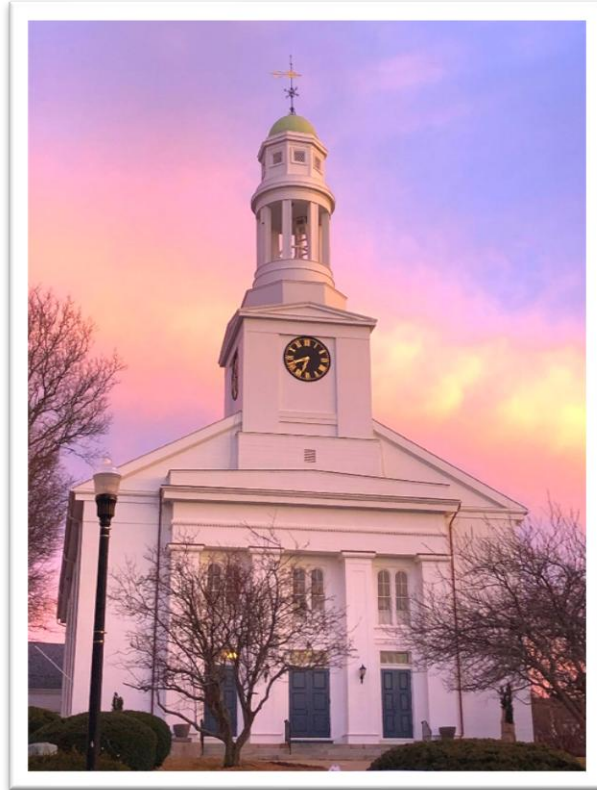


**The First Congregational Church
of Rockport, UCC**

12 School Street ~ Rockport, MA

May 10, 2026



*The First Congregational Church of Rockport is an
Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ.
Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey of faith,
you are welcome here for an hour or a lifetime.*

About Us

Our Covenant

We, the members of this congregation welcome you with gladness into our lives. We renew our covenant of faith and offer you our support, encouragement and love to the end that all of us may grow in the boundless mercy of God. By loving and being loved, forgiving and being forgiven, serving and being served, let us go forward together with courage as Christ's disciples, glorifying God by being fully alive.

Our Open and Affirming Statement

We, the members of The First Congregational Church of Rockport are called upon to love each other as God loves us, freely and unconditionally. Therefore, we covenant to become an Open and Affirming congregation, welcoming persons of every age, ability, gender, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic status, nationality, ethnicity and immigration status into full membership and participation in our community life and ministry. We embrace and support those who experience rejection and exile from spiritual community and commit ourselves to the struggle against injustice.

Serving the Church

The Congregation, Ministers
Dr. Philip Swanson, Music Director
Kristina Martin, Associate Music Director
Kaitlyn Welch, Director of Faith Formation
Annette Mackin, Office Manager
Phil Bynarowicz, Church Sexton
Daniel Chase, Tech. Person

Contact information

978/546-6638
office@oldsloop.org
12 School St., Rockport, Mass. 01966
www.oldsloop.org

Office Hours

Wed., Thurs. Fri.
9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Closed Monday & Tuesdays

Welcome to our Sanctuary! Hearing devices are on a rack by the main entrance, cushions are available in the last pew. Please be at home and comfortable here!



We acknowledge that the land we live on and the water that surrounds us were inhabited by the Pawtucket peoples, members of the Wabanaki Confederacy.

Order of Worship

We Gather as God's People

Prelude St. Columba (The King Of Love) Trad. Irish/arr. P.P.Stearns

Introit Love Is Little Shaker Melody

Welcome Rev. Judy Brain

Hymn* #43 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Announcements

Call to Worship (From Romans 12)

One: Come, mothers, fathers, single, divorced, young and old,
all people!

Many: **For God shows no partiality.**

One: Let love be genuine.

Many: **Hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good.**

One: Love one another with mutual affection.

Many: **Rejoice in hope. Be patient in suffering.**

One: Persevere in prayer. Extend hospitality to the stranger.

