



The Original Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Sunday, July 2nd, 2023, 9:30am
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Order of Service

PRELUDE

“Improvisation”

Dmitri Kabalevsky

GREETING

Leader: Grace and Peace to you in the name of the One who is and who was and who is to come, the Lord Almighty!

People: And may our joy be made complete in our fellowship of faith! Amen.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Announcements are made for the good of the parish.

*HYMN No. 537

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

CONFESSION

Leader: Let us pray together.

All: God of Spirit and Truth, we rejoice that in the love of Christ you have set us free. We confess that we use our freedom for earthly pursuits. We lose sight of you. Forgive us for our times of unbelief. Call us back to your way of love and faithfulness. Grant us to grow in love, joy, peace and patience and return gentle kindness to your Creation. Amen.

ASSURANCE

Leader: Let us receive words of blessed assurance.

The good news in faith is that we are set free from all that diminishes life in us. Christ proclaims to us that the truth will set us free. Our sins are forgiven. We may live boldly knowing that Christ creates new life in us. We are called to live our life guided by the Spirit. We are free to love!

People: Praise be to the Lord our God!

RESPONSIVE PSALM *from Psalm 44*

Leader: We have heard with our ears, O God.

People: Our ancestors have told us.

Leader: You performed great deeds in their days.

People: With your own hand you planted them.

Leader: You set them free. In the light of your countenance,

People: You delighted in them. Redeem us in your love!

*** All who are able, please stand**

(1)

ACT OF PRAISE No. 36 *Glory Be* 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

Galatians 5:1, 13-15 “You Were Called to Freedom”

MUSIC **“Sarabande in E Minor”** Arcangelo Corelli Monica Yohn, flute

SCRIPTURE

John 8:31-32 “The Truth Will Set You Free”

SERMON “Our Higher Calling”

*HYMN No. 530 *Once to Every Heart and Nation*

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: Christ is with us.

People: Christ is in our midst.

Leader: Let us pray.

PASTORAL PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY **“In Church”** Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

*DOXOLOGY No. 44 Words: Thomas Ken 1674; Music: Bourgeois 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.

*DEDICATION

*HYMN No. 326 *Beneath the Forms of Outward Rite*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive at 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.

SANCTUS *unison*

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!

CONSECRATION

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

Leader: Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world:

People: Have mercy on us.

Leader: Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world:

People: Have mercy on us.

Leader: Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world:

People: Grant us peace.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

MUSIC **"Bread of the World"** Reginald Heber and Paul A. Tate

PRAYER

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

PRAYER OF COMMISSION

We rejoice in the work to share our faith and grow the church of Christ!

*HYMN No. 532 ***O Beautiful for Spacious Skies***

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE **"God Bless America"** Irving Berlin



Welcome to the OCC!

We are so glad to have you join us in worship today. Please join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments here in the hall immediately following worship.

May God bless you this summer with creative rest and holy moments!

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

IN OUR PRAYERS...

Lynnete Beaudro, in our prayers of safety in Qatar.

Peg Mercier, for prayers of peace and health.

Mary Williams, for healing and recovery.

Today's Flowers are dedicated to the Glory of God

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S LITURGIST: **Ned Ligon**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S USHERS: **Kim Kelly and Pan Jennette**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S COUNTERS:

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS TODAY through AUGUST 27th.

The office will begin summer hours and be open Tuesday and Thursday from 9am-3pm.

Kitchen Elves, Lunch Bunch and Bible Study will take the usual summer break and resume in September.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE who helped out for the Yard Sale! It was a second round success.



The Church Mouse Fair
November 18, 2023 9 am – 2 pm



Save the date on your calendars for The Church Mouse Fair, to be held on Saturday, November 18, 2023, from 9 - 2. Stay tuned for SPIRE articles, weekly church bulletins, and our new fair bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for important fair updates! Here are some early calls for help: Save items for the Gifts (non-used), Books (excellent condition), Jewelry, and Christmas tables. Start thinking about creative ideas for the Craft Table and saving your gently used items for the Attic Treasures area. Volunteers will be needed on fair day.

We look forward with anticipation to this traditional community event at our church!

ZIMBABWE BOXES ARE OUT

Finally, the boxes are set up and labeled for donations. We are focusing our donation efforts for The Daisy Dube Childrens Home and Sheltering Arms. The Childrens Home provides a safe space for orphans and abandoned children through our United Church of Christ affiliates in Zimbabwe. Upon aging out of the Childrens Home, youth are given the opportunity to train for a trade at the Sheltering Arms. Following this path can provide an opportunity to continue to thrive in an otherwise harsh environment.

Thanks to our New Hampshire friend, Connie Littlefield and her many African contacts, a shipping crate will leave Rochester, New Hampshire on **August 16th** and begin its journey to Mozambique Africa.

Boxes have been labeled to help organize our collection. Lists of requested items are available there near the assembled boxes.

Essentially, the categories are:

- Gently used clothing for children and infants, including new socks and underwear, shoes in good condition
- Women's and men's clothing, including new bras and men's suits and ties
- School supplies; backpacks, pens, pencils, paper, chalk and rulers
- Art supplies, reading books and preschool puzzles
- Medical supplies; pain relievers, antibiotic ointment, gauze and bandage supplies
- Eyeglasses, toothbrushes, soap and sanitary supplies
- Sewing supplies; fabric, thread, zippers, scissors, sewing needles
- Bedding supplies; sheets, blankets, towels and tote bags
- Sheltering Arms; double size sheets and towels, plates, pots and pans, cutlery and recipe books
- Tools; pliers, tape measures, tool boxes, helmets



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

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.**

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.

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