



The Original Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Sunday, April 7th, 2024, 10:00am
Second Sunday of Easter
The Sacrament of Holy Communion

***Love is like wildflowers;
It's often found in the most unlikely places.***
—*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

Order of Service

PRELUDE **“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”** (NOVA VITA)
Lister Peace, arr. Wilbur Held

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 all who enter in receive the great gifts of Easter Faith! Amen.

WELCOME & ONA COVENANT *printed on back*

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Announcements are made for the good of the parish.

A TIME FOR MUSIC WITH THE CHILDREN

Sunday School meets following our gathering music time.

*HYMN No. 204 ***Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain***

CONFESSION

Leader: Let us pray together.

All: Holy God, we are humbled by the atoning sacrifice through Christ.

Forgive us our sins. Grant us new strength in our Easter Faith that inspires us to live according to your ways of love and compassion, seeking forgiveness and reconciliation. In worship, make us to be of one heart and soul as we gather to celebrate your Holy Spirit with us. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER (1)

ASSURANCE

Leader: Receive the assurance of faith.

It is the Lord who ordains blessings of life forevermore. The great good news of faith is that our sins are forgiven. God covers the world with love.

Darkness is turned to light. Despair is turned to hope. Doubt is turned to confidence. In Easter we celebrate that the Lord never stops reaching out to us to connect with God and one another with great faithfulness.

People: Praise be to the Lord our God!

RESPONSIVE PSALM *from Psalm 133*

Leader: How very good and pleasant it is,

People: When kindred live together in unity!

Leader: It is like the precious oil on the head,

People: Running down upon the beard,

Leader: On the beard of Aaron,

People: Running down over the collar and robes.

Leader: It is like the dew of Hermon,

People: Which falls on the mountains of Zion.

Leader: For there, the Lord ordained a blessing.

People: The Lord blesses life forevermore.

*ACT OF PRAISE No. 37

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

SCRIPTURE

Acts 4:32-35 "The Whole Group Were of One Heart and Soul"

ANTHEM No. 424 **"We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"**

Words: Henry Alford

Music: Samuel McFarland

SCRIPTURE

John 20:19-31 "The Risen Jesus Appears to Thomas"

SERMON "Word and Spirit"

*HYMN No. 220 ***Breathe on Me, Breath of God***

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: Christ is with us.

People: Christ is in our midst.

Leader: Let us pray.

PASTORAL PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

Leader: How good it is to dwell in unity!

People: Our gifts are shared with all.

Leader: Let us give our God gifts with joy.

People: May the world be blessed with love.

OFFERTORY

“O Sons and Daughters”

Words: Jean Tisserand, 15th c., tr. John M. Neale

Music : 17th c.

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below; Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. O praise him, O praise him,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Leader: Dear God, we dedicate our gifts to your glory.

People: Grant that all who receive be blessed.

Leader: Enlighten the world with love and hope.

People: May your peace settle upon the world. 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* See Insert

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

Leader: Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world:

People: Have mercy on us.

Leader: Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world:

People: Have mercy on us.

Leader: Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world:

People: Grant us peace.

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: Our Savior abides with us in joyful Eastertide.

People: Jesus is the source of love and gentleness.

Leader: Let us go out to rejoice in the gift of new life.

People: We go celebrating the dawning of joy!

*HYMN No. 215

Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

No. 209

“Alleluia! The Strife is O’er”

POSTLUDE

“Glory to God” Normand Gouin



Welcome to the OCC!

We are so glad to have you join us in worship today.
Please join us for refreshments and a cup of soup after worship.
And join us for our Lunch & Learn conversation about Creation.
May all the blessings of the Spirit be with you in this Eastertide.

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, Heather Castelo**

Kim Kelly and Gordon Wetmore

THANK YOU TO TODAY’S COUNTERS: **Ralph Lambalot and**

Bob Casavant

LUNCH & LEARN Today: Celebrating Creation

Our next Lunch & Learn session is today following our “Souped Up” Coffee Hour. Enjoy a cup of soup and join us in the parlor from 11:30 to noon. This month our topic is “For the Beauty of the Earth” and we will present scriptural verses that guide our love and care for Creation, share lessons we have learned and appreciated about the natural world, and create a prayer that expresses our wonder and worry for the future wellness of people and the planet.



**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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