**First Congregational Church of Rowley, United Church of Christ**

**Order of Morning Worship**

**Worship Service 8-1-2021 – Communion Sunday**

**Welcome and Announcements Rev. Tom Bentley**

**Call to Worship Jen Loring**Leader: Let us praise God here in this place of worship,  in awe over God’s steadfast love.   
**People:** **Your name, O God, like your praise, reaches to the ends of the earth...**  
Leader: Let the whole world rejoice because of your righteous judgments.  
**People:** **Let us pass on the message of God’s greatness wherever we go**  
**Leader & People: So that generation to generation will know that this is our God who will guide us forever.**

**Opening Song “The Church’s One Foundation”**

The Church’s one foundation,  Is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
She is His new creation,  By water and the Word:  
From heav’n He came and sought her, To be His holy Bride;  
With His own blood He bought her,   And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation,  Yet one o’er all the earth,  
Her charter of salvation,   One Lord, one faith, one birth;  
One holy Name she blesses,   Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses,   With every grace endued.

’Mid toil and tribulation,   And tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation,   Of peace for evermore;  
Till, with the vision glorious,   Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious,   Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union,   With God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion,   With those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy!   Lord, give us grace that we,  
Like them, the meek and lowly,   On High may dwell with Thee.

# **New Testament Reading Ephesians 4: 1-6 NRSV Jen Loring**

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

**Call to Offering**

**Moment of Music “Come Heal This Land”** *(see lyrics below)*

Let the exile come, let the stranger come

Let the weary come find rest all you homeless ones,

All you widowed ones, all you poor and dispossessed.

For a table waits in Your Father's house.

There the meek can come and eat.

There¹s a place of rest at Your Mother’s breast

Where His mercy is complete.

Does a cry ring out from a broken nation

From a people who have been brought low”

Was pride in our hearts, did we grieve Your Spirit

Have we blocked the ancient wells that flowed?

Here is our covenant prayer, Who call upon Your name

We humble ourselves before You, We humble ourselves.

Come heal this land, come heal this land

Come heal this land, come heal this land

Come heal this land, come heal this land

Come heal this land, come heal this land

May this land we love be a place of safety

Be a light for all the nations of this earth

May Your streams of love, may they flow here freely

Here where every stranger finds a home

Here is our covenant prayer. Who call upon Your name

We humble ourselves before You, We humble ourselves.

Come heal this land, come heal this land

Come heal this land, come heal this land

Come heal this land, come heal this land

Come heal this land, come heal this land

**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** *(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 6:24-35 NRSV Jen Loring**

So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you.

For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.”So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+6%3A24-35&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-26280a)] comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

**Message: “One in Common-Unity”**

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

### **Prayer Following Communion**

### **All: Almighty God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at you table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world full of courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

**Closing Song: “Just as I Am”** *(see lyrics below)*

Just as I am, without one plea

But that your blood was shed for me

And that you called inviting me

O Lamb of God, I come! I come

Just as I am, though tossed about

With many a conflict, many a doubt

Fightings and fears within without

O Lamb of God, I come, I come

Just as I am, Thou will receive

Will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve

Because your promise I believe

O Lamb of God, I come, I come

Just as I am, your love unknown

has broken every barrier down

to thee whose blood can cleanse each spot

Now to be yours, and your alone

O Lamb of God, I come, I come

### **Benediction: Rev. Tom Bentley**

**Events/Calendars**

**There are openings for the communion table on:**

* **8/29**

**If you're interested in donating flowers for any of those weeks, please contact Debbie Confalone at:**[**dconfalone@comcast.net**](mailto:dconfalone@comcast.net)**.**



**Pancake Breakfasts** will resume on the second Saturday of every month, starting in October.  Details to follow. Check your bulletins and Steeple Notes.

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| **Participants**  **Minister: Rev Tom Bentley** | **Choir Director: Karl Schmuch**  **Deacons: Jerry Schmidt** |
| **Lay Reader: Jen Loring** | **Deacons: Nancy Schmidt** |

**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](mailto:Patti.Cummings@livanova.com); Kay Dalzell (978)948-2674, [kdalzell@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto:kcsanford1@gmail.com); Dennis Ward (978)432-1021, [rward3024@comcast.net](mailto:rward3024@comcast.net); Jerry & Nancy Schmidt (978)388-1417, [schmidtnancy36@gmail.com](mailto:schmidtnancy36@gmail.com), [jschmidt22@comcast.net](mailto:jschmidt22@comcast.net); or Les Warren (978) 352-7551; [leswarren3@gmail.com](mailto: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

Family of Elaine Pyburn Dede Todd

Jean Short (Kay Dalzell's neighbor) Helen Dobbins

Family of 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)

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