



The Original Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Sunday, June 26th, 2022 10am
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
4th of July Weekend Holiday

Order of Worship

CONGREGATIONAL PRELUDE

Please, join in the Pledge and the singing of these hymns.

“Pledge of Allegiance ” 1892

“My Country ‘tis of Thee” 1831

“Amazing Grace” 1773

“This Li'l Light o' Mine” Spiritual

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: The morning bell awakens us to a new day.

People: The worship bell calls us to the praise of God.

Leader: The freedom bell rings out the sound of liberty to all.

People: The eternal bell casts us into the everlasting song of life.

*HYMN **“Let Us Break Bread Together”**

Please see page 5 for lyrics.

GATHERING PRAYER

RESPONSIVE PSALM *from Psalm 146*

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord O my soul!

People: I will praise the Lord as long as I live.

Leader: Blessed is the one whose hope is in the Lord.

People: God made the heaven and the earth.

Leader: The Lord made the sea and all that is in creation.

People: God keeps faith forever.

Leader: The Lord executes justice for the oppressed.

People: God gives food to the hungry.

Leader: The Lord sets the prisoners free.

(continued next page)

***All who are able please stand**

People: God opens the eyes of the blind.

Leader: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down.

People: God loves the righteous.

Leader: The Lord watches over the sojourners.

People: God upholds the widow and the parentless.

Leader: The Lord will reign forever.

People: Praise 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

Leviticus 25:10 “The Biblical Inscription on the Liberty Bell”

And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you when each of you shall return to your property and each of you shall return to your clan.”

ANTHEM

“Musical Offering”

J. S. Bach

SCRIPTURE READING

Galatians 5:1, 13-14 “Our Call to Freedom”

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm therefore and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. For you were called to freedom. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

GOSPEL READING

John 8:31-32, 36 “The Lord Sets You Free”

So Jesus said, “If you abide in my word you are truly my disciples and you will know the truth and the truth will set you free. So if the Lord sets you free you will be free indeed.

SERMON “Freedom to Love”

*HYMN

“God of the Ages” & “America the Beautiful”

God of the ages, whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty of the story band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
Our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

Refresh thy people on life’s toilsome way;
Lead us from night to never-ending day;
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,
And glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved and mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine!

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 proclaim the year of God's jubilee in the giving of our gifts!

HYMN *"Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken"*

Bread of the world, in mercy broken, wine of the soul, in mercy shed,
By whom the words of life were spoken, and in his death our sins are dead.

Look on the heart by sorrow broken, look on the tears by sinners shed,
And be this feast to us the token that by your grace our souls are fed.

*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

Dear God, we dedicate our gifts to your vision to set all people free by faith! Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive who seek to be served from the Lord's Table.

COMMUNION PRAYER

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy, God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

PRAYER OF BLESSING

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.

LAMB OF GOD set to the Welsh melody "Ar hyd y nos"

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

Lamb of God have mercy on us, Lamb of God grant us peace.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

For today, please eat the bread and drink the cup when served.

CLOSING PRAYER *unison*

God of Love, by faith you have set us free. We thank you for inviting us to receive from your Holy Table and to be strengthened in your Spirit. Grant that as we go from here, we may proclaim liberty to all who seek to live into your vision of peace and love. Amen.

CLOSING HYMNS "Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

Please see page 5 for lyrics.

God Bless America

Irving Berlin

SPOKEN BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL POSTLUDE

Please see page 5 for lyrics.

"Summertime" The Gershwin Brothers from *Porgy and Bess* (1935)

"If I had a Hammer" (1949) Pete Seeger



Welcome to the OCC! We are so glad to have you with us today. Thank you for sharing a portion of your 4th of July Holiday Weekend with us. May you and yours be blessed in your family gatherings and travels. May the Lord watch over you and grant you all the good gifts of the Spirit.

OPENING HYMN

“Let Us Break Bread Together on our Knees”

Let us break bread together on our knees.

Let us break bread together on our knees.

[Refrain] When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees.

Let us drink wine together on our knees. [Refrain]

Let us praise God together on our knees.

Let us praise God together on our knees. [Refrain]

CLOSING HYMNS

“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”

Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm does bind the restless wave,
Who bids the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to Thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power, our brethren shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

“God Bless America”

God bless America, land that I love;
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above.
From the mountains, to the prairies, to the oceans white with foam.
God bless America, my home sweet home.
God bless America, my home sweet home.

CONGREGATIONAL POSTLUDE

“Summertime”

Summertime and the livin' is easy.
Fish are jumpin' and the cotton is high.
Your daddy's rich and your mama's good looking,
So hush, pretty darlin', don't you cry.

“If I had a Hammer” (1949) Pete Seeger

If I had a hammer, I'd hammer in the morning,
I'd hammer in the evening all over this land.
I'd hammer out danger, I'd hammer out warning,
I'd hammer out love between my brothers and my sisters,
Whoa, all over this land. Hmmm. (continued next page)

If I had a bell, I'd ring it in the morning,
I'd ring it in the evening all over this land.
I'd ring out dangers, I'd ring out warning,
I'd ringing out love between my brothers and my sisters,
Whoa, all over this land. Hmmm.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

IN OUR PRAYERS...

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

Peg Mercier, for prayers of peace and healing.

Les Burch, for continued progress, strength and wellness.

Today's Flowers are Dedicated to the Glory of God

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S LITURGISTS: **Ralph Lambalot**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S USHERS: **Stephen Becker and Kim Kelly**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S COUNTERS: **Mike Foster and Jerry Long**

THE OCC PHONE SYSTEM has seen it's last day. We are now talking to you on an ole "Princess Phone" which, for those of you who remember what that is, does not allow for transfers of calls, messaging or faxing etc. We also do not seem to be able to retrieve messages from Pastor Ken's voicemail, or change the message. SO, If you need to leave a message, please leave it on Donna's voicemail. Thanks for your help with this.

On another note, the office will be on summer hours, **Tuesday and Thursday 9:00am-3:00pm, from July 4th thru September 6th.**

"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 .



The 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.

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

THE ORIGINAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
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