

First Congregational Church of Rowley, United Church of Christ
The Order of Morning Worship
Drive in Service - 90.3 FM – October 18, 2020 @ 10am

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Tom Bentley

Call to Worship

Patti Cummings

Leader: Brothers and sisters, the love of God is poured over you.

All: We feel our thirsting souls quenched by God's mercy.

Leader: We are called to share God's love by our words.

All: We are invited to share God's love by our compassionate acts.

Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord!

All: Let's rejoice in all the opportunities God gives us to serve. AMEN.

Opening Song "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" (see lyrics attached)

New Testament Reading

Patti Cummings

1 Thessalonians 1. *The Message*

I, Paul, together here with Silas and Timothy, send greetings to the church at Thessalonica, Christians assembled by God the Father and by the Master, Jesus Christ. God's amazing grace be with you! God's robust peace!

Every time we think of you, we thank God for you. Day and night you're in our prayers as we call to mind your work of faith, your labor of love, and your patience of hope in following our Master, Jesus Christ, before God our Father. It is clear to us, friends, that God not only loves you very much but also has put his hand on you for something special. When the Message we preached came to you, it wasn't just words. Something happened in you. The Holy Spirit put steel in your convictions.

You paid careful attention to the way we lived among you, and determined to live that way yourselves. In imitating us, you imitated the Master. Although great trouble accompanied the Word, you were able to take great joy from the Holy Spirit!—taking the trouble with the joy, the joy with the trouble.

Do you know that all over the provinces of both Macedonia and Achaia believers look up to you? The word has gotten around. Your lives are echoing the Master's Word, not only in the provinces but all over the place. The news of your faith in God is out. We don't even have to say anything anymore—you're the message! People

come up and tell us how you received us with open arms, how you deserted the dead idols of your old life so you could embrace and serve God, the true God. They marvel at how expectantly you await the arrival of his Son, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescued us from certain doom.

Moment of Music “The Servant Song” (*see words attached*)

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

Patti Cummings

Matthew 22 :15-22 *The Message*

That’s when the Pharisees plotted a way to trap him into saying something damaging. They sent their disciples, with a few of Herod’s followers mixed in, to ask, “Teacher, we know you have integrity, teach the way of God accurately, are indifferent to popular opinion, and don’t pander to your students. So tell us honestly: Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”

Jesus knew they were up to no good. He said, “Why are you playing these games with me? Why are you trying to trap me? Do you have a coin? Let me see it.” They handed him a silver piece.

“This engraving—who does it look like? And whose name is on it?”

They said, “Caesar.”

Then give Caesar what is his, and give God what is his.”

The Pharisees were speechless. They went off shaking their heads.

Message: “Giving God What is God’s”

Benediction:

Rev. Tom Bentley

Lyrics

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

1. Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth; through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.

2. I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no opening skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.

3. Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King?
All, all thine own, soul, heart and strength and mind.
I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
O let me seek thee, and O let me find.

4. Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh;
teach me the struggles of the soul to bear.
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh,
teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

5. Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame;
the baptism of the heaven-descended Dove,
my heart an altar, and thy love the flame. Amen

Lyrics

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you.
Pray that I may have the grace
To let you be my servant too

We are pilgrims on the journey
We are travelers on the road
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load

I will hold the Christ light for you
In the night time of your fear
I will hold my hand out to you
Speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you
I will share your joy and sorrow
Till we've seen this journey through

When we sing to God in heaven,
We shall find such harmony
Born of all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony.

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.



**Olde Tyme Country Fair
First Congregational Church, Rowley
Virtual 2020 Style
November 21-22, 2020**

Due to the COVID-19 virus we are unable to have our traditional fall fair. In the spirit of the fair, you can order some of your favorite items and purchase raffle tickets for those lovely gift baskets.

Some of those favorite items will include: Cabot Private Stock Cheese, Penny's Homemade Bread, Short Bread, Mrs. Sharon's Baked Beans, Roger's Honey Stewed Apples, along with Country Gardens Kissing Balls and Winter Log Baskets. Luncheon items will be available such as Turkey Gobbler Sandwiches, Chili, Corn Chowder etc..

We will also have a virtual raffle for some of those lovely gift baskets, this year's baskets include: Feed the Birds, Family Games, Stonewall Kitchen Basket, Wine and Chocolates, Health Essentials Basket, Arts and Crafts, Kitchen Items, "Afternoon at the Matinee" Basket, Music Related Items and Snacks for the Youth.

Visit www.firstchurchrowley.org or www.oldtymecountryfair.com to place your order. Payment methods include: credit card, PayPal & check.

The raffle drawing will be held via FB Live on November 18th at 12pm (<https://www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalChurchofRowley>).

You can pick up your purchases at the church (175 Main Street, Rowley) via curbside/touchless service on November 21st or 22nd between 11am and 2pm.

We greatly appreciate the community wide support of our church and its activities. Many volunteers have lovingly contributed their time, talents and treasure over the years to this wonderful fair.



The deadline for all orders and payment is Nov.14.

We hope to see you next year in the traditional way. May God bless you and your families and keep them safe.



*First Congregational Church, U.C.C.
Rowley, Massachusetts*

October 15, 2020

To Members and Friends,
First Congregational Church, Rowley

The 2020 Semi-Annual Meeting of the church membership will be held on Sunday, November 1, 2020. The meeting will be held immediately after the Sunday worship service. The business meeting will begin no earlier than 10:30 am that same morning. CDC guidelines will be followed. Masks must be worn in church at all times.

Items on the agenda for the business meeting are:

1. To receive the annual reports from the various boards and committees for the year 2019.
2. To hear and act on recommendations from the Finance Board on the church budget for 2021.
3. To hear and act on any other business which may properly come before the church membership.

Respectfully submitted,

David E. Irving

David E. Irving, Clerk

To attend via Zoom, please visit our website www.firstchurchrowley.org,
for further instructions.