



First Congregational Church of Rowley

Order of Worship Service

Sunday, February 27, 2022

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Tom Bentley

Call to Worship

Leader: Lord, you have called us to the mountaintop.

People: Help us to look forward to where you would have us go.

Leader: Help us to listen carefully to the words of your healing love.

People: Open our hearts and spirits to receive your glorious directions.

Leader: Place your trust in the Lord in all your ways.

Leader + People: Lord, we have come here to give our lives to you. AMEN.

Opening Prayer

Nancy Schmidt

Radiant Lord, you shine with purity, power, and truth.

Your mercy reflects your compassion, your care, and your love.

Transform us into your image as we seek to follow you.

Use us to make your presence known throughout the world.

In your strong name we pray. Amen.

Opening Song "Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain"

<https://youtu.be/b8CkF-iBHhg>

New Testament Reading Name of Reader 2 Corinthians 4: 1-2

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth, we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

Moment of Music. "Mountain of the Lord" (Come Let Us Go Up)

<https://youtu.be/BRx35QQtVPw>

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 9:28-36 *The Message*

Nancy Schmidt

About eight days after saying this, he climbed the mountain to pray, taking Peter, John, and James along. While he was in prayer, the appearance of his face changed and his clothes became blinding white. At once two men were there talking with him. They turned out to be Moses and Elijah—and what a glorious appearance they made! They talked over his exodus, the one Jesus was about to complete in Jerusalem.

Meanwhile, Peter and those with him were slumped over in sleep. When they came to, rubbing their eyes, they saw Jesus in his glory and the two men standing with him. When Moses and Elijah had left, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, this is a great moment! Let’s build three memorials: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He blurted this out without thinking.

While he was babbling on like this, a light-radiant cloud enveloped them. As they found themselves buried in the cloud, they became deeply aware of God. Then there was a voice out of the cloud: “This is my Son, the Chosen! Listen to him.”

When the sound of the voice died away, they saw Jesus there alone. They were speechless. And they continued speechless, said not one thing to anyone during those days of what they had seen

Message: Experiences Beyond Words

Rev. Tom Bentley

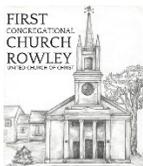
Closing Song: “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” <https://youtu.be/4aa-S-rATl0>

Benediction: Rev. Tom Bentley

Flowers on the Altar donated in memory of Merle Phipps

Deacons: Penny Hurley and Ken Sanford

Audio/Visual: Eric Fila



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Facebook and Instagram: @FirstChurchRowley

Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain

<https://youtu.be/b8CkF-iBHhg>

Jesus, take us to the mountain
Where, with Peter, James and John,
We are dazzled by your glory,
Light as blinding as the sun.
There prepare us for the night
By the vision of that sight.
What do you want us to see there
that your close companions saw?
Your divinity revealed there
fills us with the self- same awe.
Clothed in flesh like ours you go
matched to meet our deadliest foe.

What do you want us to hear there
that your dear disciples heard?
Once again, the voice from heaven says of the
incarnate word:

“listen, listen, everyone,
this is my beloved one!

Where we see you glorified,
Where you shouted, “it is finished!”
Where for all the world you died.
Hear the stunned centurion:
“This was God’s beloved one!”

We who have beheld your glory,
Risen and ascended Christ,
Cannot help but tell the story,
All that you have sacrificed;
Say with Peter, James, and John:
“You are God’s beloved one!”

Mountain of the Lord (Come Let Us Go Up)

<https://youtu.be/BRx35QQtVPw>

Come let us go up, come let us go up
To the mountain of the LORD
Dai, dai, dai...
Who can ascend His holy hill
Who can approach His Holy Place
Only the one with clean hands and a pure heart
Who can ascend His holy hill
Who can approach His Holy Place
Only the one with clean hands and a pure heart
Come let us go up, come let us go up
To the mountain of the LORD (repeat)
Dai, dai, dai...
Lift up your heads, O mighty gates
And BE lifted up, O ancient doors,
So that the King of Glory may enter in
Nations will come to celebrate
Adonai will teach us His ways
And the God of Israel will send the rain
Come let us go up, come let us go up
To the mountain of the LORD (repeat)
And the law will go out from Zion
From Jerusalem His Word
All creation will know your Name
Forever Your praises proclaim
From Jerusalem His Word
All creation will know your Name
Forever Your praises proclaim
Come let us go up, come let us go up
To the mountain of the LORD (repeat)
Come let us go up, come let us go up
To the mountain of the LORD (repeat)
Who can ascend His holy hill
Who can approach His Holy Place
Only the ones who are washed by the Lamb

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

<https://youtu.be/4aa-S-rAT10>

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, do 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.
Thou hast promised to receive us, Poor and
sinful though we be; Thou hast mercy to relieve
us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Early let us turn to Thee;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Early let us turn to Thee.
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.

MISSIONS



Immediately after the worship service there will be a forum to discuss the life of **Marian Anderson** and how that can reflect on our current times.

This is part of the observation of **Black History Month**

sponsored by the missions committee.

Beyond Resistance

A Time to Share and Reflect in Our Lenten Journey



Starting on Monday March 7th at 7:00 PM we will spend 75 minutes each week of Lent to deepen our understanding and learn how to adapt ancient spiritual practices to our changing lives. We will be using some of the insights from the book *“Beyond Resistance”* authored by John Dorhauer, President of the United Church of Christ. We will also seek the guidance of Father Richard Rohr, Henri Nouwen, and other teachers.

We will be meeting at the church building and we will be also hosting the sessions on Zoom. Sign up can be done by contacting Rev. Tom Bentley, calling the office at 978-948-3993, or emailing firstchurchrowley.org

Mark your calendars

All Church Meeting – Sunday, March 27, 2022

Following the Worship Service

Format: Group exercises with large group discussion and feedback

What is God calling us to be?