

**First Congregational Church of Rowley, United Church of Christ
Order of Morning Worship
Communion Sunday - June 6, 2021 @ 10am**

Welcome and Announcements. Rev. Tom Bentley

Call to Worship

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made!

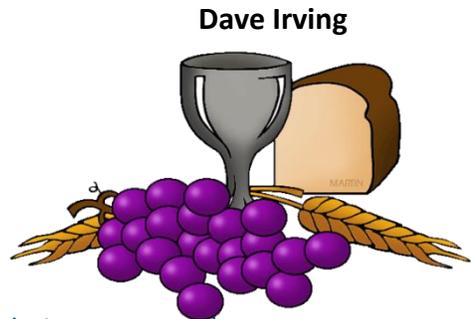
All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Leader: This is a day of new beginnings!

All: This is a time for growing into new disciples for Jesus.

Leader: Come, let us prepare ourselves for worship

All: Let us be prepared for service to God. AMEN.



Opening Song “Christ is Made the Sure Foundation” *(see lyrics on page 3)* <https://youtu.be/yu0Wh6zgQQA>

New Testament Reading 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:5 The Message Dave Irving

So we’re not giving up. How could we! Even though on the outside it often looks like things are falling apart on us, on the inside, where God is making new life, not a day goes by without his unfolding grace. These hard times are small potatoes compared to the coming good times, the lavish celebration prepared for us. There’s far more here than meets the eye. The things we see now are here today, gone tomorrow. But the things we can’t see now will last forever.

For instance, we know that when these bodies of ours are taken down like tents and folded away, they will be replaced by resurrection bodies in heaven—God-made, not handmade—and we’ll never have to relocate our “tents” again. Sometimes we can hardly wait to move—and so we cry out in frustration. Compared to what’s coming, living conditions around here seem like a stopover in an unfurnished shack, and we’re tired of it! We’ve been given a glimpse of the real thing, our true home, our resurrection bodies! The Spirit of God whets our appetite by giving us a taste of what’s ahead. He puts a little of heaven in our hearts so that we’ll never settle for less.

Call to Offering

Moment of Music. “In Christ There is No East or West ” sung by Paul Demer *(lyrics pg 4)* <https://youtu.be/YLshATZcAbs>

Doxology <https://youtu.be/2kmskQGJllc>

*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...*

Prayer of dedication

Deacon Emeritus Recognition (See handout)

Installation of New Officers, Members of Committees and Boards

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

Mark 3: 20-35 *The Message*

Dave Irving

Jesus came home and, as usual, a crowd gathered—so many making demands on him that there wasn't even time to eat. His friends heard what was going on and went to rescue him, by force if necessary. They suspected he was believing his own press.

The religion scholars from Jerusalem came down spreading rumors that he was working black magic, using devil tricks to impress them with spiritual power. Jesus confronted their slander with a story: "Does it make sense to send a devil to catch a devil, to use Satan to get rid of Satan? A constantly squabbling family disintegrates. If Satan were fighting Satan, there soon wouldn't be any Satan left. Do you think it's possible in broad daylight to enter the house of an awake, able-bodied man, and walk off with his possessions unless you tie him up first? Tie him up, though, and you can clean him out.

"Listen to this carefully. I'm warning you. There's nothing done or said that can't be forgiven. But if you persist in your slanders against God's Holy Spirit, you are repudiating the very One who forgives, sawing off the branch on which you're sitting, severing by your own perversity all connection with the One who forgives." He gave this warning because they were accusing him of being in league with Evil. Just then his mother and brothers showed up. Standing outside, they relayed a message that they wanted a word with him. He was surrounded by the crowd when he was given the message, "Your mother and brothers and sisters are outside looking for you."

Jesus responded, "Who do you think are my mother and brothers?" Looking around, taking in everyone seated around him, he said, "Right here, right in front of you—my mother and my brothers. Obedience is thicker than blood. The person who obeys God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

Message: "Family Systems In the Light of Faith"

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Closing Song: "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" (*see lyrics on page 4*) <https://youtu.be/P6lzTJfWdmk>

Benediction: Rev. Tom Bentley

“Christ is Made the Sure Foundation”

<https://youtu.be/yu0Wh62gQQA>

**1 Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord and precious,
binding all the church in one;
holy Zion's help forever,
and her confidence alone.**

**2 All that dedicated city,
dearly loved of God on high,
in exultant jubilation
pours perpetual melody;
God the One in Three adoring
in glad hymns eternally.**

**3 To this temple, where we call thee,
come, O Lord of hosts, today:
with thy wonted loving-kindness
hear thy servants as they pray;
and thy fullest benediction
shed in all its brightest way.**

**“In Christ There is No East or West ”
sung by Paul Demer**

<https://youtu.be/YLxhATZcAbs>

**1 In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.**

**2 In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere
their high communion find.
His service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.**

**3 Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.**

**4 In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are joined as one
throughout the whole wide earth.**

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

<https://youtu.be/P6izTjfWdmk>

**1 Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.**

**2 Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are
one,
our comforts and our cares.**

**3 We share our mutual woes,
our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.**

**4 When we are called to part,
it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in
heart,
and hope to meet again.**

PARTICIPANTS

Minister: Rev Tom Bentley
Lay Reader: Dave Irving
Deacon: Les Warren

Music Director: Karl Schmuck
Deaconess: Nicola Pyburn

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)
Arnold and Patti Cisco	Douglas Stoddard (Judy Robillard's son)

**Flowers on the Communion Table today are given by Hank Chase,
in memory of Brian Chase.**

Missions Committee

- Missions Walk June 6th
 - 1pm at Camp Dennison
 - 84 Nelson Street Georgetown Ma.
- Cookies and Conversation June 13th.
- Mission Minute June 20th.



SAVE THE DATE!!! Details to follow

Annual Ezekiel Rogers Golf Fundraiser
Saturday, September 18th
Far Corners Golf
Boxford, MA

Looking for golfers and volunteers on the day of the event. Please contact Debbie Confalone at dconfalone@comcast.net or 781.290.6502.

