



The Original Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Sunday, June 26th, 2022 10am
Third Sunday after Pentecost
Outdoor Worship

Order of Worship

PRELUDE **“Close to You”** (1970) Hal David & Burt Bacharach

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 (adapted from Psalm 77)

Leader: Holy seekers whom God loves, Come, accepting that you are a child of God.

People: We come desiring to know the presence of the living God with us.

Leader: Here among our gathered family, take refuge in the presence of the Holy.

People: Let us bless the Holy One who walks with us and gives us counsel and strength.

Leader: Let us be as one, open our minds and hearts to celebrate the still small Holy voice within.

People: Come, let us give thanks and share praise for God who lives in us and we in God.

*OPENING HYMN No. 223 *Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me*

Please see page 4 for lyrics.

GATHERING PRAYER

Come, Holy God, in this place, open us to your love and empowering presence so we can carry Your love into this world. We long for Your presence, yet we often hide from You out of fear. We know we fall short of what we want to be. Help us to understand we are Your children, and we need to learn; and You are with us to guide and to teach. Help us not to feel ashamed when we need to be picked up and dusted off by Your love. Help us to trust Your power as grace and not harshness. Hear us now as we pray the words You taught us saying:

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**

RESPONSIVE READING (adapted from Psalm 23)

Leader: For over 3000 years, the people of God have found comfort in these words that the LORD is with us in the blessings of life and even in the hard times. Let us join together in these ancient poetic words of the understanding of God's relationship with each of us:

ALL: The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside still waters. He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

*ACT OF PRAISE Gloria Patri

Glory be to our God, 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.

SCRIPTURAL INTRODUCTION

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21
"Being in the presence of the Holy"

ANTHEM "His Eye is on the Sparrow, and I Know He Watches Me"
Civilla Martin (1866-1948)

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 15:1-10
"The Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin: Found"

SERMON "What is Our Relationship with God?" Rev. William Main

*HYMN No. 436 *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* V.s. 1 & 2
Please see page 4 for lyrics.

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

May we, as we live in the Spirit, also be guided by the Spirit,
to provide for those who have need for charity or justice.
may we give generously from the riches of the blessings the LORD
has shared with us.

OFFERTORY **“Prelude in E minor”** (Raindrop) Frédéric Chopin

*DOXOLOGY

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

LORD, we ask your wisdom and guidance as we put our time and effort and resources into
building Your Kingdom here on earth. Amen

*COMMISSIONING & CONNECTING

We may send a blessing on our social media and contacts far and wide...
Our relationship with God begins when we believe we can have a relationship with God!

*CLOSING HYMN 445 ***Be Thou My Vision*** *Vs. 2 & 3*

Please see page 4 for lyrics.

*SPOKEN BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION RESPONSE

No. 97 ***He's Got the Whole World in His Hands***

Please see page 5 for lyrics.

POSTLUDE **“Summertime”** (1935) *from Porgy & Bess*
The Gershwin Brothers



Thank you to Reverend Bill Main for leading us in Worship today, while
Pastor Ken enjoys some vacation time.

Please join us for coffee hour refreshments and continued conversation with friends!

Thank you for being with us in worship this morning.
We are glad to welcome you to the OCC!
May God bless you with all the gifts of the Spirit!

Opening Hymn No. 223 *Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me*

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I myself would gracious be;
And with words that help and heal would thy life in mine reveal,
And with actions bold and meek would for Christ my Savior speak.

Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I myself with truthful be;
And with wisdom kind and clear let thy life in mine appear,
And with acts of charity speak of Christ's sincerity.

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I myself would mighty be;
Mighty souls as to prevail where unaided I would fail;
Ever by a mighty hope, pressing on and bearing up.

Hymn after the Sermon *Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

I am weak, but thou are strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.

Just a closer walk with thee, granted, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to thee: let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Through this world of toil and snares, if you falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.

Just a closer walk with thee, granted, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to thee: let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Closing Hymn No. 445 *"Be Thou My Vision"*

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word.
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my Redeemer, my love thou hast won,
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
Ruler of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Congregational Benediction Response

“He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands”

He's got the wind and the rain in his hands. [Repeat three times]
He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got you and me, brother, in his hands.
He's got you and me, sister, in his hands.
He's got everybody in his hands.
He's got the whole world in his hands.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

IN OUR PRAYERS...

Lynnete Beaudro, for prayers of safety during her deployment.

Peg Mercier, for prayers of peace and healing.

Les Burch, for continued progress, strength and wellness.

For the family of Muriel Beresford (95) on her passing last weekend. A funeral service will be held at the OCC on Monday, June 27th at 11:00am. Collation to follow. Please see Pearl Gottberg to help with the refreshments. We are grateful for Muriel's long life of dedication and service to our church family. With her quiet smile and twinkle in the eye, she will be deeply missed.

Today's Flowers are Dedicated to the Glory of God

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S LITURGISTS: **Alice Gero**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S USHERS: **Leese Burke, Jane Claffey, Pam Jennette**

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

A PAIR OF READING GLASSES was found in the Sanctuary Sunday, June 12th. They are in the office if you are looking for them or know of someone looking.

THINKING OF SUMMER....

Beginning July 3rd and ending August 28th, Sunday Worship Services will begin at **9:30am in Fellowship Hall**. September 4th we will return to 10:00am.

"GROW THE OCC"....Ideas are in bloom with our new **"Grow the OCC"** group, as it works on ways to grow our church and bring active church life back after the pandemic. Ideas thus far include: creating an atmosphere of welcome (visuals in the church such as signage and bulletin boards, social and digital media, greeting and welcoming new folks), planning new events, increasing community involvement (such as Wrentham Day and upcoming Wrentham 350th anniversary), and supporting our Christian education and youth. Check out our bulletin board (coming soon) with more details and ways to get involved. We can all help as our group expands and becomes even more active in September. We welcome all to join in and help us grow the OCC!

GINGERBREAD FAIR....

Please see the newest Website postings for updates about the November 19, 2022

Gingerbread Fair, or if you prefer, copies of the posting are on the information table outside of the library



Dear ONA family:



Please join us in welcoming Original Congregational Church in Wrentham, MA, as a newly certified Open and Affirming Congregation!

As ONA church #1768, Original Congregational is now part of the largest and fastest-growing LGBTQ-affirming church movement in the world! We're proud of OCC, and grateful to the church's leadership for the hard work that led to this milestone in their history.

The congregation will be added to the ONA map at openandaffirming.org/find. We've notified the UCC's Yearbook office to assure the map of UCC congregations at ucc.org/church-finder also reflects their ONA status.

Please join the entire Open and Affirming movement in celebrating Original Congregational Church, and in prayer that their ONA covenant will be a blessing to their LGBTQ+ neighbors and inspire new passion and energy for living the Gospel!

Blessings,

The Rev. Andy Lang
Executive Director
ed@openandaffirming.org
Pronouns: he, him, his

The Rev. Derek Terry
President
office@openandaffirming.org
Pronouns: he, him, his

The ONA Covenant

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.

The ONA Welcoming Statement

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.**

Voted upon and approved by the OCC on June 5, 2022

Portions adapted from Bethany Church, Foxboro, MA, and United Church, Walpole, MA