



# First Congregational Church of Rowley

United Church of Christ

175 Main Street, Rowley, MA – 978-948-3993

Order of Worship Service

Sunday, October 30, 2022

***Day of Remembrance***

Reverend Thomas Bentley

IN LOVING  
*Memory*



Deacons – Nicola Pyburn and Paul Chang

Lay Reader – David Irving

Today's AV Tech – Eric Fila

Sunday School – Patti Cummings and Amy Hanson



*Flowers on the Communion Table today*

*In loving memory of all our saints*

*Please join us for coffee after the service*

***We are a church that lives by faith, is known by love...a voice of hope serving the community***

## Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Tom Bentley

## Call to Worship

David Irving

Leader: For all those who have paved the way for our freedom of worship, we give thanks, O Lord.

**People: For those who have taught us about witness and the power of love, we give thanks, O Lord.**

Leader: For those who work in our church that we may come to know what it means to serve, we give thanks, O Lord.

**People: For all the saints, those who rest from their labors, and those who labor still, we give thanks, O Lord.**

Leader Praise be to God, who continually inspires and guides workers and witnesses.

**Leader & People: Open our hearts and spirits, O Lord, and help us to become good workers for you. AMEN**

## Opening Prayer: *(in unison)*

David Irving

**Lord God of love and peace, open our hearts today to receive the invitation of Jesus to come and be present in our lives. Release us from our smallness and create an atmosphere of confession and healing love in our hearts and our spirits. For we ask these things in Jesus' Name, AMEN.**

## Opening Song: "Love Divine, All Love Excelling" <https://youtu.be/TQrNMJrgbyM>

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heav'n, to earth come down,  
fix in us your humble dwelling,  
all your faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, you are all compassion,  
Love unbounded, love all pure.  
Visit us with your salvation;  
Then your love in us endure.

Finish, then, your new creation;  
Pure and spotless make us love.  
Let us see your great salvation  
perfectly renewed in love.  
Changed from glory into glory,  
till in heav'n we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before you,  
lost in wonder, love and praise.

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**Old Testament Reading Psalm 32: 1-7    *The Message*    David Irving**

Count yourself lucky, how happy you must be—

    you get a fresh start,  
    your slate's wiped clean.

Count yourself lucky—

    God holds nothing against you  
    and you're holding nothing back from him.

When I kept it all inside,

    my bones turned to powder,  
    my words became daylong groans.

The pressure never let up;

    all the juices of my life dried up.

Then I let it all out;

    I said, "I'll come clean about my failures to God."

Suddenly the pressure was gone—

    my guilt dissolved,  
    my sin disappeared.

These things add up. Every one of us needs to pray;

    when all hell breaks loose and the dam bursts  
    we'll be on high ground, untouched.

God's my island hideaway,

    keeps danger far from the shore,  
    throws garlands of hosannas around my neck.

**Call to Offering**

**Moment of Music "Abide With Me"** <https://youtu.be/VTOzUb4Bjhg>

(instrumental only- the congregation is invited to remain seated and listen to the melody)

**Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow**

**Praise Him all creatures here below**

**Praise Him above the Heavenly Host**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

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**Prayer of Dedication  
Children's Time  
Joys and Concerns**

**The Reading of the Names of Those We Have Lost During the Last Year**

Lee Ames ~ Pat Barlow ~ Harold Bentley

Melissa Carter ~ Irene Cate ~ Nat Dummer

Mary Beth Hartman ~ Helen Hatcher ~ Robert Hodge

Ron Lancaster ~ Peter Lohne ~ Judy Tidd Lynch

Louise Mehaffey ~ Martin McCue ~ Denise Ouelette

Merle Phipps ~ Tom Reed ~ Phillip Reed Jr

Louise Shields ~ Raymond Steinhauer ~ Andy Uhl

Robert Walles ~ Fizzie Winslow

**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.**

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**Gospel Reading: Luke 19: 1-10 *The Message***

**David Irving**

Then Jesus entered and walked through Jericho. There was a man there, his name Zacchaeus, the head tax man and quite rich. He wanted desperately to see Jesus, but the crowd was in his way—he was a short man and couldn't see over the crowd. So he ran on ahead and climbed up in a sycamore tree so he could see Jesus when he came by.

When Jesus got to the tree, he looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, hurry down. Today is my day to be a guest in your home." Zacchaeus scrambled out of the tree, hardly believing his good luck, delighted to take Jesus home with him. Everyone who saw the incident was indignant and grumped, "What business does he have getting cozy with this crook?"

Zacchaeus just stood there, a little stunned. He stammered apologetically, "Master, I give away half my income to the poor—and if I'm caught cheating, I pay four times the damages."

Jesus said, "Today is salvation day in this home! Here he is: Zacchaeus, son of Abraham! For the Son of Man came to find and restore the lost."

**Message: "Reformation and Restoration"**

**Rev. Tom Bentley**

**Closing Song O Soul Are You Weary and Troubled?**

<https://youtube.com/shorts/THONHg6turM?feature=share>

(Please listen to the hymn until it is finished, and then everyone is invited to sing along during the second playing of the music.)

O soul, are you weary and troubled?  
No light in the darkness you see?  
There's light for a look at the Savior,  
And life more abundant and free!

Refrain:  
Turn your eyes upon Jesus,  
Look full in His wonderful face,  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,  
In the light of His glory and grace.

**Benediction:**

**Rev. Tom Bentley**

Join us for Coffee after the service

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