**First Congregational Church of Rowley**

**Order of Worship Service Sunday, November 21, 2021**

**Welcome and Announcements Rev. Tom Bentley**

**Call to Worship** *Patti Cummings*

Leader: Come, let us celebrate the goodness of God. **People: God has blessed us with God's great love.**Leader: Let us come to this time, letting go of our worries. **People: Let us come to this time praising God.**Leader: Come, now is the time to worship. **Leader & People: We come rejoicing, for God is so good to us. AMEN.**

**Opening Song We Gather Together**

# **New Testament Reading** 1 Timothy 6:6-11 *The Message Patti Cummings*

# A devout life does bring wealth, but it’s the rich simplicity of being yourself before God. Since we entered the world penniless and will leave it penniless, if we have bread on the table and shoes on our feet, that’s enough.

But if it’s only money these leaders are after, they’ll self-destruct in no time. Lust for money brings trouble and nothing but trouble. Going down that path, some lose their footing in the faith completely and live to regret it bitterly ever after.

But you, Timothy, man of God: Run for your life from all this. Pursue a righteous life—a life of wonder, faith, love, steadiness, courtesy.

**Call to Offering**

**Moment of Music: *Come Ye Thankful People Come***

**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 | 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** *Patti Cummings*

**Mathew 6: 25-26, 30-34 *The Message***

“If you decide for God, living a life of God-worship, it follows that you don’t fuss about what’s on the table at mealtimes or whether the clothes in your closet are in fashion. There is far more to your life than the food you put in your stomach, more to your outer appearance than the clothes you hang on your body. Look at the birds, free and unfettered, not tied down to a job description, careless in the care of God. And you count far more to him than birds.

 “If God gives such attention to the appearance of wildflowers—most of which are never even seen—don’t you think he’ll attend to you, take pride in you, do his best for you? What I’m trying to do here is to get you to relax, to not be so preoccupied with *getting*, so you can respond to God’s *giving*. People who don’t know God and the way he works fuss over these things, but you know both God and how he works. Steep your life in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. Don’t worry about missing out. You’ll find all your everyday human concerns will be met.

 “Give your entire attention to what God is doing right now, and don’t get worked up about what may or may not happen tomorrow. God will help you deal with whatever hard things come up when the time comes.

**Message “Being Yourself Before God”**

**Closing Song: Now Thank We All Our God #419 NCH**

**Benediction: Rev. Tom Bentley**

*Flowers on the Communion table given by Dick and Patti Cummings in celebration of family*

*Deacons: Nancy and Jerry Schmidt*

*Flowers on the wall: Nicola and Glen Pyburn - In celebration of all those who have birthdays this week*

*Penny Hurley*

*Deb Confalone*

We need help with music playback and slide shows, two Sundays a month.

Be part of the Worship Team, donate your time and talents to improve the audio/visual aspects of our worship services. Reverend Tom, Angie and Eric really appreciate your help.

Speak to Rev. Tom or email the office at FirstChurchRowley@gmail.com for information.