



The Original Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Sunday, July 9th, 2023, 9:30am  
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

*Order of Service*

PRELUDE                    **“Prelude in E Minor”**                    Frédéric Chopin

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: Creator God, you are the source of all blessings.

**People: We rejoice to gather in your presence.**

Leader: Sustaining God, carry us in your great grace.

**People: We are glad to lift to you our hearts in worship.**

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

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

\*OPENING HYMN No. 407                    ***Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Let us pray together.

**All: Merciful God, we are glad to lift our prayers to you. In your compassion, you carry us when our burdens are many, and our hearts are heavy. We confess we do not always seek you first. Forgive us our unbelief. When we doubt the power of your presence, gently show us the ways you are fully accessible to us. Let us rest fully in our faith. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYER

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

( 1 )

ASSURANCE

Leader: Receive now these words of assurance.

Jesus invites us: “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heaven burdens and I will give you rest.” Dearly beloved, let our hearts rest secure that our Lord is holding us up. In Christ, our sins are forgiven. Our souls are made light. We can rise and live new in the world ready for all that comes our way. Know that with God to guide us, we have nothing to fear!

**People: Praise be to God! Amen.**

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 55*

Leader: Give ear to my prayer, O God.

**People: Do not hide yourself from my supplications.**

Leader: Attend to me, and answer me.

**People: I am troubled in my complaint.**

Leader: I am distraught by the noise of the enemy.

**People: My heart is in anguish within me.**

Leader: O that I had wings like a dove!

**People: I would fly away and be at rest.**

Leader: Cast your burden on the Lord.

**People: God will sustain you.**

Leader: The Lord will never let the righteous be moved.

**People: O God, give ear to my prayers!**

\*ACT OF PRAISE No. 36

Words: 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

Romans 7:15-25 “For I Delight in the Law of God”

MUSIC

**“Prelude in C Minor”**

Frédéric Chopin

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 11:25-30 “Come to Me, You that Are Weary”

SERMON “Sharing the Burden”

\*HYMN No. 224

***Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart***

( 2 )

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: Christ is with us.

**People: Christ is in our midst.**

Leader: Let us pray.

PASTORAL PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING & SERVICE

OFFERTORY

**“Come to Me”**

Gregory Norbert

\*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

\*PRAYER OF SENDING & COMMISSIONING

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

\*CLOSING HYMN No. 436                      *Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

\*SPOKEN BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

\*POSTLUDE

**“Nocturne in E Minor”**

Frédéric Chopin



Welcome to the OCC this morning!

We are glad to be in worship together. Please join us for refreshments and conversation here in Fellowship Hall immediately after the service.

All are welcome!

May God direct your steps this summer to find rest and recreation.

**THE ORIGINAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

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

**Office: 508-384-3110 Website: [www.occhurch.net](http://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**

# **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: Hans Pope**

**THANK YOU TO TODAY'S USHERS: Alice Gero and Mike Foster**

**THANK YOU TO TODAY'S COUNTERS: Joan Mello and Ralph Lambalot**

## **SUMMER OFFICE HOURS TODAY thru 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.



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.

## 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 16<sup>th</sup>** 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