



First Congregational Church of Rowley

Order of Worship Service
Palm Sunday, April 10, 2022
Reverend Thomas Bentley

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Tom Bentley

Call to Worship

Leader: The journey has been long and sometimes very difficult.

People: During this Lenten journey we have seen miracles and mysteries.

Leader: Now the Lord comes to us in victory.

People: Jesus rides into Jerusalem and into our hearts.

Leader: Blessed is the One who comes in the Lord's Name!

Leader & People: Hosanna in the highest! AMEN.

Opening Prayer: (in unison)

Sue Hazen

With great joy we welcome you, Lord Jesus! The journey has been long, and we have longed to enter the Holy City. You come into our hearts and our lives, humbly, patiently, encouraging us to learn and grow, to embark on journeys of hope and healing. Open our hearts today to hear your words, as we sing praise to you. Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the Lord's Name. AMEN.

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Sue Hazen

Lord, we confess that when we started this journey, it seemed like a fun idea. Walk the road with Jesus, we thought. But the journey has had many difficult times when our spirits have been challenged and tried. We have come to the time of entrance into the Holy City. We want everything to be wonderful; for you to conquer all those things that threaten us and our peace. We want you to do what we direct. Forgive us, Lord, when we place our fears and ignorance before your love. Help us to look again at the many ways in which we can be a blessing to others, through serving them and you. Release us from our panic and mistrust and help us to place our lives solely in your hands. AMEN.

Words of Assurance

Rev. Tom Bentley

Rejoice, the Lord has come into your presence. You are the beloved ones of God. Know that God walks with you through this parade and time of celebration and in all the times ahead. AMEN.

Opening Song: "All Glory, Laud and Honor" NCH # 216

1 All glory, laud, and honor
to you O Christ we sing
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.
The people of the Hebrews
with palms adorned your way;
our praise and prayer and anthems
we offer you this day

2 O promised One of Israel,
Of David's Royal Line,
the one called "God Beloved"
of flesh and yet divine
To you, before your passion
They sang their hymns of praise
To you, now high exalted,
our melody we raise.

3 As you received their praises,
Receive prayers today,
Whose justice and whose mercy
And sovereignty hold sway
All glory, laud, and honor
To you, O Christ we sing,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.

New Testament Reading

Sue Hazen

Philippians 2:1-13 Message

If you've gotten anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a community of the Spirit means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you *care*—then do me a favor: Agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends. Don't push your way to the front; don't sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand.

Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. He had equal status with God but didn't think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no

matter what. Not at all. When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became *human*! Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death—and the worst kind of death at that—a crucifixion.

Call to Offering

Moment of Music: "Our Messiah Has Come"

sung by the Inspirational Singers led by Karl Schmuck

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

Prayer of Dedication, Joys and Concerns, 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

Sue Hazen

Luke 19:28-40 *The Message*

After saying these things, Jesus headed straight up to Jerusalem. When he got near Bethphage and Bethany at the mountain called Olives, he sent off two of the disciples with instructions: "Go to the village across from you. As soon as you enter, you'll find a colt tethered, one that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it. If anyone says anything, asks, 'What are you doing?' say, 'His Master needs him.'"

The two left and found it just as he said. As they were untying the colt, its owners said, "What are you doing untying the colt?"

They said, "His Master needs him."

They brought the colt to Jesus. Then, throwing their coats on its back, they helped Jesus get on. As he rode, the people gave him a grand welcome, throwing their coats on the street.

Right at the crest, where Mount Olives begins its descent, the whole crowd of disciples burst into enthusiastic praise over all the mighty works they had witnessed:

Blessed is he who comes,
the king in God's name!
All's well in heaven!
Glory in the high places!

Some Pharisees from the crowd told him, "Teacher, get your disciples under control!"

But he said, "If they kept quiet, the stones would do it for them, shouting praise."

Message: "Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?"

Rev. Tom Bentley

Closing Song: "Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant" NCH #539

1. Won't you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.
2. We are pilgrims on a journey, we are travelers on the road;
We are here to help each other go the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shadow of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
4. I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.
5. When we sing to God in heaven we shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together, of Christ's love and agony.

Benediction:

Rev. Tom Bentley

May your bearing be that of Christ Jesus: the one who emptied himself, the one who took the form of a servant, the one who was raised to the heights and given the name above all names. May your lives declare the lordship of Jesus Christ, to the glory of God. Amen

Flowers on the Altar given by Gary and Debbie Confalone in celebration of our family and friends.

Deacons: Nicola Pyburn, Penny Hurley, Ken Sanford and Jen Loring

Lay Reader: Sue Hazen

Piano/Organist: Marge Thurston

Inspirational Singers led by Karl Schmuck

A/V: Shawna Kelley

**Please keep these friends
and family in your prayers**

Kim Cyr

Joyce Ernstrom

Mary Hartman

Millie Gates

Beverley Phillips

Pat and Steve True

Sue Bermas

Robin

Marilyn Diehl

Rodge Taylor



If you would like to add someone to the Prayer list, please put their names on an index card and drop them in the offering basket.

Mark your calendar:

Sunday, April 24, 8:30am-10am

Annual Meeting

Pet's Unleashed

Vacation Bible School Event

Saturday, April 30

10 am – Noon

Lesson from Genesis

Noon -12:30 – Pet Blessing

Contact Patti Cummings and Amy Hanson
for information.

Saturday, May 14 8am-9:30am

Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, May 14

Plant Sale

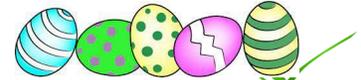
Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 16, 2022 - 11:00 am

First Congregational Church of Rowley

175 Main Street, Rowley, MA 01969

www.firstchurchrowley.org



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 10 – Worship 10am

Monday, April 11 – Lenten Series 6:30pm in person only

Thursday, 7:30pm, Maundy Thursday Service

Sunday, April 17 – Sunrise Service 6am
Town Landing, Rowley

10am Worship Service – at the church

Visit the church website and calendar for updates

www.firstchurchrowley.org

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