



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

September 27, 2026

Stewardship Sunday

10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: **“Cantate Sing to the Lord”**

by Jim Leininger (1942-2025)

*ProceSSIONal Hymn: #8 “From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

* Call to Worship:

We gather this morning acknowledging that all we have is a gift.

And so we return a portion of those gifts,

not out of obligation, but out of gratitude and love.

May our generosity shape how we live—with compassion, justice, and care for one another.

May we learn to share what we have, to receive what we need,

and to make room for abundance to flow through us.

Let us worship God, from whom all blessings flow.

Prayer of Invocation and The Lord’s Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

Moment for Stewardship:

Rev. Dr. Gary Comstock

*Hymn: #467 “I’m Going to Live So God Can Use Me”

Children’s Message

Alli McCracken

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

(Children and youth proceed downstairs. Congregation remains seated)

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Anthem: **“Regina Coeli”**

by Stephen DeCesare (born 1969)

*Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

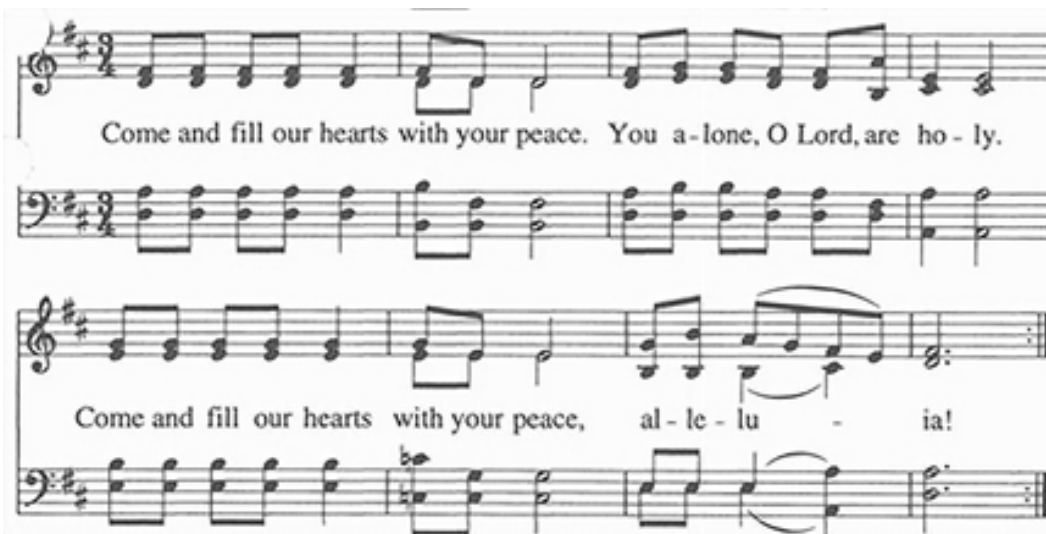
Praise God for all that love has done;

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

*Offering Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Pastoral Prayer Response: “Come Fill Our Hearts”



Scriptures: Isaiah 40: 28-31 (The Inclusive Bible), Philippians 1: 3-4

Sermon: “Need Someone in the By and By”

Rev. Dr. Steven Jungkeit

*Closing Hymn: #241 “We Will Build Your Church, O Christ”

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 Reading

Isaiah 40: 28-31 (The Inclusive Bible)

Do you not know? Have you not heard? God is everlasting, the Creator of the ends of the earth. This God does not faint or grow weary; with a depth of understanding that is unsearchable. God gives strength to the weary, and empowers the powerless. You women may grow tired and weary, young men may stumble and fall, but those who wait for God find a renewed power: they soar on eagle's wings, they run and don't get weary, they walk and never tire.

Philippians 1: 3-4

I thank God every time I think of you. In every prayer I utter, as I plead on your behalf, I rejoice at the way you have all continually helped promote the Good News from the very first day. And I am sure of this much: that God, who has begun the good work in you, will carry it through to completion, right up to the day of Christ Jesus. It's only right that I should entertain such expectations about you, since I hold all of you dear - you who are all partakers of grace with me, even when I lie in prison or am summoned to defend the solid ground on which the Good News rests.

Choir Anthems

Introit: “Cantate Sing to the Lord”

by Jim Leininger (1942-2025)

Text: Cantate Domino canticum novum. Sing to the Lord, Sing a jubilant song!

Cantate Domino omnis terra. Sing to the Lord, O sing all the earth!

Offertory Anthem: “Regina Coeli”

by Stephen DeCesare (born 1969)

Text: Regina coeli, laetare, alleluia, Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia, Resurrexit sicut dixit, alleluia, Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.

O Queen of heaven, be joyful, alleluia, For He whom you have humbly borne for us, alleluia, Has arisen, as He promised, alleluia, Offer now our prayer to God, alleluia.

(on the cover: painting by William Sonstrom)

*The flowers this morning are given in loving memory of Alan Bradford
by his family.*

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*The hosts for the Fellowship hour this morning are the members  
of the Board of Stewardship.*

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The nursery is open today with Miss Kristin Kennedy.

Events Today at FCCOL

Adult Forum: Shared Experiences in Brazil
at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.

DINE: New London (Board of Missions)
departing FCCOL at 3:30 pm for New London.

