

First Congregational Church of Rowley, United Church of Christ
The Order of Morning Worship
Drive in Service - 90.3 FM – November 22, 2020 @ 10am

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Tom Bentley

Call to Worship (*Psalm 100*)

Les Warren

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord.

All: Worship God with gladness.

Leader: Come into God's presence with singing.

All: We are God's people, the sheep of God's pasture.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord; bless God's holy name,

All: for God's steadfast love is present now and endures forever

Opening Song "We Plow the Fields and Scatter"

New Testament Reading

Les Warren

Ephesians 1:11-12, 16- 23. *The Message*

It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone.

I ask—ask the God of our Master, Jesus Christ, the God of glory—to make you intelligent and discerning in knowing him personally, your eyes focused and clear, so that you can see exactly what it is he is calling you to do, grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life he has for his followers, oh, the utter extravagance of his work in us who trust him—endless energy, boundless strength!

All this energy issues from Christ: God raised him from death and set him on a throne in deep heaven, in charge of running the universe, everything from galaxies to governments, no name and no power exempt from his rule. And not just for the time being, but *forever*. He is in charge of it all, has the final word on everything. At the center of all this, Christ rules the church. The church, you see, is not peripheral to the world; the world is peripheral to the church. The church is Christ's body, in which he speaks and acts, by which he fills everything with his presence.

Moment of Music "Come Heal This Land" by *Robin Mark* - sung live at the Annual Meeting of the Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ Nov 1, 2020.

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

Les Warren

Matthew 25:31-40 *The Message*

“When he finally arrives, blazing in beauty and all his angels with him, the Son of Man will take his place on his glorious throne. Then all the nations will be arranged before him and he will sort the people out, much as a shepherd sorts out sheep and goats, putting sheep to his right and goats to his left.

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Enter, you who are blessed by my Father! Take what’s coming to you in this kingdom. It’s been ready for you since the world’s foundation.

And here’s why:

I was hungry and you fed me,
I was thirsty and you gave me a drink,
I was homeless and you gave me a room,
I was shivering and you gave me clothes,
I was sick and you stopped to visit,
I was in prison and you came to me.’

Then those ‘sheep’ are going to say, ‘Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you a drink? And when did we ever see you sick or in prison and come to you?’ Then the King will say, ‘I’m telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me.’

Message: “Welcome to the God Zone”

Benediction:

Rev. Tom Bentley

Postlude: “Alleluia”. Music by Elaine Hagenberg. Words by Saint Augustine

**All shall be Amen and Alleluia. We shall rest and we shall see.
We shall see and we shall know. We shall know and we shall love.
Behold our end which is no end. Alleluia. Amen.**

We Plow the Fields and Scatter

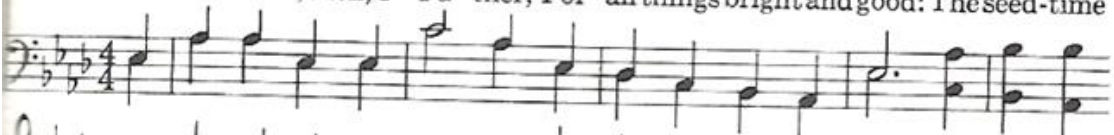
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Matthias Claudius, 1740-1815
Tr. Jane M. Campbell, 1817-1878, alt.

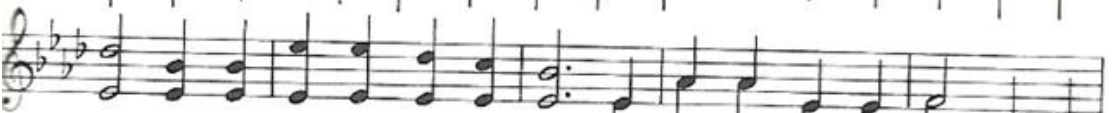
WIR PFLÜGEN 7.6.7.6.D. with Refrain
Johann A. P. Schulz, 1747-1800



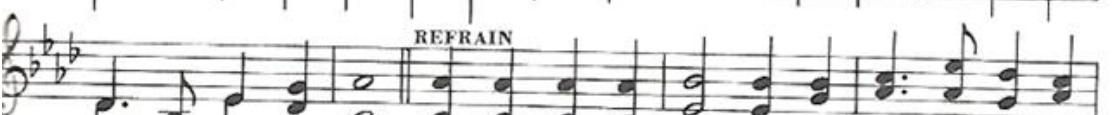
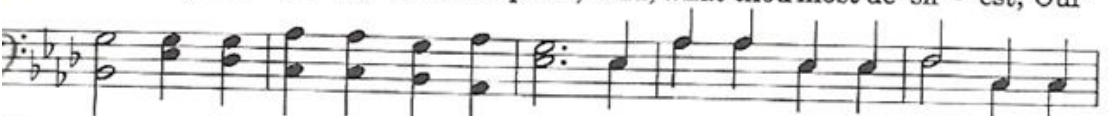
1 We plow the fields and scat-ter The good seed on the land, But it is
2 He on-ly is the mak-er Of all things near and far; He paints the
3 We thank thee, then, O Fa-ther, For all things bright and good: The seed-time



fed and wa-tered By God's al-might-y hand. He sends the snow in
way-side flow-er, He lights the eve-ning star. The winds and waves o-
and the har-vest, Our life, our health, our food. Ac-cept the gifts we



win-ter, The warmth to swell the grain, The breez-es and the sun-shine, And
bey him, By him the birds are fed; Much more, to us his chil-dren, He
of-fer, For all thy love im-parts, And, what thou most de-sir-est, Our



soft, re-fresh-ing rain.
gives our dai-ly bread. All good gifts a-round us Are sent from hea-ven-a-
hum-ble, thank-ful hearts.



bove; Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord For all his love. A-men.



HARVEST AND THANKSGIVING

“Come Heal This Land” by Robin Mark

Let the exiles come
Let the stranger come
Let the weary come find rest
All you homeless ones
All you widowed ones
All you poor and disposed

For a table waits
in your father’s house
Let the meek all come and eat

There’s a place of rest
at your mother’s breast
Where God’s 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 called 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

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 common prayer
Who called upon your name
We humble ourselves before you
We humble ourselves

Come heal this land
Come heal this land
Won’t you come?
Come and heal this land
Come heal this land!