



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

October 4, 2026

World Communion Sunday

10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: **“Oculi omnium”**

by Charles Wood (1866-1926)

*Processional Hymn: **“O God, By Your Mercy, We Come to This Place ”** (see insert)

* Call to Worship:

Here in this place, no one is a stranger. No nation, culture, language, race, identity, or
circumstance can place us outside the reach of God's welcome.

There is enough grace. There is enough bread. There is enough love.

So come, all who hunger for justice, all who thirst for peace,
all who long for a world where every person can flourish.

**Let us worship the God who calls us together, whose love crosses every boundary,
and whose Spirit unites us in hope.**

Prayer of Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

Moment for Mission

Dr. Mark Braverman

*Hymn: #386 **“We Are One in the Spirit”**

Children's Message

Allison Hine

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

(Children and youth proceed downstairs. Congregation remains seated)

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Anthem: **“Lord, At Your Table Kneeling”**

by Eugene Butler (1935-2024)

*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

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and

nev-er be hun - gry. Eat this bread, drink this cup,

trust in me and you will not thirst.

Pastoral Prayer

Response: “Eat This Bread”

Scriptures: Psalm 40 (The Inclusive Version), Acts 16: 23-25

Sermon: “The Time of Our Singing”

Rev. Dr. Steven Jungkeit

*Hymn: #427 “My Life Flows On In Endless Song ”

Sacrament of Communion

(on the back cover)

*Closing Hymn: #372 “Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race ”

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

Scripture Reading

Psalm 40 (The Inclusive Version)

Unyielding, I called to you, Yahweh.
Now at last you have stooped to me
and answered my cry for help.
You have pulled me out of the pit of destruction,
out of its mud and quicksand;
you set my feet on a rock and made my steps firm.
You put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to you.
Many will look on in wonder,
and so will put their trust in you.
Happiness comes to those who put their trust in Yahweh,
instead of in human egos,
or people blind to the truth.

Acts 16: 23-25

Paul and Silas were whipped many times and thrown into prison, and the jailer was told to keep a close watch on them. So, following these instructions, the warden threw them into the innermost cell of the prison and chained their feet to a stake. About midnight, Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God as the other prisoners listened.

Choir Anthems

Introit: “Oculi omnium”

by Charles Wood (1866-1926)

Text: Oculi omnium in te sperant, Domine: et tu das escam illorum in tempore opportuno. Gloria tibi, Domine. Amen.

The eyes of all wait on thee, O Lord, and thou givest them their meat in due season.

Offertory Anthem: “Lord, At Your Table Kneeling”

by Eugene Butler (1935-2024)

Text: Lord, at your table kneeling, our deepest needs revealing, we turn to you appealing. Show us your love. A loaf of bread is broken, as words of truth are spoken, and faith receives a token, Lord, of your love. Lord, from your cup receiving, no darkness now deceiving, we look to you believing, thank you for love! Now, from your table rising, we go with joy surprising, in each new task arising to share your love. Amen.

(on the cover: Celebration by John Swanson)

*The flowers today are dedicated in honor of all of those peacemakers
around the world seeking a just peace for all.*

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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.

Events Today at FCCOL

Adult Forum with Mark Braverman

Mark Braverman will be joining us once again as our theologian in residence. There is an adult forum following the worship service today, and then he will lead two additional sessions on Monday night at 5:30 pm and on Tuesday morning at 10:00 am. 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.

Upcoming Events this week at FCCOL

Ladies Who Stitch *Monday, October 5th at 10:00 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.

Mark Braverman Bible Study *Monday, October 5th 5:30 pm* in the Fellowship Hall,

Mark Braverman Roundtable *Tuesday, October 6th 10:00 am* in the Fellowship Hall.

ReBELLion Rehearsal *Wednesday, October 7th at 4:00 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

Board of Missions Meeting *Wednesday October 7th at 4:00 pm* in the Library.

Ramzi Aburedwan and Dal'Ouna Ensemble House Performance

Wednesday, October 7th at 5:30 pm. See page 6 for details and to RSVP.

Old Lyme Ringers Rehearsal *Wednesday, October 7th at 6:30 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

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

Bible Study *Thursday, October 8th at 11:00 am* in the Library.

ARC Blood Drive *Thursday, October 8th from 1:00pm till 6:00 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

Essex Meadows Bible Study *Friday, October 9th at 11:00 am* at Essex Meadows.

Food Pantry *Saturday, October 10th at 8:30 am* in the Fellowship Hall.

Musical Masterworks *Saturday, October 10th at 5:00 pm and Sunday, October 11th
at 3:00 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

Reading the Bible in One Year Discussion *Sunday, October 11th at 11:30 am*
in the Sheffield Auditorium.

