



The Original Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Sunday, February 4th, 2024, 10:00am
Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
The Sacrament of Holy Communion

*I love all who love me.
Those who seek me early find me.*
—Proverbs 8:17

Order of Service

PRELUDE Theme from “Jupiter” Gustav Holst

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.

WELCOME & ONA COVENANT *printed on back*

A TIME FOR MUSIC WITH THE CHILDREN

Sunday School meets following our gathering music time.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Announcements are made for the good of the parish.

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

CONFESSION

Leader: Let us pray together.

All: Gracious God, you are the source of our strength. We confess that the demands of this world make our souls weary. Our faith grows faint. We do not take time to pray. Forgive us our unbelief. Renew our strength in worship. Make our souls soar high like the eagle’s. May we receive your message of life and proclaim it boldly for all to hear! Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE

Leader: Let us receive these words of assurance.

The great good news of the gospel is this: it speaks to all people. To the weak, it speaks softly and tenderly. To the strong, it speaks boldly and powerfully. The gospel entrusts each and every heart to the commission of God's compassionate ways. Through the love of Christ, our sins are forgiven. Our faith is restored. Our time is redeemed. And we serve with new life!

People: Praise be to the Lord of Life!

RESPONSIVE PSALM *from Psalm 147*

Leader: How good it is to praise the Lord.

People: God is gracious. God builds up Jerusalem.

Leader: God gathers the outcast of Israel.

People: God heals the brokenhearted.

Leader: God binds up their wounds.

People: Great is the Lord and abundant in power.

Leader: Divine understanding is beyond measure.

People: The Lord lifts up the downtrodden.

Leader: Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving.

People: Make melody with the strings.

Leader: With praise we worship the Lord.

People: We take hope in God's steadfast love.

*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

Isaiah 40:27-31 "Mount Up with Wings Like Eagles"

ANTHEM

"My Song of Praise" Don Besig & Nancy Price

SCRIPTURE

Mark 1:29-39 "Jesus Cures Many Who Were Sick"

SERMON "Searching Early—Where Is the Lord Found?"

*HYMN No. 400

There Is a Balm in Gilead

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: Christ is with us.

People: Christ is in our midst.

Leader: Let us pray.

PASTORAL PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

Leader: Let us strengthen the church with our gifts.

People: We present our God gifts with praise!

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

MORECAMBE, Frederick C. Atkinson, arr Dan R. Edwards

*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.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Leader: Holy God we dedicate our gifts to your glory.

People: May your Word be proclaimed in deeds of love! Amen.

*HYMN No. 311

Let Us Break Bread Together

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.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY No. 287 *Sung by all*

Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!

My heart knows how to say to you: you are holy, Lord!

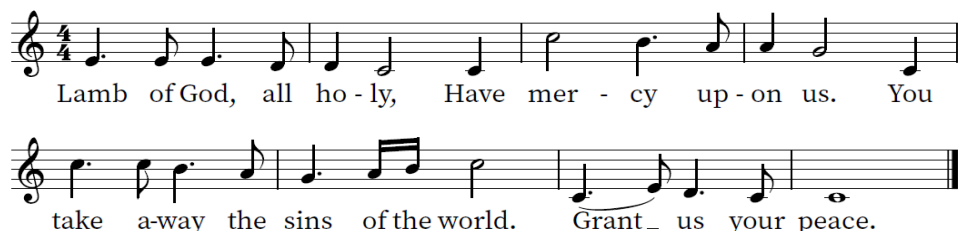
CONSECRATION

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

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP



Lamb of God, all ho - ly, Have mer - cy up - on us. You
take a-way the sins of the world. Grant_ us your peace.

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.

*SENDING & COMMISSIONING

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

Leader: We dwell in the shelter of the Lord!

People: We abide in God's saving shadow.

Leader: We need never fear the terrors of this world.

People: For God's angels of mercy guard our hearts.

Leader: We are raised up as if on eagle's wings.

People: We are born as if the first breath of dawn.

Leader: God makes us to shine forth as the sun.

People: Our faith directs our heart, our head, our hands!

*HYMN No. 595

On Eagle's Wings arr. Douglas Wagner

Refrain:

**And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the break of dawn,
Make you shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.**

(verses will be sung by the choir)

*BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE **Fugue in C** Johann Pachelbel



Welcome to the OCC!

We are so glad to have you join us in worship today.
Please join us for refreshments after worship.
May God grant you renewed strength in your faith journey!

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.

Prayers for Jeff Rowe and his loved ones on the passing of Cheryl last week. A Service of Celebration of Life will be held at the Original Congregational Church on Saturday, February 10th at 1:00pm All are welcome.

Today's Flowers are dedicated to the Glory of God

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S LITURGIST: **Gordon Wetmore**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S USHERS: **Stephen Becker, Bob Boissy, Heather Castelo, Kim Kelly and Gordon Wetmore**

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

FOOD, FUN and FAITH

Please join us for an easy friendly meal and games night on Wednesday, February 28, at 5:00pm to 7:00pm. This is for folks of all ages! This month we will offer Macaroni Madness and Garden Salad and Board Games and Relay Games. If you would like to contribute or participate contact Monica Yohn by Email at mltlove3@gmail.com

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**



**The Original Congregational Church
United Church of Christ, Wrentham, MA
Open and Affirming Covenant
Adopted on June 5, 2022**



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.

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.**

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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