



The Original Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Sunday, August 20th, 2023, 9:30am
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Outdoor Service

*Welcome to the OCC
A Positive Possibilities Place*

Order of Worship

PRELUDE “**Blessed Assurance**” J. F. Knapp, arr. Kathryn Carpenter

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

Leader: We sing praise to God above.

People: The God of all Creation is our salvation.

Leader: In worship our soul is filled with healing love.

People: To God we give all praise and glory!

*OPENING HYMN No. 25 ***Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Let us pray together.

All: Gracious God, we lift our prayers to you. We confess there are times we doubt you will provide for us. We are concerned with matters of fairness before matters of grace. Forgive us our unbelief. Show us the way to live with a generous heart. Grant us the wideness of your mercy to heal and to serve with great joy. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

We take a moment to be in silent prayer before God in worship.

ASSURANCE

Leader: Hear now these words of assurance.

The great good news of faith is this: God hears us, and God heals us. With great faith all distances are crossed, all brokenness is mended, and all relationships are restored. In the power and mercy of Christ's love, all our sins are forgiven. It is this unity that the Spirit brings to life, such like the dew that falls on the mountains in all of God's Creation.

People: Amen.

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

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 133*

Leader: How very good and pleasant it is,

People: When kindred live together in unity!

Leader: It is like the precious oil on the head,

People: Running down upon the beard of Aaron,

Leader: Running down over the collar of his robes.

People: It is like the dew of Hermon,

Leader: Which falls on the mountains of Zion.

People: For there the Lord ordained blessing.

*ACT OF PRAISE No. 36

Words: 3rd Century; Music: 1851

Glorify 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 45:1-15 "Joseph Provides for His Family in Famine"

MUSIC **"I Will Sing New Songs of Gladness"** Antonín Dvořák Kent Jones, baritone

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 15:21-28 "The Great Faith of the Canaanite Woman"

SERMON "Seeking Divine Providence"

*HYMN No. 72 *There's A Wideness in God's Mercy*

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: Christ is with us.

People: Christ is in our midst.

Leader: Let us pray.

PASTORAL PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING & SERVICE

Leader: Let us present our gift to God.

People: We rejoice to return our offering with thanksgiving.

OFFERTORY **"The Old Rugged Cross"** George Bennard Kent Jones, baritone

*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: Holy God, we dedicate our gifts to service in your name.

People: Bless us and bless all who receive your faith offering.

Leader: Encourage us to seek faith and pursue it at all times.

People: Grant us courage to return your great love to the world.

*SENDING & COMMISSIONING

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

Leader: God sends us into the world as on a mission.

People: We will proclaim peace to all the earth.

Leader: Let us walk with each other in harmony.

People: Let every step touch the eternal now.

Leader: Let there be peace on earth,

People: And let it begin with me!

*CLOSING HYMN No. 512 *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

*SPOKEN BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE **“Prelude in D-Flat”** Reinhold Glière



Thank you for being in worship with us this morning!
We are glad to welcome you to the OCC.
Please join us for refreshments and conversation in the Fellowship Hall
immediately following the service.

May God direct your steps
to find eternal moments and peaceful moments in each new day .

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



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.

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.

Brian Donlan, for healing and recovery.

Karen Landin, big sister of Pastor Ken, on the sudden passing of her husband, Rob, and for her recovery and healing.

The Family of Betty Miller, grandmother of Hodge (Monica) Yohn, for her recent passing in Hospice Care. Please keep Hodge, Sherry and their family in your thoughts and prayers.

Today's Flowers are dedicated to the Glory of God

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S LITURGIST: **Judy McCormack**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S USHERS: **Stephen Becker and Judy O'Neill**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S COUNTERS: **Ralph Lambalot and Bob Casavant**



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



We will begin accepting donations for the Fair starting September 5, 2023. Tuesday through Friday 9am-3pm.

MIKE FOSTER is looking for someone to help him approach local businesses about donations to the auction, which will be part of the Church Mouse Fair. Most of those businesses are pleased to donate every year, so the process is easy.

Please contact Mike if you are interested in helping.

KITCHEN ELVES would normally resume the first Wednesday of September; however, The Elves will resume September 13th and not September 6th this year.