



**The Original Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Sunday, January 8, 2023 10am
Epiphany of the Lord Sunday**

Order of Worship

PRELUDE **“How Brightly Shines the Morning Star”**

D. Buxtehude

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Arise, Shine! For the glory of the Lord has come.

People: Sunrise breaks over the deepest darkness.

Leader: Streams of caravans come bringing gifts to God.

People: Let us join in that great parade of praise!

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

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

*HYMN No. 364 ***This Little Light of Mine*** *Vs. 1, 2, 5*

Our children are invited to come up front to help lead in the singing!

GATHERING OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our students, teachers and helpers exit to attend lessons and activities.

CONFESSION

Leader: Let us join in prayer together.

All. Holy God, Creator of New Years and New Stars, may your light shine upon us anew.

We confess that our attention is easily distracted from our faithfulness in you. Forgive us our unbelief. Show us the way to go. Grant us your wisdom to work out new routes to travel that lead us to greater life. May our souls grow in mercy, wonder and love. Amen.

People: Amen.

ASSURANCE

Leader: Let us receive the good news of a great joy. In Jesus Christ, all our sins are forgiven. We are a new creation according to the work of God through grace. Each new day is an occasion for more love, more faith, more light come into the world. So let it be with us all!

***All who are able please stand**

(1)

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 from Psalm 72 "The Just Ruler"

Leader: Give the ruler your justice, O God.

People: Give righteousness to your royal one.

Leader: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel.

People: May the whole earth shout, "Glory!"

Leader: May the leaders from all coastlands bring gifts!

People: May all rulers bow down before the Lord.

Leader: You, O Lord, deliver the needy when they call.

People: You defend the cause of the poor of the people.

Leader: From violence and oppression you redeem their life.

People: They are precious in your sight.

Leader: May there be abundance of grain in the land.

People: May people blossom in the cities.

Leader: O Lord, blessed be your glorious name forever.

People: Amen and Amen!

*ACT OF PRAISE No. 36 Words: 3rd Century; Music: 1851

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

Isaiah 60:1-6 "Arise, Shine, For Your Light Has Come"

ANTHEM "Love Came Down at Christmas"

words: Christina Rossetti, music: Traditional., arr. David Evans

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 2:1-12 "The Visit of the Magi"

SERMON "Home by Another Way"

*HYMN No. 162 *We Three Kings of Orient Are* Vs. 1, 2, 5

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

Let us present our gifts to God with thanksgiving and joyful expectation. Amen.

OFFERTORY **“Shine, Jesus, Shine”** Graham Kendrick

*DOXOLOGY No. 44 Words: 1674; Music: 1551

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God bless our gifts and our hearts in your great mercy. Amen.

*COMMISSIONING & CONNECTING

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

There is more than one route to wonder, love and mercy!

*HYMN No. 167 *Arise, Your Light Is Come!*

*SPOKEN BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE **“And There Was a Star”** David Paxton



Thank you for being in worship with us this morning!
We are glad to welcome you to the OCC.
May God bless you in 2023 with all the gifts of the Spirit.
Please join us in Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation!

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

IN OUR PRAYERS...

Lynnete Beaudro, in our prayers of safety in Qatar.

Peg Mercier, for prayers of peace and health.

Les Burch, for continued progress, strength and wellness in his home..

Jean Dusty, needing thoughts and prayers for healing and strength.

Walter Landin, Pastor Ken's Dad, for continued recovery upon his return home.

Greta Seymour, Mother of Kristen Lambalot for comfort, peace and recovery.

Today's Flowers are Dedicated to the Glory of God

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S LITURGISTS: **Leesa Burke**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S USHERS: **Leesa Burke, Jane Claffey, Jean Roche
and Lesley Whittemore**

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

THE OCC ANNUAL MEETING with a luncheon, is scheduled to be held Sunday, **January 29,2023**, immediately following Worship Service. All committee and team chairs are asked to please have your reports to the office by January 18th for January 22nd distribution.

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY at the OCC is available to anyone who is in need. The Fellowship Hall and Restrooms are accessible on the side of the building up the ramp. For the Sanctuary, continue along the side of the building to the Vestry door, where inside there is a lift to the Sanctuary. For more details, please speak with an usher or one of the facilities members.

LOST AND FOUND, a Royal blue turtleneck, size XL which was found behind the craft table in Fellowship Hall. A black Express zippered Hoodie, size M/M with a red tie dyed piece of material in the pocket. Both are still on the bench outside of the office.

A MESSAGE FROM MARJORIE KELLNER..

Marge would like everyone to know, that upon Sharon's doctor visit Thursday, she is totally cancer free!! They would like to thank everyone for their prayers of support and wellness throughout Sharon's treatments and how deeply they appreciated the care and concern.



Welcome to the OCC!

We are an Open and Affirming congregation affiliated with
the United Church of Christ.

Our faith is rooted in God's love and grows into the mission and service in Christ's compassion to all people regardless of physical or mental ability, race, age, culture, family status, sexual orientation or gender identity.

You can find more information about us on our website and our
ONA Board in Fellowship Hall.

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

Interim Music Director/Organist: Justin Kisch

Bells Director: Martha Goodman

Sextons: Bob & Sandy Cummings Office Administrator: Donna Charbatji