

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
Rebecca Crosby, Parish Associate Minister - Gary Comstock, Parish Associate Minister
Simon Holt, Director of Music

November 1, 2026 — All Saints Sunday — 10:00 AM

Prelude

Introit: **"Till we are called to rise"** — music by Carleen Gerber, words by Emily Dickinson

*Processional Hymn: #33 "When In Our Music God is Glorified"

* Call to Worship:

Some of us pray with words, spoken aloud or whispered in the heart.

Let us pray using our words.

Some of us pray in silence, where nothing needs to be said.

Let us pray with our stillness.

Some of us pray with our hands: planting seeds, marching for justice,

holding the hand of someone who is hurting.

Let us pray with our work and our walking.

Some of us pray with doubt, with anger, with a wordless ache we cannot name.

Let us pray with honesty, for no prayer is too small or too broken to be heard.

Some of us are not sure we know how to pray at all.

Let us pray with our longing, for even the wish to pray is itself a prayer.

The Sacred meets us however we might reach.

In prayer and in thanksgiving, let us worship God.

Prayer of Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

Moment for Stewardship — Jermain Johnson

*Hymn: #439 "Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

Children's Message: David Rice, Lucy Hartenstein and Isadora Thompson

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

(Children and youth proceed downstairs. Congregation remains seated)

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Anthem: **"Collected Poems"** music by Carleen Gerber
words by Emily Dickinson

*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. Carleen Gerber

*Hymn: #486 "For All the Saints" verses 1 and 2

A Reading of the Names of Those We Remember Before God

*Hymn: #486 "For All the Saints" verses 4 and 5

Readings: Psalm 139: 1-18, "Praying," by Mary Oliver

Meditations: Steve Jungkeit, Rebecca Crosby, Laura Fitzpatrick-Nager

*Closing Hymn: #366 "We Are Walking"

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.

Readings:

Psalm 139: 1-18

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.
You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.
Even before a word is on my tongue,
O Lord, you know it completely.
You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.
Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?
If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.
If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.
If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and night wraps itself around me,"
even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.
For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well.
My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.
How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end—I am still with you.

"Praying," by Mary Oliver

It doesn't have to be
the blue iris, it could be
weeds in a vacant lot, or a few
small stones; just
pay attention, then patch

a few words together and don't try
to make them elaborate, this isn't
a contest but the doorway

into thanks, and a silence in which
another voice may speak.

Choir Anthems

Introit: **"Till we are called to rise"** by Carleen Gerber
words by Emily Dickinson

Text: We never know how high we are 'til we are called to rise and then if we are true to plan our statures touch the skies. The heroism we recite would be a daily thing did not ourselves the cubits warp for fear to be a king.

Offertory Anthem: **"Collected Poems"** music by Carleen Gerber
words by Emily Dickinson

Text: I never saw a moor, I never saw the sea, yet know I how the heather looks and what a billow be. I never spoke with God nor visited in heav'n yet certain am I of the spot as if a check were giv'n. The brain is wider than the sky for put them side by side, the one the other will include with ease and you beside. The brain is deeper than the sea for hold them blue to blue, the one the other will absorb as sponges buckets do. The brain is just the weight of God for lift them pound for pound and they will differ if they do as syllable from sound. If I can stop one heart from breaking I shall not live in vain. If I can ease one life the aching or cool one pain or help one fainting robin into its nest again I shall not live in vain no I shall not live in vain.

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We welcome Megan Sesma as our guest harpist today.

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The mums today are dedicated by Gianna Scolara and Kate Caristo Scolara
in loving memory of their beloved family members.
And the flower arrangement is in celebration of Rev. Carleen Gerber.

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The hosts for the Fellowship hour this morning are The Benevolent Society.

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The nursery is open today with Miss Kristin Kennedy.

(On the Cover: "Rhode Island Road" painting by Angie Falstrom)

A Celebration for Rev. Carleen Gerber Today

Join us after the service this morning as we celebrate the publication of Carleen Gerber's book of prayers, drawn from her many years of offering heartfelt and eloquent prayers Sunday by Sunday. Each prayer is accompanied with a painting by Angie Falstrom, who also designed and published the book. But our Sunday morning celebration has another purpose as well. It has been 50 years since Carleen first began working at FCCOL, first as a part time organist, then as the director of music, and then as a minister. Following the service, there will be a reception in honor of Carleen's dedication to this church. It is a chance to give thanks for the strong foundation of leadership she has given, helping to make us the vibrant community we are today. We hope you'll join us this morning, as we celebrate a book, a ministry, and a thriving faith community.

