



The Original Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Wrentham Centre
Sunday, March 3, 2024, 10:00am
Third Sunday in Lent

*How Lovely Are Thy Tabernacles
O Lord of Hosts!*

Order of Service

PRELUDE **“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”** C.S. Lang

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: May our joy be made complete in our fellowship of faith!

WELCOME & READING OUR ONA COVENANT *see insert*

GATHERING MUSIC TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

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: Holy God, how lovely is your dwelling place. Our soul longs to be with you. We confess that we lose sight of you along our way. Our faith fails and we are in need of your rest. Forgive us our times of unbelief. Show us the way to return to you. Grant us your mercy. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE

Leader: Receive these words of assurance.

Our Lord says to us, "I have loved you with an everlasting love." By grace our times of sorrow are turned to times of gladness. Our sins are forgiven. Our souls are restored in God's mercy and great faithfulness. God gathers us like a flock and we shall find rest in the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

RESPONSIVE PSALM *from Psalm 84*

Leader: How lovely is your dwelling place,

People: O Lord of hosts!

Leader: My soul longs, indeed faints,

People: For the courts of the Lord.

Leader: My heart and my flesh sing for joy,

People: To the living God.

Leader: Even the sparrow finds a home,

People: The swallow a nest for herself,

Leader: Where she may lay her young,

People: At your altars, O Lord of hosts!

Leader: Blessed are they that dwell in your house,

People: They will always be praising thee!

ACT OF PRAISE No. 36 *Gloria* 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

Jeremiah 31:1-3, 13 "God's Everlasting Love"

CHOIR ANTHEM "Lacrimosa" (Full of Tears) W.A. Mozart

See insert for translation

SCRIPTURE

John 16:19-20 "Your Sorrow Turned to Joy"

SERMON "From Mourning to Strength"

HYMN No. 87

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

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 present our gifts to God!

People: We return to God our gifts with praise!

OFFERTORY “Wie lieblich sind deine Wohnungen”

(How lovely is your dwelling place) Johannes Brahms

*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, receive our gifts we pray.

People: We dedicate our offering to your glory.

Leader: Bless the earth with your favor and honor.

People: Bless the world in your great mercy! Amen.

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.

SANCTUS *unison*

Holy, Holy, Holy, God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the Highest!

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

"Agnus Dei" Giuseppe Verdi

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

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: The Lord of love is calling us.

People: We give thanks for God's Good News.

Leader: Our hearts thrill and rejoice.

People: We triumph in redeeming Grace.

Leader: Let us go to love and serve.

People: May the Lord dismiss us with love and blessing.

*HYMN No. 333

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

No. 280

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

POSTLUDE

“Forty Days and Forty Nights”

C.S. Lang



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 to the Lord

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S LITURGIST:

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S USHERS: **Stephen Becker, Heather Castelo,**

Trevor Knott and Gordon Wetmore

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S COUNTERS:

CHOIR NEWS: The choir has begun work on music for Holy Week and Easter. We are looking for a few additional members to help us out this season. All voice parts are welcome but we particularly welcome tenors and basses.

LUNCH & LEARN Sunday March 10 "Let Go in Lent"

Please join us for our next Lunch & Learn event on Sunday March 10.

We will enjoy a "souped up" coffee hour. All may enjoy a hot cup of soup right after worship. At about 11:30 we will gather in the Parlor for a learning session called "Let Go in Lent." We will discuss ways of simplifying our material, intellectual and spiritual lives! All are welcome!

*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.**

**PANCAKES TO SUPPORT DOCTORS WITHOUT
BOARDERS**

**PALM SUNDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST MARCH 24, 2024
FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE**

Free will offering to support the

Doctors without Borders

Sign up to help, and to attend outside of Fellowship Hall.



**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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