or a package of disposable diapers for our diaper bank. Please call the FCCOL office (860-434-8686) to RSVP by Friday, so we can be sure to have enough food prepared for all to enjoy.

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.

Adult Forum Sunday, May 17th: The Preserve is set to be logged.

The Preserve in Old Saybrook is CT's largest remaining intact coastal forest and wetland system: 1000 acres in Old Saybrook with smaller tracts in Essex and Westbrook. Jointly owned by Old Saybrook and the state, this biodiversity gem is home to 38 vernal pools. Many rare or threatened plant and animal species are among the 30 mammal, 25 amphibian and reptile, and 57 kinds of birds that live in this area. The state is preparing to log in important sensitive areas. Lea Sloan, former vice president of communications at American Forests, the oldest national conservation organization in the country, will speak on this at an adult forum on May

17th. Come learn what we can do to try to minimize the damage and disturbance to this exceptional forest.

White Elephant Sale Coming Fri, July 10th from 9-2pm and Sat, July 11th from 8-12 pm.

The 88th White Elephant Sale is fast approaching, and we are in need of more volunteers to assist in the gargantuan task of making the annual event successful once again. The needs vary and there are many areas requiring help, especially Sporting Goods, where someone is needed to run the department, and personnel are needed to assist in the set-up and operation during the sale itself. We are appealing to everyone, young or just young-hearted, willing to help sort, price and possibly be salespersons and helpers at the actual event. There are large and small jobs of every kind, and we need help from June 20th through the end of the sale on July 11th. Please contact Jane Marolda (860-608-0257) or Deb Heminway (860-625-3144) if you can help out or if you have any questions. ***Intake days are June 25th, 26th, 27th, 30th and July 1st and 2nd. NOT July 3rd as previously printed.***

Save the Date: Friday, May 15th: The Youth Group will be traveling to Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek Synagogue in Chester CT. There will be a carpool leaving from FCCOL at 6:00 pm.

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 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.