Upcoming Events this week at FCCOL

Ladies Who Stitch *Monday, November 2nd at 10:00 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.
"The Other" Movie *Monday, November 2nd at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.*
Varsity Bells Rehearsal *Tuesday, November 3rd at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.*
ReBELLion Rehearsal *Wednesday, November 4th at 4:00 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.
The Board of Missions Meeting *Wednesday, November 4th at 4:00 pm* in the Library.
Old Lyme Ringers Rehearsal *Wednesday, Nov. 4th at 7:30 pm* in the Sheffield Aud.
Choir Rehearsal *Wednesday, November 4th at 7:30 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.
Bible Study *Thursday, November 5th at 11:00 am* in the Library.
ARC Blood Drive *Thursday, Nov. 5th from 1:00 pm till 6:00 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.
New Adult Bells Rehearsal *Thursday, November 5th at 5:30 pm* in the Sheffield Auditorium.
Food Pantry and Diaper Bank *Saturday, November 7th at 8:30 am* in Fellowship Hall.
Cup-of-Joé Café *Saturday, November 7th at 8:30 am*
Yoga with Isabelle *Saturday, November 7th at 10:30 am* in the Sheffield Auditorium.
Jonathon Isleib Memorial Service *Saturday, Nov. 7th at 12:00 pm* in the Meetinghouse.
Adult Education Meeting *Sunday, November 8th at 11:30 am* in the Library.
Youth Group Cooking for DINE: *Sunday, Nov. 8th from 4:30 to 6:00 pm* in the Kitchen!
Varsity Bells Rehearsal *Sunday, November 8th at 6:00 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

Weekly Bible Study Thursday, November 5th

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

Join us at 11am, Thursday, November 5th 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!

American Red Cross CPR/AED Pediatric and Adult First Aid Class

Saturday, November 7, 2026 there will be an American Red Cross CPR/AED Pediatric and Adult First Aid class available from 12:30 to 5:30 pm in the multimedia room in the lower level of the church. Everyone is welcome age 10 to adult. Please register by email to camathis43@gmail.com. Full certification will be given to everyone successfully completing the course.

Anyone who prefers to take the online class can also register at the same email. A skills class will be available for full certification after completing the online course.

Youth Group Cape Cod Weekend! The Cape Cod Youth Retreat will be November 13th - 15th. Details to follow! For more info and to RSVP, contact Laura at lfitz.nager@gmail.com. We still have a few spots left!

Elephants-In-Winter Sale 2026



The Benevolent Society and the Partnership Committee are excited to jump start your holiday experience with their annual Elephants-in-Winter and Holiday Sale. As in the past few years, there will be two unique and different sales held at FCCOL that will help all shoppers, young and old, get everything they could possibly need for the 2026 holiday season. Seriously……..gifts and decorations, dinnerware and olive oils, mittens and wrapping paper. Two very different types of sales, held in multiple rooms, over the same two days. **Both sales will be held on Saturday, November 14th (9am-2pm) and Sunday, November 15th (9am-1pm.)**

The Benevolent Society November Luncheon

Tuesday, November 10th will be the Benevolent Society's final luncheon of 2026, and it is our "Let's get into the Holiday Spirit" celebration. Chef Rick will be serving an Autumn-inspired meal to warm your stomach, as well as your spirits. A buffet of cakes, puddings, sweets and possibly a pie or two will be "the icing on the top" of this delicious menu.

Following the luncheon and while you enjoy your sweet desserts, all are welcome to sit back and enjoy some musical selections presented by the Old Lyme High School Select Chorus. This talented group of vocalists, led by Kristine Pekar, have entertained us at our end-of-year holiday luncheon for many years with selections from well-known musical performances and some holiday tunes, and they always delight us with a professional and enjoyable performance.

We sit down to start our lunch at 12 noon, so arrive a little early to get your seat and make yourself comfortable. The musical program will begin at about 1pm and last about 45 minutes. Suggested donation for the generous luncheon is $5 plus an item or two **(remember: It's the holidays!)** for our food or diaper bank. Please call the church office at 860-434-8686 by Friday, November 6th to make a reservation so we can plan on the proper number of place settings.

Names of Those We Remember Before God

(in alphabetical order)

Linda Anderson
Samuel Baez
Dick Blair
Bill Botti
Carl Christian Boyes
Alan Bradford
Mary Broughton
Carol Brown
Donna Byrne
Josephine Caputo
Nick Caristo
Genie Copp
Betty Crabtree
Kathleen Cushing
Michelle Delmhorst
Richard Dubler
Janet Fisher
John (Jack) Fitzpatrick
Angela Maria Franco
Litterio Franco
Rosalio Franco
David W. Good
Jack Harned
Arthur B. & Jean E. Hitchcock
Susanne Jermain
August & Viola Jungkeit
Richard (Rick) Keel
Wendy Knight
Wayne Kyder
Dave Long
Sally MacNichol
Noah Mathis
Mabel Matschulat
Sally McCracken
Robert (Bobby) J. Murphy Jr.
Bennett Nocera
Wendell Patterson
Helen Granger Pederson
Laura & Leland Reynolds
Mike Richardson
Lila Savage
Harry Sedgwick
Judy & Philip Simmons
Elbert & Arlene Smith
Margaret Smith
Lilliane Phoebe Spratt
Nancy Strohla
Mark Testori
David Thompson
Jackie & Sam Walker
Bob Webster
Virginia Westbrook
Sid Whelan
Robert K. White
Matt Winkler
Austin Wood
Steve Wyatt