



The Original Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Sunday, February 25th, 2024, 10:00am
Second Sunday in Lent

*Join us this Wednesday for
Food, Fun & Faith 5pm-7pm!*

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus” Wilbur Held

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: Let us worship the Lord with praise.

People: We shall sing out to God with love.

A TIME FOR MUSIC WITH THE CHILDREN

Sunday School activities follow our musical gathering time.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

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

*HYMN No. 2

The God of Abraham Praise

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Let us pray together.

All: Loving God, you call us to follow you by faith. We confess that our faith can falter. We listen to our own voice for direction. We look away from your path of suffering. Forgive us our unbelief. Grant us a new spirit to follow you with great courage. May we walk with you into all the pathways that lead to love, service, and transformation. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

(1)

ASSURANCE

Leader: Receive these words of assurance.

The good news of faith is that we may all inherit the gifts of the Spirit. Through the power of Christ's love our sins are forgiven. The promise made to our ancestors in faith remains in our covenant bond with the Lord. In hope, what seems impossible is made possible. By faith, what seemed unattainable is fully accomplished. By grace we are held steadfast as God's beloved.

People: 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 22*

Leader: Worship the Lord with praise.

People: We stand in awe of God.

Leader: The Lord did not despise the afflicted.

People: The Lord's face was not hidden.

Leader: God heard our cries.

People: The congregation will praise the Lord.

Leader: The poor shall eat and be satisfied.

People: All the ends of the earth shall remember God.

Leader: All the families of the nations shall worship the Lord.

People: Future generations will be told about the Lord.

*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 17:1-7, 15-16 "God's Covenant with Abraham and Sarah"

ANTHEM

"By the Waters of Babylon" attrib. Philip Hayes

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 8:31-38 "Take Up Your Cross and Follow Me"

SERMON "A Life of Love and Service"

*HYMN No. 464

Take My Life and Let It Be

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 gifts to God.

People: With praise we seek to glorify the Lord!

OFFERTORY No. 190

"When Jesus Wept" William Billings

*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: Gracious God, accept these gifts we bring.

People: Bless us that we may grow in faithfulness.

Leader: Increase the strength of our congregation.

People: Bless us in your ways of love and service. Amen.

*SENDING & COMMISSIONING

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

Leader: Our soul sings of the wondrous love of God.

People: God's love lifts the heaviest of burdens.

Leader: Together we share in carrying high the cross.

People: To God we sing joyfully as we go.

Leader: May God bless all we are called to do.

People: May love shape all that we are to be!

*HYMN No. 183

What Wondrous Love Is This

*SPOKEN BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

No. 280

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

*POSTLUDE

"Come Sunday" Duke Ellington



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.

Mari Georgio for healing and recovery.

Today's Flowers are dedicated in memory of Alane Wise by Wayne Wise

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

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

Richard Randlov and Gordon Wetmore

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S COUNTERS: **Alison Wade and Bob Casavant**

Food, Fun & Faith begins Wednesday February 28th 5-7pm

Church friends of all ages are welcome to an evening of supper and games. This month will offer “Macaroni Madness” and a variety of boardgames. Please contact Monica Yohn at mltlove3@gmail.com we would love to have you join us!

*If anyone has not received donation envelopes and would like to have some, please reach out to our collector, Beth Lacroix at 508-740-1974 or bethlacroix@outlook.com and she will get them to you”

2024 Spring Yard Sale

The 2024 spring yard sale will be held on May 11 from 8 am to noon. Many donations are needed. Donations may be dropped off in the Vestry at any time. Call Mike Foster if you need assistance. As usual, **do not bring any clothes, books** that aren't in pristine condition, **TVs, computers, large stereos, or large furniture**. In addition, please do not bring **baby furniture, strollers, car seats**.



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.



Senior Pastor: Reverend Kenneth C. Landin
Organist & Music Director: Justin Kisch
Bells Director: Martha Goodman
Church Sextons: Bob and Sandy Cummings
Church Office Administrator: AnnMarie Helmar

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