

First Congregational Church of Rowley, United Church of Christ
The Order of Morning Worship
June 20, 2021 - 10am

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Tom Bentley

Call to Worship

Doug Phillips

Leader: God's love for us is great!

People: God is like a loving parent, who watches over us.

Leader: God's mercy for us is great!

People: God reaches out to us in healing patience and peace.

Leader: Praise be to God who has called us here.

Leader and People: Praise be to God whose love and mercy is given to us. AMEN.



Opening Song. "Come Now Almighty King" (see lyrics below) <https://youtu.be/OqYp23aupLc>

New Testament Reading 2 Corinthians 6: 1-13 *The Message* Doug Phillips

Companions as we are in this work with you, we beg you, please don't squander one bit of this marvelous life God has given us. God reminds us, I heard your call in the nick of time; The day you needed me; I was there to help.

Well, now is the right time to listen, the day to be helped. Don't put it off; don't frustrate God's work by showing up late, throwing a question mark over everything we're doing. Our work as God's servants gets validated—or not—in the details. People are watching us as we stay at our post, alertly, unswervingly. . . in hard times, tough times, bad times; when we're beaten up, jailed, and mobbed; working hard, working late, working without eating; with pure heart, clear head, steady hand; in gentleness, holiness, and honest love; when we're telling the truth, and when God's showing his power; when we're doing our best setting things right; when we're praised, and when we're blamed; slandered, and honored; true to our word, though distrusted; ignored by the world, but recognized by God; terrifically alive, though rumored to be dead; beaten within an inch of our lives, but refusing to die; immersed in tears, yet always filled with deep joy; living on handouts, yet enriching many; having nothing, having it all.

Dear, dear Corinthians, I can't tell you how much I long for you to enter this wide-open, spacious life. We didn't fence you in. The smallness you feel comes from within you. Your lives aren't small, but you're living them in a small way. I'm speaking as plainly as I can and with great affection. Open up your lives. Live openly and expansively!

Call to Offering

Moment of Music. "In The Midst of New Dimensions" <https://youtu.be/4IKbXplANKM>

Doxology <https://youtu.be/mUco1i7fEns>

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

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 Mark 4:35-41 *The Message*

Doug Phillips

Late that day he said to them, "Let's go across to the other side." They took him in the boat as he was. Other boats came along. A huge storm came up. Waves poured into the boat, threatening to sink it. And Jesus was in the stern, head on a pillow, sleeping! They roused him, saying, "Teacher, is it nothing to you that we're going down?"

Awake now, he told the wind to pipe down and said to the sea, "Quiet! Settle down!" The wind ran out of breath; the sea became smooth as glass. Jesus reprimanded the disciples: "Why are you such cowards? Don't you have any faith at all?"

They were in absolute awe, staggered. "Who is this, anyway?" they asked. "Wind and sea at his beck and call!"

Message "Living a Wide-Open Faith"

Closing Song "Let There Be Peace on Earth" <https://youtu.be/SX2QfzOcQQc>

Benediction

“Come, thou Almighty King” <https://youtu.be/0qYp23aupLc>

Come, thou Almighty King,
help us thy name to sing,
help us to praise.
Father, all glorious,
ever victorious,
come and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.

Come, thou Incarnate Word,
righteous and mighty Lord,
Our prayer attend.
Come and your people bless
and give your word success;
Sacred your righteousness
Savior and friend.

Come, Holy Comforter,
your sacred witness bear
in this glad hour.
Through us your faith impart
And rule in every heart,
Never from us depart,
Spirit of power.

To the great One in Three
eternal praises be,
for evermore.
Your sovereign majesty
may we in glory see,
and to eternity
love and adore.

In the Midst of New Dimensions

<https://youtu.be/4IKbXplANKM>

**In the midst of new dimensions,
in the face of changing ways.
Who will lead the pilgrim peoples
wandering in their separate ways?**

**[Refrain] God of rainbow, fiery pillar,
leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey
now and ever,
now and ever,
now and ever more.**

**Through the flood of starving people,
warring factions and despair,
Who will lift the olive branches?
Who will light the flame of care?**

[Refrain]

**As we stand a world divided
by our own self-seeking schemes,
Grant that we, your global village
might envision wider dreams**

[Refrain]

**We are man and we are woman,
all persuasions, old and young,
Each a gift in your creation,
each a love song to be sung.**

[Refrain]

**Should the threats of dire predictions
cause us to withdraw in pain,
May your blazing phoenix spirit,
resurrect the church again.**

[Refrain]

“Let There Be Peace on Earth”

<https://youtu.be/SX2QfzOcQQc>

**Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me
Let There Be Peace on Earth
The peace that was meant to be
With God our Creator
Family all are we
Let me walk with each other
In perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry step I take
Let this be my solemn vow
To take each moment and live
Each moment in peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me**