



The Original Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 10:00am  
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

## *Order of Worship*

PRELUDE                    **“Organ Piece in C”**                    Anton Kehrler

### 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 ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*HYMN No. 597                    *In Christ There Is No East of West*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Mighty and merciful God, we recognize that we are all your precious children, loved, forgiven, and sustained by You. In Your grace we were created to bring glory to Your holy name, be good stewards of the earth and love and honor of neighbors as ourselves. We confess to You that often we fall short of Your expectations of us, and we ask for Your forgiveness of our sins. Thank you for never giving up on us despite our failings, holding us close through trials and celebrations and being present with us in this holy hour of worship. AMEN.**

### SILENT PRAYER

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Receive these words of assurance.

God promises to never leave us alone and even in our most challenging of times, to be beside us tenderly caring for our every need and supporting us as a loving parent. The love of God is greater than any of our sins and we are given the grace of forgiveness when we humbly confess our short comings and earnestly turn back to our Creator.

**People: Thanks be to God for this gift of our faith! Amen.**

### THE LORD’S PRAYER

**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 *Adapted from Psalm 125*

Leader: Those who trust in you, O Lord, are like Mount Zion.

**People: The mountain cannot be moved and stands forever.**

Leader: Just as the mountains surround Jerusalem, the Lord will surround the people always.

**People: The staff of wickedness will not touch those who are righteous.**

Leader: O Lord, keep Your people in the path of righteousness.

**People: Blessings to those who seek God's ways and are upright in their hearts.**

Leader: As for the evildoers, the Lord will lead them away.

**People: Peace be upon Israel and all of creation.**

\*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 42: 16 "Hymn of Praise"

ANTHEM No. 101 "Surely No One Can Be Safer"

Words: Caroline "Lina" Sandell Berg, Music: Swedish traditional

*vs. 1: Monica Yohn; vs. 2: Kent Jones ; vs. 3 congregation in unison; vs. 4 congregation in harmony*

SCRIPTURE

Mark 7:24-37

"The Syrophenician Woman's Faith" and "Jesus Cures a Deaf Man"

SERMON "Children of God"

\*HYMN No. 612 *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

PRAYER NOTICES

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: Christ is with us.

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

Leader: Let us pray.

PASTORAL PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING AND SERVICE

Leader: Let us show gratitude to our great God by offering our gifts and talents.

**People: With cheerful hearts we offer our gifts to You, O Lord.**

OFFERTORY "The Gift of Love" arr. Hal H. Hopson

\*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: Benevolent God, we offer to You our gifts, our time, our talents.

**People: Thank you for being our constant source of guidance, peace, and love.**

Leader: Like a caring parent, you provide for our every need.

**People: May all that we do bring glory to Your blessed name. Amen.**

\*SENDING AND COMMISSIONING

Leader: Through the uncertainties of life, we have a stronghold in our God.

**People: We need not fear the future for our constant companion and guide is with us.**

Leader: Grace and peace are ours when we put our trust in the Heavenly Parent who loves and cares for us.

**People: We are the Children of God!**

\*HYMN No. 614                    *Sent Forth By God's Blessing*

\*SPOKEN BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE No. 289                    **"Amen"**                    (Dresden)

POSTLUDE                    **"Prelude and Fugue in B-Flat"**                    attrib. J. S. Bach



*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 healing and a speedy recovery after surgery.

**Elizabeth Enegren**, now home and so thankful for all of your prayers.

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

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

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

**Sherri Alleman**, for healing and strength in recovery after surgery.

*Life of the Church*  
*Today's Flowers are dedicated to the Glory of God*

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S LITURGIST: **Jerry Long**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S USHERS: **Steve Becker, Bob Boissy, Mike Foster and Kim Kelly**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S COUNTERS: **Bob Boissy and Mike Foster**

**WELCOME PASTOR LORI**

Today, we welcome Pastor Lori Bruni, as our guest pastor to provide pastoral coverage during Pastor Ken's medical leave.

An MDiv graduate of Chicago Theological Seminary, Pastor Lori is completing her process towards ordination in the UCC. She resides in Weymouth with her spouse Anthony and beloved cat Lucy. They have three adult children and are expecting a grandchild in October! Please come and meet Pastor Lori during Coffee Hour.

**CALENDER:**

Monday, September 9th	6:30pm	Food Pantry Meeting
Tuesday, September 10th	7:00om	Council Meeting
Thursday, September 12th	9:00am	Worcester Fellowship
	9:30am	Ladies Breakfast
	6:00pm	Bells Rehearsal
	7:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, September 13th	6:00pm	Scary Bingo!
Sunday, September 15th	Community Kids Club Begins	
	10:00am	Worship Service/Baptism
	11:00am	Fellowship Hall Coffee Hour

**BRING YOUR GENTLY USED GOODS TO THE DRIVE-UP DONATION DAY!**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 FROM 1 - 4 PM (in the church parking lot!)**

**Church Fair tables are in need of items, especially Attic Treasures  
(see full list in September SPIRE).**

**Fill your car, drive up and a volunteer will unload the items from your vehicle!**

**How easy is that?**

**Or...Drop off your items during office hours on the bench next to the office (Tu - Fr 9 -3)**

**\*\* We do not accept electronic items, large furniture, baby furniture, strollers or car seats; and books that are not in pristine condition.**

**We need YOU to welcome GOD!**

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

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

Choir members needed, Tenors especially. Like to sing? That is what we like to hear.

Contact Justin for more info!





**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**

**Guest Pastor: Pastor Lori Bruni  
Music Director/Organist: Justin Kisch  
Bells Director: Martha Goodman  
Community Coordinator, Lead Soprano: Monica Yohn  
Sextons: Bob & Sandy Cummings  
Summer Office Administrator: Donna Charbatji**

