

First Congregational Church of Rowley, United Church of Christ
The Order of Morning Worship
Drive in Service - 90.3 FM – October 25, 2020 @ 10am

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Tom Bentley

Call to Worship

Doug Phillips

Leader: Welcome to the house of God's love.

ALL: Is this the right time?

Is God's love available now?

Leader: God's love is always here, always ready.

All: But what about emergencies?

What if the system crashes?

Leader: God's love has been around since the beginning,
and it will be here after the ending.

All: We're ready to live in God's love, 24/7!

Opening Song "For All the Saints" (see lyrics attached)

New Testament Reading

Doug Phillips

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 *The Message*

So, friends, it's obvious that our visit to you was no waste of time. We had just been given rough treatment in Philippi, as you know, but that didn't slow us down. We were sure of ourselves in God, and went right ahead and said our piece, presenting God's Message to you, defiant of the opposition.

God tested us thoroughly to make sure we were qualified to be trusted with this Message. Be assured that when we speak to you we're not after crowd approval—only God approval. Since we've been put through that battery of tests, you're guaranteed that both we and the Message are free of error, mixed motives, or hidden agendas. We never used words to butter you up. No one knows that better than you. And God knows we never used words as a smoke screen to take advantage of you.

Even though we had some standing as Christ's apostles, we never threw our weight around or tried to come across as important, with you or anyone else. We weren't aloof with you. We took you just as you were. We were never patronizing, never condescending, but we cared for you the way a mother cares for her children. We loved you dearly. Not content to just pass on the Message, we wanted to give you our hearts. And we did.

Moment of Music "All You Need is Love" (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

Doug Phillips

Matthew 22 :34-40 *New Revised Standard Version*

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Message: "Boundless Love – Is it Well-nigh Impossible?"

Benediction:

Rev. Tom Bentley

For All the Saints

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their
might; thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought
fight; thou, in the darkness drear, their one true
light. Alleluia! Alleluia!

O may thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
and win with them the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine,
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
the King of glory passes on his way.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest
coast, through gates of pearl streams in the
countless host, singing to Father, Son, and Holy
Ghost, Alleluia! Alleluia!

All You Need Is Love

The Beatles

Love, love, love

Love, love, love

Love, love, love

There's nothing you can do that can't be
done

Nothing you can sing that can't be sung

Nothing you can say, but you can learn how
to play the game

It's easy

Nothing you can make that can't be made

No one you can save that can't be saved

Nothing you can do, but you can learn how
to be you in time

It's easy

All you need is love

All you need is love

All you need is love, love

Love is all you need

All you need is love

All you need is love

All you need is love, love

Love is all you need

There's nothing you can know that isn't
known

Nothing you can see that isn't shown

There's nowhere you can be that isn't where
you're meant to be

It's easy

All you need is love

All you need is love

All you need is love, love

Love is all...



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*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