SAIL Meeting *Sunday, October 11th at 11:30 am* in the Fellowship Hall.

Youth Group Hike *Sunday, Oct 11th at 1:30 pm* in Stonington; see page 6 for more details.

House Concert with Ramzi Aburedwan and Dal'Ouna Ensemble: Wednesday, October 7th

This coming Wednesday an evening with Ramzi Aburedwan and his Dal'Ouna Ensemble as they are passing through CT, and they reached out about the possibility of performing in Old Lyme. To which we said, "Of course!" Based in Ramallah, in the occupied territories of Palestine, Ramzi uses music as a means of building bridges of understanding and healing between individuals and communities. His music conveys the beauty and depth of Palestinian culture, helping to educate audiences about the realities faced by Palestinians living under harsh and inhumane conditions. Now more than ever, we need voices and perspectives such as Ramzi's. We would love if you joined us this Wednesday evening to hear Ramzi and Dal'Ouna, and to be reminded of the very best aspects of the human spirit. Wednesday October 7, at 5:30 (until approximately 7:00) at 12 Andrews Road, Essex, CT 06426 (Brown house down by the water). Hosted by Susan Switzer and Bill Colihan. Food will be provided! Please RSVP in the FCCOL office - 860-434-8686 or fccol@fccol.org



Weekly Bible Study Thursday, October 8th

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

Join us at 11am, Thursday, October 8th 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!

Youth Group Hike Sunday, October 11th

Hope you can join us on Sunday, October 11th at 1:30 at Hoffman Evergreen Preserve, 578 N. Stonington Rd (Rt 201) for a hike (about an hour) followed by apple cider donuts from the B.F. Clyde's Cider Mill (a 5-min drive)! Organized by the Barnett Family. Carpooling from church about 12:30. If interested email Laura at lfitz.nager@gmail.com. Weather permitting!

The Benevolent Society October Luncheon October 13th

Tuesday, October 13th 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. 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! RSVP at 860-434-8686.

"Loss of a Loved One" Support Group

The support group will meet the second Wednesday of each month. Next meeting Wednesday, October 14th, 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.

Transgender Awareness Group All are invited to attend this open discussion led by four parents of trans daughters and sons. Ask your questions, listen to what transgender and nonbinary people and their families face today, and share suggestions as to how we can understand and learn from each other. Wednesday, October 21st, 5:30 p.m., Library. Pizza will be served. Facilitated by Rev. Dr. Gary Comstock.

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).

Special Request: It's not too early to start collecting for our winter clothing drive for the Youth Group Breakfast Run (scheduled for Saturday, October 24th) to New York City. We are hoping that you can help by dropping off winter clothes to FCCOL by October 20th. Coats, hats, gloves, new socks, boots, sweatshirts and hoodies and personal hygiene items that are in good shape are needed to keep our neighbors warm! Thank you!!!

Southeast Alliance for Interfaith Leadership (SAIL)

Friends, The Southeast Alliance of Interfaith Leadership — SAIL — is officially launching as an organization on **Wednesday, 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.)



Save the Date: Saturday, October 31st at 6:30 pm Halloween Silent Movie Night

The 1928 silent movie "Phantom of Opera" will be playing in the meetinghouse with live accompaniment on the organ by Robert Humphreville! **Not to be Missed!** Trick or treating on the lawn starting around 5pm. Free and open to the public; bring a friend.

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. 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.

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!

"Singing Back the Buffalo" Movie—Free Screening!

We will be showing *Singing Back the Buffalo* on Monday, October 5, 2026. The screening will take place at 7 pm in the Goldsmith Family Cinema, Jeanine Basinger Center for Film Studies, Wesleyan University, 301 Washington Terrace, Middletown, CT. As always, the film is open to the public and free of charge.

For more information follow this link to the full article: <https://fccol.org/wp-content/uploads/Singing-Back-the-Buffalo-Movie-Poster-Oct-2026.pdf>.

A facilitated discussion will follow the film. Please pre-register for the screening at <https://www.rockfallfoundation.org/event/singing-back-the-buffalo>.

COMMUNION SERVICE

INVITATION

PRAYER OF OPEN HEARTS

May we turn again to you, O God, in ways that move us beyond ego to wholeness, beyond judgment to healing, beyond self-serving to generosity. May we know you in the whole of life, in both the blessings and the burdens of our lives. Heal our hurts and open our hearts this day as we return to love again. Amen.

BLESSING OF GRACE

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

SHARING OF PEACE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks, O God, for all who have gathered round this table. For the food and cup of blessing which delight and nourish us and for companionship that sustains us. May we know the fullness of your presence at every meal and in all our sharing this day and always, AMEN.

It is the practice of this church to serve grape juice in our communion service.

The bread is gluten free.