Upcoming Events this week at FCCOL

October Newsletter Folding *Tuesday, September 29th.*

SAIL Meeting *Wednesday, September 30th at 3:00 pm in the Library.*

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

Choir Rehearsal *Wednesday, September 30th at 7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.*

Bible Study *Thursday, October 1st at 11:00 am in the Library.*

Sally MacNichol Memorial Service *Sat, October 3rd at 1:00 pm in the Meetinghouse.*

Jane D'Arista Memorial *Saturday, October 3rd at 4:00 pm in the Meetinghouse.*

Adult Forum with Dr. Mark Braverman *Sunday, October 4th at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall, and then he will lead two additional sessions on Monday night (5:30 pm) and on Tuesday morning (10:00 am). For more information see page 6.*

We are delighted to have **Alli McCracken** and her family with us today! Alli grew up in Old Lyme and at FCCOL, and her parents, Doug and Rebecca, are members here as well. Alli travels the world as a Human Rights Campaigner for North America with Amnesty International. She is currently living in Mexico City. Alli is also the Vice President of The Tree of Life Educational Fund (www.tolef.org). Former co-director of the feminist anti-war organization Codepink, Alli graduated from Hobart and William Smith Colleges in May 2010 with a degree in Political Science and Religious Studies. Inspired by the Tree of Life 2010 Journey, after graduating from college she lived in the West Bank town of Beit Sahour for several months, doing volunteer work at a senior citizens center and at the Palestine Wildlife Society. Upon returning to the US she shared her experience at the Tree of Life 2011 Conference, and went on the Tree of Life Journey again in 2011 and 2012. At Amnesty International, Alli works with AI branches around the globe to leverage international pressure for human rights in the US and Canada.

Weekly Bible Study Thursday, October 1st

“Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.” Psalm 90:2

Join us at 11am, Thursday, October 1st in the Library as we continue our weekly journey through the first five books of the Bible (known as the Torah). We'll resume our study of the Book of Numbers and continue from there. Whether it's your first time or you've been a regular reader with us, bring a bible and your curiosity! Fresh coffee and lots of questions await us!

Mark Braverman Will Be Visiting FCCOL

Beginning next Sunday (Oct. 4) Mark Braverman will be joining us once again as our theologian in residence. He'll offer an adult form following the worship service, and then will lead two additional sessions on Monday night (5:30) and on Tuesday morning (10:00). As in previous years, Mark will be focusing our attention on the Bible, while also exploring the role of churches in times of crisis. This year, he'll be concentrating in particular on The Barmen Declaration, an historic confession written in 1934, at the very beginning of the Nazi era in Germany. As with similar confessions - The South Africa Kairos Document and Kairos Palestine - Barmen has a great deal to say about how people of faith and conscience might respond to a new era of dehumanization and authoritarian rule. We hope you'll be with us for these important conversations.

Moth Storytelling is Back! Sign up now to tell your story!

A storytelling potluck dinner is planned for October 23rd at 6:00 pm in the FCCOL Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to join us for this fun-filled evening of great stories, delicious food, and hearty fellowship (no reservation required). We are looking for about 7-8 storytellers to offer a few tales. If you have a 5-minute story you would be willing to share, please contact Tom Sherer (tesjr299@outlook.com).

Save the Date: Cape Cod Youth Retreat

The Cape Cod Youth Retreat has been rescheduled for November 13th-15th. Details to follow! For more info and to RSVP contact Laura at lfitz.nager@gmail.com

"Loss of a Loved One" Support Group (previously known as "Grief Group)

The support group will meet the second Wednesday of each month. Next meeting Wednesday, October 14, in Hoag Parlor, from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Share your feelings for someone you've lost with others who will share theirs with you. Safe, comfortable, confidential space and conversation. Facilitated by Rev Dr Gary Comstock.

The Benevolent Society October Luncheon

Tuesday, October 13 is the date for the next The Benevolent Society Luncheon. Please join us for a warming, fall lunch of slow roasted chicken, vegetables, sausage and, yes, apples. And dessert, of course! A comforting meal all for a minimum donation of \$5.00 and a gift of a non-perishable food item for the Food Pantry. Following lunch, our own Becky Crosby will give a presentation entitled The FCCOL Art Collection and its Connection to the Old Lyme Art Community. Curious about the artwork you see throughout our campus? Now's your chance to find out! Please join us and experience these works of art. Call to reserve a seat 860-434-8686.

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. Ladies Who Stitch (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 Auditorium stage in the blue bin, marked "IRIS." (<https://irisct.org>). With ongoing heartfelt gratitude for your continued generosity and kindness to our neighbors.

Southeast Alliance for Interfaith Leadership (SAIL)

Friends, The Southeast Alliance of Interfaith Leadership — SAIL — is officially launching as an organization on October 28th at St. Paul's Catholic Parish, 170 Rope Ferry Road, Waterford, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

FCCOL clergy and members have been instrumental in the formation of this interfaith community organizing group, whose purpose is to create a collective power-base for systemic social justice change in SE Connecticut.

Please register so we know you're coming by using the QR code.
Or use this link: <https://cljct.org/sail-registration/>
(But if you can't pre-register, come anyway.)



Flowers for Sunday Worship Services

Would you like to donate flowers for the Sunday worship services? Please call Jill Harned (603) 398-9004 to reserve a date or reach out to the office at (860-434-8686) or email at fccol@fccol.org. Thank you!

The First Congregational Church of Old Lyme

2027 Stewardship Campaign



**Please join the FCCOL 2027
Financial Campaign,
now underway.**

But they who wait
upon the Lord
shall renew
their strength;
they shall mount
up with wings
as eagles;
they shall run,
and not be weary;
they shall walk,
and not faint.

Isaiah 40:31

**Your pledge will help strengthen
our six ministries — worship,
youth and adult education,
music, pastoral care, and
hands-on mission outreach
and community support.**

**Our Church is very grateful
for each pledge!**

**Thank you from the Board of
Stewardship!**