

First Congregational Church of Rowley, United Church of Christ
Order of Morning Worship
Drive in Service - 90.3 FM – April 18, 2021 @ 10am

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Tom Bentley

Call to Worship

Doug Phillips

Leader: Doubt and fear are gone!

All: Light and hope abound!

Leader: Where we once felt alone and lost;

All: Christ has come to walk again with us.

L: Hallelujah!

All: Hallelujah! AMEN.

Opening Song “Savior like a Shepherd lead Us” sung by the Joselin Grove Choir
<https://youtu.be/DrxxmObv2-s>

New Testament Reading Acts 3:12-26 The Message Doug Phillips

When Peter saw he had a congregation, he addressed the people: “Oh, Israelites, why does this take you by such complete surprise, and why stare at us as if *our* power or piety made him walk? The God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, has glorified his Son Jesus. The very One that Pilate called innocent, you repudiated. You repudiated the Holy One, the Just One, and asked for a murderer in his place. You no sooner killed the Author of Life than God raised him from the dead—and we’re the witnesses. Faith in Jesus’ name put this man, whose condition you know so well, on his feet—yes, faith and nothing but faith put this man healed and whole right before your eyes.

“And now, friends, I know you had no idea what you were doing when you killed Jesus, and neither did your leaders. But God, who through the preaching of all the prophets had said all along that his Messiah would be killed, knew exactly what you were doing and used it to fulfill his plans.

“Now it’s time to change your ways! Turn to face God so he can wipe away your sins, pour out showers of blessing to refresh you, and send you the Messiah he prepared for you, namely, Jesus. For the time being he must remain out of sight in heaven until everything is restored to order again just the way God, through the preaching of his holy prophets of old, said it would be. Moses, for instance, said, ‘Your God will raise up for you a prophet just like me from your family. Listen to every word he speaks to you. Every last living soul who refuses to listen to that prophet will be wiped out from the people.’

“All the prophets from Samuel on down said the same thing, said most emphatically that these days would come. These prophets, along with the covenant God made with your ancestors, are your family tree. God’s covenant-word to Abraham provides the text: ‘By your offspring all the families of the earth will be blessed.’ But you are first in line: God, having raised up his Son, sent him to bless you as you turn, one by one, from your evil ways.”

Moment of Music. “Peace I Leave wit You My Friends” by Ray Repp <https://youtu.be/HG6R6ViKSMs>

Joys and Concerns (*prayer requests can be texted to 978-973-2362*)

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.

Gospel Reading **Luke 24:35b-48** *The Message* **Doug Phillips**

While they were saying all this, Jesus appeared to them and said, "Peace be with you." They thought they were seeing a ghost and were scared half to death. He continued with them, "Don't be upset, and don't let all these doubting questions take over. Look at my hands; look at my feet—it's really me. Touch me. Look me over from head to toe. A ghost doesn't have muscle and bone like this." As he said this, he showed them his hands and feet. They still couldn't believe what they were seeing. It was too much; it seemed too good to be true.

He asked, "Do you have any food here?" They gave him a piece of leftover fish they had cooked. He took it and ate it right before their eyes.

Then he said, "Everything I told you while I was with you comes to this: All the things written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets, and in the Psalms have to be fulfilled."

He went on to open their understanding of the Word of God, showing them how to read their Bibles this way. He said, "You can see now how it is written that the Messiah suffers, rises from the dead on the third day, and then a total life-change through the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed in his name to all nations—starting from here, from Jerusalem! You're the first to hear and see it. You're the witnesses.

