



The Original Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Sunday, February 26, 2023, 10:00am
First Sunday of Lent

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

“Forty Days and Forty Nights”

C. S. Lang

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.

*HYMN No. 469

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

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

GATHERING OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION *Hymn No. 220*

Leader: Friends in faith, our Lord is the everlasting source of life. With confidence in God's steadfast love, we now open our hearts to the Spirit. We ask for compassion in our weakness, healing for our wounds, and forgiveness of our sins. Let us enter into prayer.

Leader: Creator God, you drive us into the wilderness of temptation and sin and ask us to live by your Word alone. Breathe new life into us for we have resisted you and fallen away from your path.

People: Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew, that I may love what thou dost love and do what thou wouldst do.

Leader: Redeeming God, you attend to us with your angels and the life-giving gifts of creation. We confess we turn away from your words, reject your will, and our hearts are hardened, causing harm and hurtfulness.

People: Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure, until with thee I will one will to do and to endure.

Leader: Sustaining God, you send us into a world of joy and sorrow, pain and delight, in order to share with all people and all creatures your covenant of life. We confess we have forgotten the promise of life you made with all you created, and we feel ashamed.

People: Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine, until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.

***All who are able please stand**

(1)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Dear beloved of God, there is no failing our Savior cannot save us from. There is no wound in our soul that the Spirit cannot mend in us. There is no lostness so profound that our Lord's love cannot find us. Hear this good news and make it your own: By God's grace we are found, we are forgiven, we are healed, and we are made alive to be with God now and forever.

People: Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING *from Psalm 32*

Leader: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven.

People: Happy are those in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Leader: I said, "I will confess my sins to the Lord."

People: And you, O Lord, forgave the guilt of my sin.

Leader: Let all the faithful offer prayer to you.

People: Be to us a hiding place.

Leader: Preserve us from trouble.

People: Surround us with your steadfast love!

*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

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 "Knowing Good and Evil"

ANTHEM

"Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"

Traditional

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 4:1-11 "Jesus Tempted in the Wilderness"

SERMON "Surrounded by Steadfast Love"

*HYMN No. 488

Nearer, My God, to Thee Vs. 1, 2, 3

INVITATION AND SILENT PRAYER

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: Christ is with us.

People: Christ is in our midst.

Leader: Let us pray.

LENTEN PRAYERS

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.

CALL TO OFFERING & SERVICE

Leader: Let us worship the Lord in the giving of our gifts.

People: To God we make a sacrifice of praise and thanks.

OFFERTORY

“My Song is Love Unknown”

Words: Samuel Crossman Music: John Ireland

*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

Leader: Dear God, accept our offering we dedicate to you.

People: Thank you O Lord, the source of all blessing. Amen.

*COMMISSIONING & CONNECTING

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

If tempted to go to church, don't resist the urge!

*HYMN No. 602

It Is Well With My Soul

Vs. 1, 2, 4

*SPOKEN BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE

“A Mighty Fortress is Our God” (Fughetta)

J. Pachelbel



Thank you for being in worship with us this morning!

We are glad to welcome you to the OCC.

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.

Today's Flowers are Dedicated to the Glory of God

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S LITURGISTS: **Jerry Long**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S USHERS: **Stephen Becker, Alice Gero, Pam Jennette, and Joan Mello**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S COUNTERS: **Bob Boissy and Joan Mello**

THANK YOU TO OUR NURSERY VOLUNTEERS: **Charlotte Capone**

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM OF THE STEINBRECHER'S today, unfortunately needed to be postponed due to work commitments. A future date will be planned soon.

INTERESTING IN JOINING THE OCC?

If you have been worshipping with us, supporting the OCC regularly and are interested in becoming a member, please see Pastor Ken anytime. We would be glad to provide a welcome orientation and blessing.

CALLING ALL THE LITTLE CHILDREN....

Since we all know the kids had so much fun singing for Christmas Eve, they are invited to sing again for the Easter Service. We will start practicing after Worship next week, March 5th. **AND** make sure to join us for worship next week. The choir will be singing selections from the Requiem by Gabriel Fauré, with guest instrumentalists.

THE OCC NURSERY is available weekly to all families with young children attending Worship service, and is located off the Sunday School hallway downstairs, below Fellowship Hall. Ages are infant to 3 years old. Please feel free to ask any usher for assistance or direction.

The OCC Spring Yard Sale – Saturday May 13, 2023

The Original Congregational Church of Wrentham Spring Yard Sale will be held on May 13, 2023, from 8 am to 12 noon. **MANY DONATIONS ARE NEEDED** to fill up our Attic Treasures area! We are accepting donations from both members and the community, so tell your friends. Items may be dropped off in the Vestry or on the bench outside the office starting February 1. Office hours are Tuesday – Friday 9 -3. **We do not accept clothes, books that are not in pristine condition, TVs, computers, large stereos, large furniture, baby furniture, car seats or strollers.**



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

Music Director/Organist: Justin Kisch

Bells Director: Martha Goodman

Sextons: Bob & Sandy Cummings Office Administrator: Donna Charbatji