

The Original Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Sunday, July 24, 2022, 9:30am
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Outdoor Worship

KEEP ON
asking...
KEEP ON
seeking...
KEEP ON
knocking,
AND THE
DOOR WILL
BE OPENED
TO YOU.



Order of Worship

PRELUDE

“Susan’s Song”

Kenneth Mittell

This little piece was written for Mike Foster’s sister, Susan, by their uncle during their childhood.

WELCOME

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 85)

Leader: O LORD, You showed favor to Your land. You forgave the iniquity of Your people; You covered all their sin.

People: Show us Your loving kindness, Lord, and grant us Your salvation.

Leader: Truth springs from the earth, and righteousness looks down from heaven.

People: Loving kindness and truth have met together; Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Leader: Though injustice and evil surround us; Righteousness will go before the LORD,

People: His footsteps will make a way in this world for us to follow.

ALL: We praise the LORD who forgives our childish folly and guides us in all our ways.

*OPENING HYMN

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Please see page 4 for lyrics

***All who are able please stand**

(1)

GATHERING PRAYER

Spirit of the Living God fall afresh on us! The temptations of the world are all around us. Self-preservation and fears lure us to act in ways that are thoughtless or harmful to others. Help us to see through the eyes of others as well as our own, that what is right for one may be damaging to another. You call us Lord to be transformed in Jesus' image; grant us the courage and the strength through Your presence with us to be that change as we pray the words You taught us to pray:

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.

RESPONSIVE READING (adapted from Psalm 139)

Leader: O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You understand my thought from afar. You scrutinize my path and my lying down and are intimately acquainted with all my ways.

People: Even before there is a word on my tongue, behold, O LORD, You know it all. You have enclosed me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is too high, I cannot attain to it.

Leader: 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, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the dawn. If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, even there Your hand will lead me, And Your right hand will lay hold of me.

People: If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me, and the light around me will be night," Even the darkness is not dark to You, and the night is as bright as the day.

All: Darkness and light are alike to You, and You lead me in the everlasting way.

*ACT OF PRAISE *Gloria Patri*

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.

SCRIPTURAL INTRODUCTION

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 5:13-24

ANTHEM

"Art Thou Troubled?"

G. F. Handel

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 11:5-13

SERMON

"Evil, What Possible Purpose Can It Have?"

Rev. William Main

*HYMN

Precious Lord

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, 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 **“Theme from “Band of Brothers”** (2001) Michael Kamen

*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

*COMMISSIONING & CONNECTING

*We may send a blessing on our social media and contacts far and wide...
Though evil may surround us, we can choose to not respond in evil ways.*

*CLOSING HYMN ***Lift every voice and sing***

Please see page 4 for lyrics

SPOKEN BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL POSTLUDE **“I’ll Be Seeing You”** Sammy Fain

Please join in the singing.

I'll be seeing you in all the old familiar places,
That this heart of mine embraces all day through.
In that small cafe, the park across the way,
The children's carousel, the chestnut trees, the wishing well...

I'll be seeing you in every lovely summer's day,
In everything that's light and gay, I'll always think of you that way.
I'll find you in the morning sun, and when the night is new,
I'll be looking at the moon, but I'll be seeing you.

(3)



Thank you to Reverend William Main for leading us in worship today!

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

OPENING HYMN ***Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah***

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with your powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore;
Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing waters flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me on my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, ever be my strength and shield;
Ever be my strength and shield.

HYMN AFTER SERMON ***Precious Lord***

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears and the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

CLOSING HYMN ***Lift every voice and sing***

Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of faith that the dark past has taught us;
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

IN OUR PRAYERS...

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

Peg Mercier, for prayers of peace and continued healing.

Les Burch, for continued progress, strength and wellness.

Jean Dusty, needing thoughts and prayers for healing.

The Family of our beloved Kenneth Graves, on his sudden passing Wednesday, July 20th. Services will be announced once finalized.

Today's Flowers are Dedicated to the Glory of God

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S LITURGISTS: **Barbara Ligon**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S USHERS: **Bob & Kathy Boissy**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S COUNTERS: **Bob Boissy and Jerry Long**

WHILE PASTOR KEN TAKES SOME SUMMER TIME OFF...

Reverend William Main will also be our guest Pastor for July 31st..

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

SUMMER VACATION

Pastor Ken is away from Sunday worship the week of July 24 and July 31. He will return to worship on Sunday August 7. While he is away visiting four precious granddaughters in Vermont and New York, pastoral coverage for emergencies is available. Please be in contact with Donna in the office and Pearl Gottberg. Rev. Bill Main will be our guest preacher.



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

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

Office: 508-384-3110 Website: 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