

**First Congregational Church of Rowley  
United Church of Christ  
Order of Morning Worship  
Drive in Service - 90.3 FM  
July 5, 2020 @ 10am**



## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Call to Worship**

Leader: God calls us to follow.

**All: God calls us to be the family of Christ.**

Leader: God called the prophets to speak against injustice

**All: God calls us to live out justice and mercy**

Leader: Come, let us worship God.

**All: Let us follow The Way, and let us gather in joy as the people of Christ.**

### **Opening Song**

**“This is My Song”**

*(see lyrics last page)*

### **New Testament Reading**

**Dave Irving**

**Romans 7:13-25. NRSV**

Did what is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, working death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

For we know that the law is spiritual; but I am of the flesh, sold into slavery under sin. I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin

**Moment of Music “God Bless America”**

**The Schmuch Family**

## 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

**Dave Irving**

#### **Matthew 11: 1-19, 25-30** *The Message*

"How can I account for this generation? The people have been like spoiled children whining to their parents, 'We wanted to skip rope, and you were always too tired; we wanted to talk, but you were always too busy.' John came fasting and they called him crazy. I came feasting and they called me a lush, a friend of the riffraff. Opinion polls don't count for much, do they? The proof of the pudding is in the eating."

Abruptly Jesus broke into prayer: "Thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth. You've concealed your ways from sophisticates and know-it-alls, but spelled them out clearly to ordinary people. Yes, Father, that's the way you like to work."

Jesus resumed talking to the people, but now tenderly. "The Father has given me all these things to do and say. This is a unique Father-Son operation, coming out of Father and Son intimacies and knowledge. No one knows the Son the way the Father does, nor the Father the way the Son does. But I'm not keeping it to myself; I'm ready to go over it line by line with anyone willing to listen.

"Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."

**Message: "The Unforced Rhythms of Grace" Rev. Tom Bentley**

### Reception of New Members

#### **Senior Deacon**

**Ken Sanford**

Dearly beloved, do you confess your faith in Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior, and make him your example, and take for your rule of life his words:

Thou shalt love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. And, your neighbor as yourself.

**I DO**

**Senior Deaconess**

**Patti Cummings**

In the presence of God and these witnesses, do you give yourself unreservedly to his service, and take this to be your church? Ever mindful of the welfare of your fellow members, do you promise to walk with them in faithfulness and Christian love? And do you promise that, so far as able, you will attend the services of this church, observe its sacraments, share in its work, support, and benevolences, and endeavor to make it a fruitful body of Christians?

**I DO**

**Senior Deacon Emeritus**

**David Irving**

Do you believe in God as your heavenly Father?

**I DO**

Do you accept Jesus as your Savior and Master?

**I DO**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit as your Comforter and Guide?

**I DO**

Will you continue striving to know and to do the will of God as taught in the Holy Scriptures?

**I WILL**

Will you be loyal to the Church of Christ wherever you are, and uphold it by your prayers, your presence, your gifts and your service?

**I WILL**

Do you accept and own with us the Covenant and By-Laws of this church?

**I DO**

**WELCOMING PRAYER**

**David Irving**

**CHURCH WELCOME**

**ALL**

We then as members of this church, gladly welcome you to be a part of the hope, the labors, and the joys of the Church of Christ. We promise to walk with you in Christian Love and sympathy, and to promote, as far as in us lies, your growth in the Christian life.

**THE HANDS OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**

**David Irving**

In accordance with the faith and traditional orders of this church, we now extend to you the hands of Christian Love. **Amen.**

## **Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Note: Holy Communion will be conducted in this special manner during our Drive- In worship service. Rev. Bentley will offer the liturgy and following the blessing of the elements members of the Diaconate will distribute these from a basket to your vehicles. Please open the enclosed containers, taking in first together the bread in the form of a wafer when the pastor says:**

**“I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never hunger. Whoever believes in me will never thirst.**

**Following that you will be invited to drink together the unfermented wine with the words**

**“Jesus says ‘I am the vine and you are the branches.’ As oft as you drink of this cup you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes”**

## **Prayer Following Communion**

**All: Almighty God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your 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**

**Benediction: Rev. Tom Bentley**

## **Lyrics for “This is My Song”**

This is my song, O God of the nations, a song of peace for lands a far and mine. This is my home, the country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine; But other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country’s skies are bluer than the ocean and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine; But other lands have sunlight too, and clover and skies are where as blue as mine. Oh hear my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my prayer O Lord of all earth’s kingdoms  
Thy Kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.  
Let Christ be lifted up till all can serve him,  
And hearts united learn to live as one.  
O hear my prayer, thou God of all the nations;  
Myself I give thee; let thy will be done.