

First Congregational Church of Rowley
United Church of Christ
Order of Morning Worship
Drive in Service - 90.3 FM
June 28, 2020 @ 10am



Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Tom Bentley

Call to Worship

Sara Stafford

Leader: Welcome to worship today!

All: We are glad to be here. *(please flash lights or honk)*

Leader: Even when things get hectic, always know that you will find welcome here.

All: We are grateful for the hospitality and friendship that are offered here.

Leader: Come, let us worship the God who always welcomes us.

All: Let us open our hearts to Christ who welcomed friend and stranger alike. AMEN.

Opening Song “We Shall Overcome”

(Lyrics Enclosed, last page)

New Testament Reading

Sara Stafford

Romans 6:12-23 *The Message*

That means you must not give sin a vote in the way you conduct your lives. Don't give it the time of day. Don't even run little errands that are connected with that old way of life. Throw yourselves wholeheartedly and full-time—remember, you've been raised from the dead!—into God's way of doing things. Sin can't tell you how to live. After all, you're not living under that old tyranny any longer. You're living in the freedom of God.

So, since we're out from under the old tyranny, does that mean we can live any old way we want? Since we're free in the freedom of God, can we do anything that comes to mind? Hardly. You know well enough from your own experience that there are some acts of so-called freedom that destroy freedom. Offer yourselves to sin, for instance, and it's your last free act. But offer yourselves to the ways of God and the freedom never quits.

All your lives you've let sin tell you what to do. But thank God you've started listening to a new master, one whose commands set you free to live openly in *his* freedom!

I'm using this freedom language because it's easy to picture. You can readily recall, can't you, how at one time the more you did just what you felt like doing—not caring about others, not caring about God—the worse your life became and the less freedom you had? And how much different is it now as you live in God's freedom, your lives healed and expansive in holiness?



As long as you did what you felt like doing, ignoring God, you didn't have to bother with right thinking or right living, or right *anything* for that matter. But do you call that a free life? What did you get out of it? Nothing you're proud of now. Where did it get you? A dead end.

But now that you've found you don't have to listen to sin tell you what to do, and have discovered the delight of listening to God telling you, what a surprise! A whole, healed, put-together life right now, with more and more of life on the way! Work hard for sin your whole life and your pension is death. But God's gift is *real life*, eternal life, delivered by Jesus, our Master.

Moment of Music

TBD

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

Sara Stafford

Matthew 10:40-42 *The Message*

"We are intimately linked in this harvest work. Anyone who accepts what you do, accepts me, the One who sent you. Anyone who accepts what I do accepts my Father, who sent me. Accepting a messenger of God is as good as being God's messenger. Accepting someone's help is as good as giving someone help. This is a large work I've called you into, but don't be overwhelmed by it. It's best to start small. Give a cool cup of water to someone who is thirsty, for instance. The smallest act of giving or receiving makes you a true apprentice. You won't lose out on a thing."

Message: "A Life of Faith in the New Freedom"

Benediction: Rev. Tom Bentley



We Shall Overcome – Lyrics

**1 We shall overcome,
we shall overcome,
we shall overcome someday;
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe,
we shall overcome someday.**

**2 We'll walk hand in hand,
we'll walk hand in hand,
we'll walk hand in hand someday;
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe,
we shall overcome someday.**

**3 We shall all be free,
we shall all be free,
we shall all be free someday;
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe,
we shall overcome someday.**

**4 We are not afraid,
we are not afraid,
we are not afraid today;
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe,
we are not afraid today.**

**5 We shall live in peace,
we shall live in peace,
we shall live in peace someday;
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe,
we shall overcome someday.**

Source: Glory and Praise (3rd. ed.) #527