

First Congregational Church of Rowley, United Church of Christ
Order of Morning Worship
Drive in Service - 90.3 FM – April 25, 2021 @ 10am
Annual Meeting

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Tom Bentley

Call to Worship

Sharon Emery

Leader: God is my shepherd; I shall not want.

People: God makes me lie down in green pastures, and leads me beside still waters;

Leader: God restores my soul and leads me in right paths for the sake of God's name.

People: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me and your rod and your staff - they comfort me.

Leader: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Leader & People: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of God my whole life long.

Opening Song: "The King of Love My Shepherd Is". <https://youtu.be/WLdPoQnylnA>

New Testament Reading 1 John 3:16-24. *The Message*

Sharon Emery

This is how we've come to understand and experience love: Christ sacrificed his life for us. This is why we ought to live sacrificially for our fellow believers, and not just be out for ourselves. If you see some brother or sister in need and have the means to do something about it but turn a cold shoulder and do nothing, what happens to God's love? It disappears. And you made it disappear.

When We Practice Real Love

My dear children, let's not just talk about love; let's practice real love. This is the only way we'll know we're living truly, living in God's reality. It's also the way to shut down debilitating self-criticism, even when there is something to it. For God is greater than our worried hearts and knows more about us than we do ourselves.

And friends, once that's taken care of and we're no longer accusing or condemning ourselves, we're bold and free before God! We're able to stretch our hands out and receive what we asked for because we're doing what he said, doing what pleases him. Again, this is God's command: to believe in his personally named Son, Jesus Christ. He told us to love each other, in line with the original command. As we keep his commands, we live deeply and surely in him, and he lives in us. And this is how we experience his deep and abiding presence in us: by the Spirit he gave us.

Moment of Music: Greater Than Our Hearts *sung by Matthew Smith*

<https://youtu.be/zSe3WFd6TXI>

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 John 10:11-18 *The Message* Sharon Emery

“I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd puts the sheep before himself, sacrifices himself if necessary. A hired man is not a real shepherd. The sheep mean nothing to him. He sees a wolf come and runs for it, leaving the sheep to be ravaged and scattered by the wolf. He’s only in it for the money. The sheep don’t matter to him.

“I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own sheep and my own sheep know me. In the same way, the Father knows me and I know the Father. I put the sheep before myself, sacrificing myself if necessary. You need to know that I have other sheep in addition to those in this pen. I need to gather and bring them, too. They’ll also recognize my voice. Then it will be one flock, one Shepherd. This is why the Father loves me: because I freely lay down my life. And so I am free to take it up again. No one takes it from me. I lay it down of my own free will. I have the right to lay it down; I also have the right to take it up again. I received this authority personally from my Father.”

Message: “Greater Than Our Worried Hearts”

Closing Song: What A Friend We Have in Jesus <https://youtu.be/8SCorW9r Is>

Benediction: Rev. Tom Bentley

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

<https://youtu.be/WLdPoQnylnA>

The King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness fails me never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow
With gentle care he leads me,
And where the verdant pastures grow,
With heavn'ly food he feeds me.

Perverse and foolish I have strayed,
But yet in love he sought me.
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With you, dear Lord, beside me;
Your rod and staff my comfort still,
Your cross before to guide me.

You spread a table in my sight;
Your saving grace bestowing:
And O what joy and true delight
From your pure chalice floweth

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness fails me never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise
Within your house for ever.

“Greater Than Our Hearts” sung by Matthew Smith

<https://youtu.be/zSe3WFd6TXI>

O let us by your cross abide
You, only You, resolved to know
The Lamb for sinners crucified
A world to save from endless woe

You who are greater than our hearts
Come make Your faithful mercies known
The mind of Christ to us impart
Your constant mind in us be shown

Take us into your people's rest
And we from our own works shall cease
With your meek Spirit arm our breast
And keep our minds in perfect peace

You who are greater than our hearts
Come make Your faithful mercies known
The mind of Christ to us impart
Your constant mind in us be shown

Jesus, for this we calmly wait
Oh let our eyes behold You near
Hurry to make our heaven complete
Appear our glorious God, appear

You who are greater than our hearts
Come make Your faithful mercies known
The mind of Christ to us impart
Your constant mind in us be shown

You who are greater than our hearts
Come make Your faithful mercies known
The mind of Christ to us impart
Your constant mind in us be shown

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

https://youtu.be/8SCorW9r_Is

What a friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and griefs to bear
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer

Oh, what peace we often forfeit
Oh, what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged
Take it to the Lord in prayer

Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness
Take it to the Lord in prayer



Annual Plant Sale

May 15th, 2021

Rain Date May 22nd, 2021

9am until 1 pm

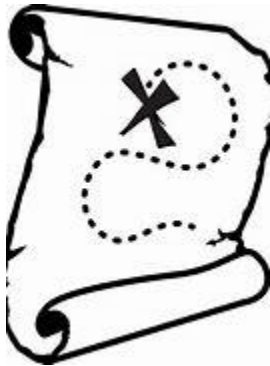
**At First Congregational Church
of Rowley**

Plants supplied by Country Gardens of Rowley

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

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!!!!



**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

PARTICIPANTS

Minister: Rev Tom Bentley
Lay Reader: Sharon Emery
Deacon: Dennis Ward

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, dvdirving@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, schmidtncancy36@gmail.com, jschmidt22@comcast.net; or Les Warren (978) 352-7551; leswarren3@gmail.com.

Alice (Al & Carol Locke's daughter)
Family of Doris Bradstreet
Nancy Cook and her daughter
Gretchen Lee (friends of Bev and Doug Phillips)
Ken Flewelling (Amy Rotberg's father)
Al Fowler (Friend of Sally McRae's)
Kurt Reese
Jean (Sally McRae's cousin)
Beverley Phillips
Elaine Pyburn (resident at Sunrise in Lynnfield)
Jean Short (Kay Dalzell's neighbor)
Gerry Ernstrom
Robbie Marshall
Lisa Levandowski and family
Arnold and Patti Cisco

Al Locke
Helen Downing
Duval Family
Millie and Nat Dummer
Ginny Merry
Sally McRae
Family of Mame Delaney
Linda Lemay (Rhonda Ward's friend)
Pat and Steve True
Dede Todd
Helen Dobbins
Billy Prime
Bill Glynn and Family
Colin Wilson (Rhonda Ward's father)