



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

July 12, 2026

Sunday Worship Service

10:00 AM

Prelude

*Processional Hymn: #18 “Praise to the Living God”

Call to Worship:

“We give thanks for arriving safely in a new dawn,

For the gift of eyes to see the world,

The gift of mind to feel at home in our lives.

The waves of possibility breaking on the shore of dawn,

The harvest of the past that awaits our hunger,

And all the furtherings this new day will bring.” (John O’Donohue)

Let us worship God together with open hearts to receive the gift of the Spirit.

*Prayer of Invocation and The Lord’s Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

WES Report

Marianne Baez

*Hymn: #376 “Help Us Accept Each Other”

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Selection

*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

Rev. Dr. Gary Comstock

Pastoral Prayer Response: “Come Fill Our Hearts”

Two systems of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The first system contains the lyrics: "Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho - ly." The second system contains the lyrics: "Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al - le - lu - ia!" The music is written for a single melodic line (treble clef) and a harmonic accompaniment (bass clef).

Scriptures: Isaiah 55:10-12, Ephesians 4:1-6

Sermon: “Surrender to the Day and Let Life Happen”

Rev. Rebecca Crosby

*Closing Hymn: #78 “There is Love All Around You”

Benediction

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 or her 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 55:10-12

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Ephesians 4:1-6

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

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*Please welcome our guest Organist En-Hua Holtz this morning.*

*The flowers this morning are given by Stephanie Webster in honor of all who gave generously of their time to make the White Elephant Sale a success.*

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The host for the Fellowship Hour this morning is Susan Mountz.

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*The Nursery is open today with Miss Kristin Kennedy.*

### **Announcement About Summer Staffing**

As summer sets in, we wish to let you know about our pastoral coverage for the months of July and August. As many of you know, Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager has taken a leave of absence that will continue through the end of the summer, as her husband Paul recovers from a major surgical procedure. To get us through this period, Rev. Becky Crosby and Rev. Dr. Gary Comstock will be joining our staff, helping with pastoral care as well as providing leadership on Sunday mornings. Becky is well known to most of the congregation, having served as an associate minister at FCCOL for many years, prior to stepping down to run the Crosby Center for Haitian Education in 2014. Gary has been worshiping with us for the past several years, having recently retired from Wesleyan University, where he was the campus chaplain for seventeen years. He is an experienced preacher, liturgist, and pastoral counselor, and we can be grateful for his presence among us. Indeed, we can be grateful to both Becky and to Gary for their willingness to help during these summer months. Please help them to feel welcome on Sunday mornings, or whenever you see them.

Both Steve and Carleen will be around for much of the summer. If there are any immediate needs, don't hesitate to get in touch. And please keep Laura, Paul, and Anna in your prayers throughout the coming months, as they all come through a challenging season together.

## Summer Sing Dates to Save on your Calendar: July 19th and August 9th

Now, to everyone reading this: It's Your Turn!! This summer the choir will be holding two Summer Sings, or better known as "Turn up to FCCOL at 9:15 am and rehearse for the 10:00 am service, yes, it feels like the seat of your pants singing, oh, what fun we'll have" Sundays! These will take place next Sunday, July 19th and Sunday, August 9th. Please mark your calendars! We hope many of you will join us!

He who sings



scares away his woes.

Miguel de Cervantes (1547-1616)

## Flowers for Sunday Worship Services

We are in need of people to donate flowers for the Sunday 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 reach out to 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 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. Ladies Who Stitch (LWS) will help by accepting new and gently-used donations for IRIS and for the New London Homeless Hospitality Center. With on going heartfelt gratitude for your continued generosity and kindness to our neighbors. Please leave donations on the 2nd floor in the office clearly marked "IRIS" during the WES.

## Grief Group and TransParent Group

During July and August, when the grief support group and the transgender parents support group will not hold regular meetings, the Rev. Dr. Gary Comstock has offered to be on call to offer support if folks would need that. Please call Anne in the church office and give her your contact information and Gary will get in touch with you!

## 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).



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF OLD LYME

Welcome to the  
88th Annual White Elephant Sale!

Thank you to all our  
Workers, Donors & Supporters

Your efforts fund more than 25 nonprofit  
organizations across our region & worldwide



WHITE  
ELEPHANT  
SALE  
JULY 10-11

INTAKE STARTS  
JUNE 25th