Message: "Seeing We Have a Congregation"

Closing Song: "Lord, make me More Holy" (*African American Spiritual*) <https://youtu.be/TnHbk81J8Z8>

Benediction:

Rev. Tom Bentley

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

<https://youtu.be/DrxxmObv2-s>

**Savior, like a shepherd lead us
Much we need Thy tender care
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us
For our use Thy folds prepare
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are**

**We are Thine, who Thou befriend us
Be the guardian of our way
Keep Thy flock from sin defend us
Seek us when we go astray
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus
Hear, O hear us, when we pray
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus
Hear, O hear us, when we pray**

**Early let us seek Thy favor
Early let us do Thy will
Blessed Lord and only Savior
With Thy love our bosoms fill
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus
Thou hast loved us, love us still
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus
Thou hast loved us, love us still**

"PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU, MY FRIENDS".

<https://youtu.be/HG6R6ViKSMs>

**PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU, MY FRIENDS:
SHALOM MY PEACE, IN ALL YOU DO.
PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU, MY FRIENDS,
I GIVE TO YOU, SO YOU CAN GIVE TO OTHERS, TOO.**

**TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE IS WHY I CAME
TO SHOW GOD'S KINDNESS TO THE WORLD
GO NOW MY FRIENDS AND DO THE SAME,
UNTIL I COME AGAIN...**

**PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU, MY FRIENDS:
SHALOM MY PEACE, IN ALL YOU DO.
PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU, MY FRIENDS,
I GIVE TO YOU, SO YOU CAN GIVE TO OTHERS, TOO.**

**TAKE MY HAND AND BE AT PEACE,
THE SPIRIT OF OUR LOVE I SEND;
AND WITH THIS LOVE YOU WILL BE FREE,
UNTIL I COME AGAIN...**

**PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU, MY FRIENDS:
SHALOM MY PEACE, IN ALL YOU DO.
PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU, MY FRIENDS,
I GIVE TO YOU, SO YOU CAN GIVE TO OTHERS, TOO.**

"Lord, make me More Holy"

<https://youtu.be/TnHbk81J8Z8>

**Lord make me more holy
Lord make me more holy
Lord make me more holy
Holy, holy, holy
Until we meet again**

**Lord make me more faithful
Lord make me more faithful
Lord make me more faithful
Faithful, faithful, faithful
Until we meet again**

**Lord make me more joyful
Lord make me more joyful
Lord make me more joyful
Joyful, joyful, joyful
Until we meet again**

**Lord make me more humble
Lord make me more humble
Lord make me more humble
Humble, humble, humble
Until we meet again**

**Humble, humble, humble
Until we meet again**



Annual Plant Sale

May 15th, 2021

Rain Date May 22nd, 2021

9am until 1 pm

**At First Congregational Church
of Rowley**

Plants supplied by Country Gardens of Rowley

Outdoor Volunteer hour/learn about and help cut back invasives

Invasive vines threaten the health of trees and shrubs, spreading rapidly and sprawling over them, blocking out the sun, eventually killing the host plants.

The weight of a dense canopy of vines can pull trees down. Oriental bittersweet wraps around tree trunks, girdling them.

Trees provide shade and block winds, clean the air and produce the oxygen we breathe, offer habitat and food for wildlife, control water run off, and mitigate climate change.

With a few simple tools and some effort, you can help control invasive vines and save trees.

Using bypass loppers or a hand saw, cut oriental bittersweet vines close to the ground. Make another cut several feet higher so it is noticeable that the vine has been cut.

Take caution not to cut into or damage the tree bark.

Pull out or dig up the roots of younger vines if you can.

Stay on top of this maintenance, as you would your lawn.

Watch out for poison ivy. Identifying characteristics include hairy aerial roots and light brown buds. All parts of this plant is toxic, even in winter.

If you need help identifying or controlling what is growing on your property or would like to help cut vines in our area, send me a message medixongardens@gmail.com.

Mary-Ellen Dixon
Pillowlace Lane, Ipswich



MISSIONS COMMITTEE

MISSIONS WALK INVITATION

WALKING



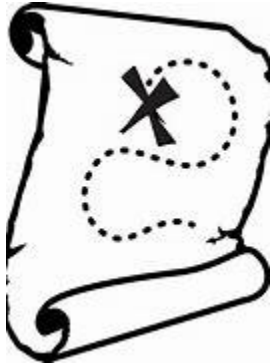
Please join us for a walk in fellowship at the Trustees property off Newman Street in Newbury for our Missions Walk, April 18th at 1PM.

