

**First Congregational Church of Rowley, United Church of Christ**  
**Order of Morning Worship**  
**Drive in Service - 90.3 FM – January 17, 2021 @ 10am**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Rev. Tom Bentley**

**Call to Worship**

Leader: God knows each one of us personally and God loves each one of us.

**All: Thanks be to God for such wondrous love!**

Leader: Come this day into the presence of God.

**All: We come with overflowing hearts!**

Leader: Celebrate God's mercy and compassion.

**All: Praise be to God who offers us hope. AMEN.**

**Les Warren**



**Opening Song “Rain Down”** (see lyrics attached). <https://youtu.be/pmOswvIS6CQ>

**New Testament Reading    1 Corinthians 6:11-20    The Message    Les Warren**

Don't you realize that this is not the way to live? Unjust people who don't care about God will not be joining in his kingdom. Those who use and abuse each other, use and abuse sex, use and abuse the earth and everything in it, don't qualify as citizens in God's kingdom. A number of you know from experience what I'm talking about, for not so long ago you were on that list. Since then, you've been cleaned up and given a fresh start by Jesus, our Master, our Messiah, and by our God present in us, the Spirit.

Just because something is technically legal doesn't mean that it's spiritually appropriate. If I went around doing whatever I thought I could get by with, I'd be a slave to my whims.

You know the old saying, “First you eat to live, and then you live to eat”? Well, it may be true that the body is only a temporary thing, but that's no excuse for stuffing your body with food, or indulging it with sex. Since the Master honors you with a body, honor him with your body!

God honored the Master's body by raising it from the grave. He'll treat yours with the same resurrection power. Until that time, remember that your bodies are created with the same dignity as the Master's body. You wouldn't take the Master's body off to a whorehouse, would you? I should hope not.

There's more to sex than mere skin on skin. Sex is as much spiritual mystery as physical fact. As written in Scripture, “The two become one.” Since we want to become spiritually one with the Master, we must not pursue the kind of sex that avoids commitment and intimacy, leaving us more lonely than ever—the kind of sex that can never “become one.” There is a sense in which sexual sins are different from all others. In sexual sin we violate the sacredness of our own bodies, these bodies that were made for God-given and God-modeled love, for “becoming one” with another. Or didn't you realize that your body is a sacred place, the place of the Holy Spirit? Don't you see that you can't live however you please, squandering what God paid such a high price for?

The physical part of you is not some piece of property belonging to the spiritual part of you. God owns the whole works. So let people see God in and through your body.

**Moment of Music: “Adoro Te Devote” (Godhead Here in Hiding) 13th Century Benedictine Plainsong-words attributed to St. Thomas Aquinas – Lyrics attached from #557 in the Pilgrim Hymnal** <https://youtu.be/dlwdPwl3lpE>

**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 1:43-51   The Message**

**Les Warren**

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. When he got there, he ran across Philip and said, “Come, follow me.” (Philip’s hometown was Bethsaida, the same as Andrew and Peter.)

Philip went and found Nathanael and told him, “We’ve found the One Moses wrote of in the Law, the One preached by the prophets. It’s *Jesus*, Joseph’s son, the one from Nazareth!” Nathanael said, “Nazareth? You’ve got to be kidding.”

But Philip said, “Come, see for yourself.”

When Jesus saw him coming he said, “There’s a real Israelite, not a false bone in his body.”

Nathanael said, “Where did you get that idea? You don’t know me.”

Jesus answered, “One day, long before Philip called you here, I saw you under the fig tree.”

Nathanael exclaimed, “Rabbi! You are the Son of God, the King of Israel!”

Jesus said, “You’ve become a believer simply because I say I saw you one day sitting under the fig tree? You haven’t seen anything yet! Before this is over you’re going to see heaven open and God’s angels descending to the Son of Man and ascending again.”

**Message: “Known in that Moment of Honesty”**

**Benediction:**

**Rev. Tom Bentley**

**Postlude: “The Battle Hymn of the Republic ” sung by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir (see lyrics attached).** <https://youtu.be/QSiVjlknuSw>

### **Lyrics for “Rain Down”**

Rain down  
Rain down  
Rain down your love on your people

Rain down  
Rain down  
Rain down your love, God of life  
Faithful and true is the Word of our God  
All of God's works are so worthy of trust  
God's mercy falls on the just and the right  
Full of God's love is the earth

Rain down  
Rain down  
Rain down your love on your people  
Rain down  
Rain down  
Rain down your love, God of life

We who revere and find hope in our God  
Live in the kindness and joy of God's wing  
God will protect us from darkness and death  
God will not leave us to starve

Rain down  
Rain down  
Rain down your love on your people  
Rain down  
Rain down  
Rain down your love, God of life

557

# Here, O My Lord, I See Thee

Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889

ADORO TE 10.10.10.10.  
Benedictine Plainsong, Mode V, 13th century

*In unison*

1 Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;  
2 Here would I feed up - on the bread of God,  
3 I have no help but thine, nor do I need

Here would I touch and han - dle things un - seen;  
Here drink with thee the roy - al wine of heaven;  
An - oth - er arm save thine to lean up - on.

Here grasp with firm - er hand e - ter - nal grace,  
Here would I lay a - side each earth - ly load,  
It is e - nough, my Lord, e - nough in - deed;

And all my wea - ri - ness up - on thee lean.  
Here taste a - fresh the calm of sin for - given.  
My strength is in thy might, thy might a - lone. A - men.

COMMUNION HYMNS

### **The Battle Hymn of the Republic**

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;  
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword;  
His truth is marching on.

#### **Chorus**

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!  
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!  
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!  
His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps;  
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;  
I can read His righteous sentence with the dim and flaring lamps,  
His day is marching on.

#### **Chorus**

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,  
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me;  
As He died to make men holy, let us LIVE to make men free!  
While God is marching on.

#### **Chorus**

## **Announcements:**

### **Missions Walk – Sunday January 17 @2pm**

**It is a time for physically distanced fellowship enjoying the beautiful area in which we live.**

**Please join us on our next Missions Walk on January 17th! We will hope for clear skies and moderate temperatures. We will meet at 2pm in the parking lot at Rough Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary.**

**Please dress for the weather and wear comfortable shoes. Contact Holly Ardito at 617-480-4572 with any questions.**

**<https://www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/wildlife-sanctuaries/rough-meadows>**

**Thank you.**

**The Missions Committee**

### **Live-streamed Ecumenical Candlelight Taizé Meditation Service**

On Sunday evening, January 31st at 7:00 PM, you are cordially invited to attend a candlelight meditation service which will be live-streamed on the Groveland Congregational Church Facebook page, and also available afterward for viewing. The program will also be available for printing on the Facebook page.

The theme of this month's service is "Behold, I make all things new!" As we begin a new year, we hope and pray for justice, peace, respect and kindness. We pray for the guidance of God's spirit. The service is modeled after those held at the Taizé community in France, with prayer, song, scripture, petitions and silence.

Taizé prayer is a simple form of ecumenical Christian prayer centered on scripture, silence and song. It involves singing and listening to the word of God in an atmosphere of silence and peace. The worship space will be illuminated with a multitude of candles; the music will consist of simple repeated refrains, enabling the worshippers to enter into prayer. There will be readings from scripture, petitions and a time of silent prayer.

Why not give yourself the gift of these few moments of calm and peace in God's presence!