



The Original Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 10:00am  
Reign of Christ Sunday

*The deeper our community becomes, the more will  
everything else between us recede.*

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer

### *Order of Worship*

PRELUDE      **“All Glory Be to God on High”** Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau

### 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.*

\*HYMN No. B-42

***Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation***

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Let us pray together.

**All: Gracious Lord, you are the source of all compassion. We ask for a compassionate heart. We confess that we have not always lived as we could in service to the other. Forgive us our sin that separates us from you and each other. Encourage us to welcome the stranger, feed the hungry, visit the sick, release those locked in dark places. Shape us in worship to look at the world in holiness with great praise and love. Amen.**

### SILENT PRAYER

## ASSURANCE

Leader: Receive the assurance of faith.

By the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, we have been given a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Christ. Our eyes are enlightened. Our hearts are full of hope. What Christ has done in being raised to the heavenly places has placed heaven under our feet. In Christ our sins are forgiven. In Christ we too are raised to a whole new life.

**People: Thanks 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 100*

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

**People: Serve the Lord with gladness!**

Leader: Come into God's presence with singing!

**People: Know that the Lord is God.**

Leader: It is the Lord who made us, and we are the Lord's.

**People: We are God's people, the sheep of God's pasture.**

Leader: Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving.

**People: Enter God's courts with praise!**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord and bless God's name.

**People: For the Lord is good.**

Leader: God's steadfast love endures forever.

**People: God's faithfulness is to all generations.**

\*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

Ephesians 1:15-23 “The Greatness of Christ’s Power”

ANTHEM

**“He is the Rock”** Michael Barrett

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25:31-46 “As You Did It to the Least, You Did It to Me”

SERMON “Christ in Community”

\*HYMN No. 612

*Open My Eyes, That I May See*

PRAYER PETITIONS ARE RECEIVED

LIGHTING A CANDLE FOR COMMUNITY

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 give thanks to the Lord with our gifts.

**People: We lift up our gifts to God as God lifts us up by faith.**

OFFERTORY

**“Thanks Be to God”** Marty Haugen

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 ourselves to you.

**People: May the light of Christ be our guide.**

Leader: May the power of Christ's love compel us.

**People: And may all our work be a blessing in your name. Amen.**

\*SENDING & COMMISSIONING

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

Leader: For Christ's glories we now may sing.

**People: In Christ, it is light that we shall bring.**

Leader: We go out into the world proclaiming peace.

**People: We go out in Christ's love that will never cease.**

\*HYMN No. 210 *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

\*SPOKEN BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE No. 288 **"Amen"** Richard Witmer

\*POSTLUDE                      **"Come, Thou Almighty King"** Michael Burkhardt



## **Welcome to the OCC!**

Thank you for being in worship with us this morning!

Join us for refreshments in our hall after the service!

May God's peace go with us as we now enter the season of Advent!

## **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.

**Betty Tobin**, for her well-being.

**Pearl and Gerry Gottberg**, for continued 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: **Pam Jennette, Richard Randlov,**

**Gordon Wetmore and Lesley Whittemore**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S COUNTERS: **Alison Wade, and Richard Randlov**

### **2023 Pledge Balances**

As the end of 2023 approaches, the Finance Team is working on finalizing the year-end financials and budget projections for 2024. It would be greatly appreciated if everyone can check to see if the payments on your 2023 pledge are up to date and catch up if needed. Thanks for your continued support of OCC.

### **Continue Donating After the Fair**

Donations to Attic Treasures continue to arrive, which is great. There will be a follow up Yard Sale on Saturday, **December 2 from 8 am to 11 am**. So, keep those donations coming, even after the Fair.

**The Wrentham Lions** invite the seniors in Wrentham, Plainville and Norfolk to its annual Christmas party, December 3, from 1-3pm, at the King Philip Regional High School. Please call the Wrentham Senior Center at 508-384-5425 by 11/21 to register.



We are an Open and Affirming Congregation  
of the United Church of Christ



The Open and Affirming Covenant of the OCC

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.

Please see our ONA Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall, and look on our Website for more information and links to the wider UCC resources.