



The Original Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Sunday, May 22nd, 2022 10am  
Sixth Sunday of Easter and The Ascension

*Order of Worship*

PRELUDE    **“I Still have Joy”**    Traditional    arr. Peter Amidon

GREETING

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

*Notices for the program, ministries and people of the church are shared.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Where have angel feet trod?

**People: Where are golden happy days?**

Leader: Who may find their way in from the margins?

**People: All who gather by the river that flows from the throne of God!**

\*OPENING HYMN No. 608    *Shall We Gather at the River?*    *V.s. 1, 2, 3*

GATHERING PRAYER

Leader: Bless us O Lord, to gather at the river with its crystal tide flowing through the center of your heavenly city. With healing for the nations, let each receive the gifts from your holy tree of life. In worship, make your face to shine on us, bless us, and be gracious unto us. Save us from the ills of our human city and let us behold the gentle and sweet face of the Lamb upon the throne. Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER *all versions are welcomed in the Spirit*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**\*All who are able please stand**

(1)

RESPONSIVE READING *from Psalm 67*

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us.

**People: May God's face shine upon us.**

Leader: May God's way be known upon the earth.

**People: May God's saving power be among all nations.**

Leader: Let the peoples praise you, O God.

**People: Let all the peoples praise you.**

Leader: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy.

**People: For you O God judge the people with equity.**

Leader: You guide the nations upon the earth.

**People: The earth will yield its increase.**

Leader: May God continue to bless us.

**People: Let all the ends of the earth revere the Lord.**

\*ACT OF PRAISE No. 36

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:44-53 "Jesus Is Carried Up Into Heaven"

ANTHEM

**"My Song of Praise"**

Don Besig

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5 "The Holy City Coming Down from Heaven"

SERMON "The Healing Tree"

*With inspiration from "The Giving Tree" by Shel Silverstein*

\*HYMN No. 592

***Leaning on the Everlasting Arms***

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: Christ is with us.

**People: Christ is in our midst.**

Leader: Let us pray.

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CALL TO OFFERING & SERVICE

Let us return to God our gifts first given us in God's graciousness!

OFFERTORY

**"While on the Sea"**

Ukrainian Folk Song

arr. Larry Sue

OCC Bell Quartet

\*DOXOLOGY No. 44

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We dedicate these gifts to you O Lord, may they yield increase in your name. Amen.

\*COMMISSIONING & CONNECTING

*Send a blessing on your social media and contacts far and wide.*

The beginning of faith is in the awesome wonder of the world.

\*CLOSING HYMN No. 594     *How Great Thou Art*

\*SPOKEN BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE   **“I Will Not Leave You Comfortless”**

Everett Titcomb   Chancel Choir

\*POSTLUDE   **“The Bare Necessities”** *from The Jungle Book* (1967)

Terry Gilkyson



Thank you for being in worship with us this morning!

We are glad to welcome you to the OCC.

May God bless you with all the gifts of the Spirit.

**THE ORIGINAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

**1 East St. P.O. Box 657, Wrentham, MA 02093**

**Office: 508-384-3110   Website: [www.occhurch.net](http://www.occhurch.net)   Facebook**

**Senior Pastor: Reverend Kenneth C. Landin   Music Director/Organist: Dr. Edward Cetto**

**Sextons: Bob & Sandy Cummings   Office Administrator: Donna Charbatji**

**Bells Director: Martha Goodman**

# LIFE OF THE CHURCH

## IN OUR PRAYERS...

**Lynnete Beaudro**, for prayers of safety during her deployment.

**Muriel Beresford**, for prayers of strength and health.

**Aida Catlow**, for prayers of recuperation, healing and well-being.

**Peg Mercier**, for prayers peace and healing.

**Les Burch**, for continued strength and wellness.

**Cindy Peters**, for prayers of health and healing

*Today's Flowers are Dedicated to the Glory of God*

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S LITURGISTS: **Lesley Whittmore**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S USHERS: **Leesa Burke, Heather Castelo, Jane Claffey,  
and Kim Kelly**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S COUNTERS: **Leesa Burke and Jane Claffey**

## WELCOME TO THE CARD TABLE AT COFFEE HOUR TODAY!

We were thrilled to see many of you stopped by the Card Table March 27th to jot a quick note to some of our members who are at home for various reasons.

If you have any "thinking of you" cards or "get well" cards that you would like to bring, please do. We do have a card ministry that Becky Cuoco has been doing for some time. She sends cards every month. If you have any extra cards that Becky could use, please put in an envelope, mark for Becky Cuoco and put them in the Pastoral Care basket in the Church Library. This is one of the many Pastoral Care Ministries here at OCC. We also have the Prayer Shawl Ministry, the Elves, the Lunch Bunch, the Prayer Chain, to name a few. Please speak to Pearl Gottberg or Sue Schwarm if you are interested in joining.

**UKRAINE SUPPORT ...** It seems realistic that the war in Ukraine will be with us for quite a while into this year. Thankfully, we have identified several ways we can support the Ukrainian people as they struggle to maintain their homeland.

The Outreach Team has chosen the IRC (International Rescue Committee) to receive our "Ukraine Relief" donations. An initial donation of \$2000 was sent to them in March. The IRC has been helping displaced people for the past 90 years. Their work began in Germany as German citizens began to flee the tyranny of Adolf Hitler. Since then, they have responded by helping people affected by humanitarian crises to survive, recover and rebuild their lives. The IRC has stood with people in some of the toughest places on Earth, including Yemen, Syria and Somalia.

We will continue to accept donations from the congregation as long as the need is there. Checks can be made out to the Original Congregational Church, with Ukraine



## ONA UPDATE



Below is the “Covenant and Welcoming Statement” as presented by the Open and Affirming Task Team. We hope that this statement makes clear that the mission of ONA is to proclaim publicly an unqualified welcome to *all* people at the OCC. This statement expresses what is at the very heart and core of the ONA movement. Try reading it aloud to yourself – it is a very powerful statement! Any questions or comments? Please see Leesa Burke, Charlotte Capone, Jenn Chace, Jane Claffey, Ned Ligon, Joan Mello, or Walter Spencer.

Welcome to The Original Congregational Church in Wrentham! Because we believe all people are created in God’s image and thus blessed and loved equally by God, and because love is the unifying and strengthening force of our Christian faith, we the members of The Original Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, hereby declare ourselves an Open and Affirming Christian community, expressing Jesus’ inclusive embrace of all people.

We welcome all who have no church home, seek strength, and want to follow the teachings of Jesus.

We welcome believers and non-believers, doubters and questioners, and questioning believers.

We welcome new visitors and old friends.

We welcome grandparents, mothers, fathers and children.

We welcome single and partnered people.

We welcome people of all ages, colors, cultures, abilities, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions.

Here at The Original Congregational Church, Wrentham, we believe that **whoever you are, and wherever you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.**