



The Original Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 9:30am  
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Welcome to the OCC  
A Positive Possibilities Place*

*Order of Worship*

PRELUDE                    **“Prelude in E Minor”**                    Frédéric Chopin

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.*

\*HYMN No. 238                    ***The Church’s One Foundation***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Let us pray together.

**All: Blessed Creator, you are the source of all life. We thank you for the gifts of the earth. We confess that we do not share your gifts in your way. We grow impatient. We fear there is not enough. Forgive us our unbelief. Nurture us in the ways of the Spirit. May our church work be as to you a field to grow, a shelter to build, in your name, we pray. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Receive these words of assurance.

The great good news of the gospel is this: God has planted us for divine delight. In the Spirit we grow into fruitfulness by sharing the gifts of love, kindness and gentleness. In great compassion the Lord forgives us. In great commitment the Lord opens a way for all to remain close in the Spirit. By faith we are one in all we do and all we are when we call on the name of the Lord!

**People: Praise be to the Lord! 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.**

**\*All those who are able, please stand.**

RESPONSIVE READING *from Psalm 1*

Leader: Blessed is the one who delights in the law of the Lord.

**People: Do not walk in the counsel of the wicked.**

Leader: Meditate on God's law, day and night.

**People: You are like a tree planted by streams of water.**

Leader: The tree yields its fruit in its season.

**People: The leaves do not wither.**

Leader: In all you do, you will prosper.

**People: For the Lord knows the way of the righteous.**

\*ACT OF PRAISE No. 36

Words: 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

1 Corinthians 3:5-10 "God Gives the Growth"

ANTHEM **"Barren Fig Tree"**

Words: Mary B. C. Slade Music: John W. Holt

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 13:6-9 "The Parable of the Fig Tree"

SERMON "Fruit that Grows by Sharing"

\*HYMN No. 236

***Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing***

MISSION MOMENT

PRAYER NOTICES *are shared*

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: Christ is with us.

**People: Christ is in our midst.**

Leader: Let us pray.

PASTORAL PRAYER

\*HYMN No. 256

***Kum ba Yah***

CALL TO OFFERING & SERVICE

Leader: Let us present our gifts to God.

**People: We rejoice to share our gifts in the Spirit.**

OFFERTORY

**"Day By Day"**

Words: adapted fr. St. Richard of Chichester Music: Stephen Schwartz

\*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, we dedicate our gifts to you.

**People: Make a way for all to receive your blessing.**

Leader: Shine a light on all your children in need.

**People: Grant to all great love and new life. Amen.**

\*SENDING & COMMISSIONING

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

Leader: We are sent on God's divine mission.

**People: We shall water the fields with love.**

Leader: We shall build the church with care.

**People: We walk in the light of God.**

Leader: We shall march, and we shall sing.

**People: Together our prayers will dance with the Lord!**

\*HYMN No. 366

*We Are Walking*

\*SPOKEN BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

\*POSTLUDE

**"Nocturne in E Minor"**

Frédéric Chopin



*Welcome to the OCC!*

Thank you for being in worship today!

Join us for refreshments following the service.

May the Lord grant you all good gifts of the Spirit!

**IN OUR PRAYERS...**

**Lynnete Beaudro**, in our prayers of safety in Qatar.

**Mary Williams**, for healing and recovery.

**Pastor Ken** for his recent diagnosis and treatment plan.

**Elizabeth Enegren**, for continued strength and recovery after surgery.

**Ann Conaty**, for strength in recovery.

**Wayne "Mac" and Judy McCormack**, for peace and calm during his illness.

**Tina Upham**, for encouragement with healing.

**Deb and George Labonte**, on the passing of their son Deputy Chief George Labonte, Jr.

## *Today's Flowers are dedicated in Honor of the Children of Africa*

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S LITURGIST:

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S USHERS: **Heather Castello, and Jean Roche**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S COUNTERS: **Mike Foster and Richard Randlov**

**Please join the Outreach Team** in welcoming Connie Littlefield, Director of PKZ and Vrante Mahlupeko and his son Trevor, to our church today. Vrante and Trevor are visiting New England this summer from Mt. Selinda in Zimbabwe. Vrante is instrumental in procuring and distributing food to the **Daisy Dube Children's Home**, a project we have been supporting for many years. There are 25 residents at Daisy Dube ranging in age from under 4 to young adults.

As we have gotten to know Vrante through email and Facebook, we have learned he does much more than provide food to the Children's Home. He seems to be wherever compassion, assistance or a helping hand is needed for those living throughout Zimbabwe. Take a few moments to greet them and hear their amazing stories. Welcome PK!

### **We need YOU to welcome HIM!**

The Original Congregational Church is in need of NEW ushers/greeters and communion helpers!!!!

Ask yourself, 'How can I serve my church?'

"How can I serve God?"

Please email Monica at [monica@occhurch.net](mailto:monica@occhurch.net) if you are interested or have any questions.

OR....

Come to the Welcome Back Potluck Dinner on **September 4th** to meet others and get involved!



### **The Kitchen Elves NEED YOUR HELP.**

If you would like to help with meal prep and love to peel veggies, show up at 9 am the first Wednesday of every month. Or, would you like to bake cookies every couple of months or perhaps can you deliver 3-4 meals once a month...please notify our Elf Team by contacting Pearl at [pgottberg@hotmail.com](mailto:pgottberg@hotmail.com) or Sue Schwarm at [Sue.schwarm@gmail.com](mailto:Sue.schwarm@gmail.com).

Bakers make 60 cookies a month and deliver them to Fellowship Hall the night before Elves, or by 9:30 that morning. Drivers arrive at noon on Elf Day, and are done in about an hour. You can also call on our cell phones. Even if you can help once in a while, we would love to have you join us.



**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.

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.

**THE ORIGINAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
1 East St. P.O. Box 657, Wrentham, MA 02093  
Office: 508-384-3110 Website: [www.occhurch.net](http://www.occhurch.net) Facebook**

**Senior Pastor: Reverend Kenneth C. Landin  
Music Director/Organist: Justin Kisch  
Bells Director: Martha Goodman  
Community Coordinator, Lead Soprano: Monica Yohn  
Sextons: Bob & Sandy Cummings  
Summer Office Administrator: Donna Charbatji**

**Wrentham Day  
9.7.2024  
We need YOU!!!!**

Volunteers are needed to man the TWO canopy areas this year!!!

We will be promoting the Church Fair, the NEW C.K.C., and Community Connections!!!!

**Email Monica if you can help!  
[monica@occhurch.net](mailto:monica@occhurch.net)**

