



The Original Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Sunday, December 8th, 2024, 10:00am  
Second Sunday of Advent

***Peace begins with a smile.***  
—*Mother Teresa*

*Order of Worship*

PRELUDE “**Comfort Ye**” G. F. Handel, sung by Monica Yohn

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.*

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE *of Peace*

\*HYMN No. 119 ***Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: God of our ancestors, we confess we have forgotten your ways.**

**Forgive us our sins. Restore us by your deep well-spring of mercy and love. Guide us by your light to prepare a way in our hearts for your peace to return. May your light breaks upon the world anew, we pray. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYER

\*All those who are able, please stand.

( 1 )

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Receive these words of assurance.

Our God is a God of rescue. In the power of Christ's love, we are saved from the power of our enemies. Light shines through the darkness. Good overcomes evil. Love hopes all things, believes all things and endures all things. In the love of Christ our sins are forgiven and we are restored to the ancient way.

**People: Praise be to the Lord of Faith and Peace. 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 Luke 1:68-79*

Leader: Bless the Lord God of Israel.

**People: The Lord has come to help and deliver the people.**

Leader: A mighty savior is raised up from David's house.

**People: The mercy promised to our ancestors is shown.**

Leader: We would be rescued from the power of our enemies.

**People: We serve the Lord in holiness and righteousness.**

Leader: And you child, will be called the prophet of the Most High.

**People: You will go before the Lord to prepare the way.**

Leader: Because of our God's deep compassion,

**People: The dawn from heaven will break upon us.**

Leader: Light will shine on those who sit in darkness.

**People: Light will guide our feet into the way of peace.**

\*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 READING

Malachi 3:1-4 “The Messenger of the Covenant”

HANDBELL MUSIC **“O Come, O Come, Emanuel”** arr. Jason Krug  
Wrentham wRingers

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3:1-6 “John the Baptist Appears”

SERMON “Prepare the Way”

\*HYMN No. B-5 ***On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry*** (in the blue binders)

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 & SERVICE

Leader: With God’s help, we prepare the way of holiness.

**People: Let us build together God’s House with our gifts.**

OFFERTORY ***“Prepare the Royal Highway”***

arr. Anna Laura Page; performed by Wrentham wRingers

\*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: We dedicate ourselves to your work, O Lord.

**People: Grant these gifts to be a blessing of love and service.**

Leader: Fill this House of Prayer with your favor.

**People: May all the world come to know your peace. Amen.**

\*SENDING & COMMISSIONING

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

Leader: Lift up your heads!

**People: For the Prince of Peace draws near.**

Leader: The Savior of the world is here.

**People: Let us sing to the glory of God that awaits!**

\*CLOSING HYMN No. 127 *Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates*

\*SPOKEN BENEDICTION

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

\*POSTLUDE **Swiss Noël: “O dieu de clémence (O God of Mercy)”**  
Louis-Claude Daquin

***Welcome to the OCC!***

Thank you for being in worship today!

Join us for refreshments following the service.

May God grant you peace and light in this season of Advent!

***Christmas Concert Tonight***

**4pm Music**

**5pm Potluck Supper**

## *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: **Bob Boissy**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S USHERS: **Leesa Burke, Pam Jennette, Joan Mello, & Judy O'Neill**

THANK YOU TO TODAY'S COUNTERS: **Leesa Burke & Joan Mello**

### **CALENDER:**

Tuesday, December 10th	7:00pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday, December 11th	1:30pm	Book Club
	5:00pm	Food, Fun, Friends
Thursday, December 12th	9:30am	Ladies Breakfast
	12:00pm	Trivia
	6:00pm	Bells Rehearsal
	7:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, December 13th	4:00pm	Kid's Christmas Craft & Movie Night
Saturday, December 14th	12:00pm	FH Rental 12pm-4pm
Sunday, December 15th	10:00am	Worship
	11:00am	Fellowship Hour



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

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

12/11 1:30pm - Book Club

12/13 4:00pm - Kid's Christmas 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](http://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](http://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**