



The Original Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Sunday, March 17th, 2024, 10:00am
Fifth Sunday in Lent

*I am certain in my heart that all I am,
I have received from God.*
—Saint Patrick

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

“I Cannot Tell” Words: W.Y. Fullerton
Music Londonderry Air, Irish Traditional
Monica Yohn, Soprano

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.

A TIME FOR MUSIC WITH THE CHILDREN

Sunday School activities follow our musical gathering time.

*HYMN No. 250

Here in This Place (Gather Us In) vs. 1, 2, & 4

GATHERING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray together.

People: Gather us in O Lord and hold us forever. Together our souls are on fire with your sacred gifts of the Holy Spirit. In this place your morning light is streaming. In this space our fears are forgotten. Here in this place the lost are welcomed. Here in worship, we are gathered in your passion to give and receive the gracious gifts of love and faith. 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 51*

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God, in your steadfast love.

People: In your abundant mercy blot out my sins.

Leader: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity.

People: My sin is ever before me.

Leader: Against you alone I have sinned.

People: I have done evil in your sight.

Leader: You desire truth in my inward being.

People: Teach me the secret wisdom of the heart.

Leader: Let me hear joy and gladness.

People: Let these crushed bones rejoice!

Leader: Create in me a clean heart, O God.

People: Put a new and right spirit within me.

Leader: Restore to me the joy of your salvation.

People: Sustain me in a willing spirit.

MUSICAL REFLECTION **"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"** Bell Choir
William H. Doane & Lowell Mason, arr. Arnold B. Sherman

READING "To Keep a True Lent" Robert Herrick

MUSICAL REFLECTION **"A Disciple's Prayer"** Handbell Choir
Michael Glasgow

READING "Fasting and Feasting" Kathleen Vermillion Price

HOLY SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 31:31-34 "A Covenant on Their Hearts"

*HYMN No. 473

O Jesus, I Have Promised

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HOLY SCRIPTURE

Mark 1:13 “Jesus Is Tested in the Wilderness”

MUSICAL REFLECTION **“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley”** Handbell Choir
American Spiritual, arr. Dan R. Edwards

READING “You Are Seen” Rev. Amy Lignitz Harken

*HYMN No. 454 ***God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending***

HOLY SCRIPTURE

Matthew 14:15-16 “Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand”

READING “You Feed the People” Anthony Robinson

MUSICAL REFLECTION **“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”** Handbell Choir
Hans Leo Hassler, arr. Barbara B. Kinyon

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: Christ is with us.

People: Christ is in our midst.

Leader: Let us pray.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CALL TO OFFERING & SERVICE

Leader: Let us present to God our offerings with praise.

People: We share our gifts in the abundance of God’s grace!

OFFERTORY **“A Gaelic Blessing”** John Rutter
Monica Yohn, Soprano

*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 return to you all our gifts from the heart!

People: We dedicate our offering and our service to your Glory. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN No. 353 *Called as Partners in God's Service vs. 1 & 2*

*SPOKEN BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE Hymn No. 339 *Part in Peace vs. 1 & 3*

Monica Yohn, Soprano

*POSTLUDE "Those Who Love and Those Who Labor" Gaelic Melody



Welcome to the OCC!

Thank you for being in worship today!

Join us for refreshments following the service.

We thank the Wrentham wRingers for their musical gifts!

And we thank Martha Goodman for creating our worship today!

May God lead us into Holy Week with great love and faithfulness.

And, ***Happy St. Patrick's Day*** to you and all your loved ones!



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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.

Lori-Ann Lizotte for healing and recovery.

Rodney Geib for healing and recovery.

Pastor Ken for his recent diagnosis and treatment plan

“Today’s Flowers are dedicated to the Lord”

THANK YOU TO TODAY’S LITURGIST:

THANK YOU TO TODAY’S USHERS: **Bob Boissy, Leesa Burke,
Joan Mello**

THANK YOU TO TODAY’S COUNTERS: **Leesa Burk and Bob Boissy**

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, April 7 “For the Beauty of Earth” We will present scriptural verses that guide our love and care for Creation, and create a prayer that expresses our wonder and worry for the future wellness of people and the planet. And join us for “Souped Up” coffee hour – all veggie soup!

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**.

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Sunday School Holy Week Walk, Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024 Following the Procession of the Palms, the OCC Sunday School children will continue on to a meaningful and creative walk through Holy Week with Jesus. They will visit six Holy Week stations set up in the church parlor. This will be a dramatic opportunity for them to visualize the events leading Jesus to joy of Easter Morning. The stations will remain during Holy Week for anyone who might want to visit them before Easter Sunday.

**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**



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.

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

**THE ORIGINAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
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