Drive north on Rte 1A, over the Parker River, take a left onto Newman Street just before the Benson Gallery. A little way down entrances to Town Hill will be on your right. Just before you get to the marsh there is a walking path on the left with room for cars to park on the side of the road. Please meet us there.

Hopefully it will be a nice day! We will cancel if there is rain. See you then.



MISSIONS SCAVENGER HUNT INVITATION



Missions invites you to our fund-raising event, a scavenger hunt to find historic sites in Rowley! Date: May 2nd. Clues will be emailed, or able to be picked up at the church, at 11AM. Please sign up with Sign-up Genius . Search in your browser for Sign Up Genius Rowley Historical and it should come right up! Please contact Holly Ardito at 617-480-4572 if you have any question..

We hope this will be a fun, educational, community building event! Ask your friends to join us! The cost is \$7 per person or \$15 per family. There will be ice cream sundaes following the event.
See you then. SIGN UP!!!!



PARTICIPANTS

Minister: Rev Tom Bentley
Lay Reader: Doug Phillips
Deacon: Les Warren

Music Director: Karl Schmuck
Deaconess: Nancy Schmidt

Prayer List

Whenever there is a need for spiritual support, you are encouraged to call anyone on the Prayer Chain with your concerns and they will inform the others so that our prayers of love and support can be with you immediately.

The Prayer Chain members are as follows: Patti Cummings (978)948-8176, Patti.Cummings@livanova.com; Kay Dalzell (978)948-2674, kdalzell@comcast.net; David & Donna Irving (978) 948-7020, dvd Irving@aol.com; Nicola Pyburn (978)948-2598, nicola.pyburn@gmail.com; Ken Sanford (978)948-2847, kcsanford1@gmail.com; Dennis Ward (978)432-1021, rward3024@comcast.net; Jerry & Nancy Schmidt (978)388-1417, schmidtnancy36@gmail.com, jschmidt22@comcast.net; or Les Warren (978) 352-7551; leswarren3@gmail.com.

Alice (Al & Carol Locke's daughter)	Al Locke
Family of Doris Bradstreet	Helen Downing
Nancy Cook and her daughter	Duval Family
Gretchen Lee (friends of Bev and Doug Phillips)	Millie and Nat Dummer
Ken Flewelling (Amy Rotberg's father)	Ginny Merry
Al Fowler (Friend of Sally McRae's)	Sally McRae
Kurt Reese	Family of Mame Delaney
Jean (Sally McRae's cousin)	Linda Lemay (Rhonda Ward's friend)
Beverley Phillips	Pat and Steve True
Elaine Pyburn (resident at Sunrise in Lynnfield)	Dede Todd
Jean Short (Kay Dalzell's neighbor)	Helen Dobbins
Gerry Ernstrom	Billy Prime
Robbie Marshall	Bill Glynn and Family
Lisa Levandowski and family	Colin Wilson (Rhonda Ward's father)

**First Congregational Church, U.C.C.
Rowley, Massachusetts**

March 15, 2021

To: The Members and Friends, First Congregational Church, U.C.C., Rowley
Rowley, Massachusetts

The 381st Annual Meeting of the church will be held on Sunday, April 25, 2021 beginning no earlier than 10:30 a.m. immediately after the 10:00 a.m. drive-in worship service.

Items on the agenda for the business meeting are:

1. To hear and act on annual reports of the various officers, boards, and committees from the previous year.
2. To hear and act upon the report of the Nominating Committee (elections).
3. To hear and act upon any other business which may properly come before the church membership.

Respectfully submitted,

David E. Irving

David E. Irving, Clerk