



The Original Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Sunday, December 1st, 2024, 10:00am
First Sunday of Advent
The Sacrament of Holy Communion

*We let go of the life we planned
to accept the one that is waiting for us!*

—Joseph Campbell

Order of Service

ORGAN PRELUDE **“The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”**

arr. 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: And may our joy be made complete in our fellowship of faith! Amen.

WELCOME & ONA COVENANT *printed on back*

LIFE OF THE CHURCH *Announcements are made for the good of the parish.*

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE *of Hope*

CKC **“O Little Town of Bethlehem” & “It Came Upon A Midnight Clear”**

Vs. 1 of both songs (see insert). The CKC meets following the advent candle lighting.

*HYMN No. 114 ***O Come, O Come Emmanuel***

CONFESSION

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Everlasting God, from the beginning of days you have been loving and faithful. We confess that we have wandered away from you and sought our own paths. Forgive us our unbelief. Show us the way to live according to your goodness and grace. Increase our strength of soul to bear hope into a world in need of your tender care. Amen.

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

(1)

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Receive the assurances of our faith.

In Christ, we are forgiven. As surely as the signs of winter come upon us, we know that God is near. Without distraction, God lays bare our humble truth. We all are in need of prayer. And we all may depend upon the steadfast love and faithfulness of the Lord of Creation.

People: Praise be to the Lord of New Life!

RESPONSIVE READING *from Psalm 25*

Leader: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

People: O my God, in you I trust.

Leader: Do not let me be put to shame.

People: Make me to know your ways.

Leader: Teach me your paths.

People: You are the God of our salvation.

Leader: We wait for you all day long.

People: Be mindful of your mercy and love.

Leader: God teaches the sinners what is right.

People: All the Lord's paths are loving and faithful.

*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.

SCRIPTURE Jeremiah 33:14-16 "A Righteous Branch"

ANTHEM "The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns"

Words: Greeks, tr. John Brownlie; Music: ST. STEPHEN, William Jones

SCRIPTURE Luke 21:25-36 "Be Alert at All Times"

SERMON "From Strength to Strength"

*HYMN No. 257 *This Is The Day*

PRAYER NOTICES *are shared*

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: May we strengthen God's House!

OFFERTORY **"Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending"**

Words: Charles Wesley and John Cennick; Music: Thomas Olivers,

*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, bless our gifts with your love.

People: May our church grow in strength and mission.

Leader: Bless us as we serve the world in your Holy Name.

People: Bless the world to know you are near to us all! 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

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

COMMUNION MUSIC **"To You I Lift My Soul"** Monica Yohn, soprano

Lyrics: John Dunn (based on Psalm 25); Music: John Ireland

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: God sends us on a mission to proclaim the Good News.

People: Our long-awaited Lord has come to set the people free.

Leader: Hope and joy can enter every longing heart.

People: Grace and glory give the world a whole new start!

*HYMN No. 121 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

*BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE “**Rejoice! Rejoice!**” Traditional

POSTLUDE “**Noël étranger (Foreign Noël)**” Louis-Claude Daquin

Welcome to the OCC!

We are so glad to have you join us in worship today. Please join us for refreshments after worship. May the Spirit of Advent bless you as we await Christmas!

Life of the Church

SUNDAY PRAYER REQUESTS *are located on the worship table.*

IN OUR PRAYERS...

Lynnete Beaudro, in our prayers of safety in Qatar, recent loss of Yvonne.

Mary Williams, for healing and recovery.

Judy McCormack and Loved Ones, for peace and comfort on the recent passing of Mack.

Joseph Botaish, II, for love and support during a time of illness.

Steven Wilson, for healing during time of treatments.

Today's Flowers are dedicated to the Glory of God

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S LITURGIST: **Leslie Whittemore**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S USHERS: **Heather Castelo, Mike Foster, Barbara Ligon, Ned Ligon, Richard Randlov & Gordon Wetmore (H)**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S COUNTERS: **Alison Wade & Ralph Lambalot**

CALENDER:

Monday, December 2nd	6:30pm	Food Pantry
Wednesday, December 4th	9:00am	Kitchen Elves
Thursday, December 5th	4:00pm	Sohoanno Club Meeting
	6:00pm	Bells Rehearsal
	7:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, December 7th	8:00am	Yard Sale in Vestry
	10:00am	Wreath Decorating Workshop w/Sohoanno Club
Sunday, December 8th	10:00am	Bells Perform/Worship
	11:00am	Fellowship Hour
	11:15am	Worship Team Meeting
	4:00pm	Christmas Concert
	5:00pm	Potluck Dinner in Fellowship Hall

POST FAIR YARD SALE

Saturday December 7 8 - 11 am



The Original Congregational Church of Wrentham
1 East St. Wrentham Ma www.occhurch.net 508-384-3110

Bring a
Friend

Share your love of the Church with those you know! Ask them to come to Service with you!

Introduce them to others at Coffee Hour!

Bring them to an event!

Let's build our community

ONE PERSON AT A TIME!!!!

THE RETURN OF THE NAME TAG BASKET

Back by popular demand, the Fellowship Hall Name Tag Basket will once again be located on the table by the rear door to the hall. Now after socializing after Sunday service, you can pop your name tag in the basket as you exit the rear door. (No more traipsing back to the name tag board by the office.) Come Sunday, your name tag will appear back in the name tag board. Magic!

UPCOMING EVENTS

12/1 4:30pm - Cocoa & Caroling at OCC followed by Wrentham Tree Lighting

12/7 8:00am - Yard Sale in Vestry

12/7 10:00am - Wreath Decorating Workshop with Sohoanno Club

12/8 4:00pm - Christmas Concert & Potluck

12/11 1:30pm - Book Club

12/13 4:00pm - Christmas Kid's Craft & Movie Night

12/24 5:00pm - Christmas Pageant

12/31 5-9:00pm - New Year's Eve Family Dinner & Countdown*

**Please save your bubble wrap and drop it at the church anytime before then to be used during this event.*

*The Original Congregational Church
of Wrentham Presents . . .*

A Holiday Music Concert

Sunday, December 8 at 4 pm

featuring

The Wrentham wRingers,

Chancel Choir and

Special Guests:

The Blakesly Duo!

Pot luck reception following!



Located at

1 East St.

Wrentham Ma

www.occhurch.net

508-384-3110

We are offering

the opportunity to remember a loved one with a gift of \$12, per listing, which will be collected

in honor or memory of your loved ones.



Those being remembered and those making the donation will be listed in the December 24th bulletins. There will be poinsettias used to decorate the sanctuary; purchased from the Flower Fund.

Please make checks payable to OCC with **"Flower Fund"** in the memo. Please have all orders in to the office by the December 18th deadline. Thank you.



**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.**



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

**Pastor: Pastor Ken Landin
Music Director/Organist: Justin Kisch
Bells Director: Martha Goodman
Community Coordinator, Lead Soprano: Monica Yohn
Sextons: Bob & Sandy Cummings
Office Administrator: Kristi Brytowski**