Many: **Jesus said, "This is my commandment:
Love one another."**

**We come to worship the God who is love,
that we may learn to love one another.**

Prayer of Invocation

Robert Cannon

Love Divine, breathe your blessed Spirit into our gathering today. Move us through our worship to a place of wonder and joy. Deepen our faith that we may see you more clearly, follow you more nearly, and love you more dearly day by day. Amen.

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Eternal God, Mother of all who walk this earth, help us to remember that you embrace all people with your love, that all religion is a response to you, that the yearnings of other hearts are much like our own.

Increase in us your tenderness that we may grow in compassion and kindness. We pray in the name of the One who calls us to be neighbor and friend. Amen.

Words of Grace

Like a rock, God is under our feet. Like a roof, God is over our heads. Like the horizon, God is beyond us. Like a pebble in the sea, we are in God. We are held, we are loved, we are not alone. Amen

Passing the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you,

Response: and also with you.

Youth Choir Over the Rainbow Yip Harburg/Harold Arlen

We Listen for God's Word

Solo Balulalow (Scottish -"Lullaby") from the Ceremony of Carols by Britten in honor of Mother's Day. Gillian Hurst, Soprano

Scripture John 14:1-14

Robert Cannon

Sermon “Way, Truth, Life”

Rev. Judy.

Hymn* #331 Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer Our Father and Mother, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

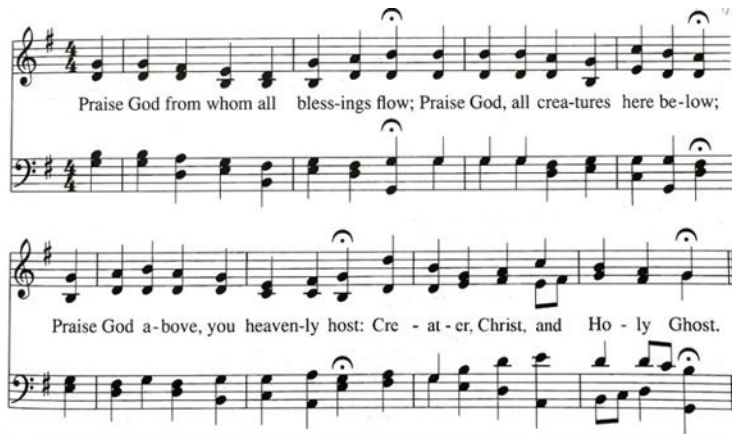
Response #769 Hear Our Prayer

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily in the Treble clef, with the Bass clef providing harmonic support. The lyrics are: "Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in - cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace." The score consists of two systems of two staves each.

We Respond to God’s Word

Offertory Anthem Fairest Lord Jesus Silesian Melody/arr. Martin How

Doxology



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here be-low;

Praise God a-bove, you heavenly host: Cre - at - er, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

O God, you have made us family to all who walk this earth with us. With these gifts may we reach out to others. With these gifts, may we open a way for others to reach out to us. Amen

We Take God's Light into the World

Hymn * #438 "It Is Well With My Soul"

Benediction

Postlude A Mighty Fortress Martin Luther/arr. Kevin Hildebrand



Today's Worship Service Helpers

Liturgist Robert Cannon

Ushers Celene Lyon and Sarah Mowitt

*The flowers on the altar this morning
are in honor of all the Mothers*

Knit for the Fair!

The Old Sloop Fair will be on July 10 and 11. The knitting nook needs crafty items for youngsters age 6 and under. Now is a good time to pull out your knitting needles or crochet hooks and look through your yarn stash and patterns for baby blankets, sweaters, booties, and toys. Then start stitching!

Camilla Ayers

Birthday Greetings Crew

***Captained by Camilla Ayers 978-546-3855
oldsloopbirthdays@icloud.com***



If you would like to be included on a monthly intergenerational Birthday Greetings List in the log, please fill out this form, put it in the offering plate or drop it in the office. You can also email oldsloopbirthdays@icloud.com.

Include: Your Name _____

Your Birthday Month ___ Day ___ Year _____ (optional)

How would you like to be contacted:

Phone _____ Email: _____

People may give you a call, greet you at Coffee Hour, send you a card or write you an email message! And you will be invited to your month's Birthday Coffee Hour, usually the last Sunday of your Birthday month.

Our Virtual attendees are welcome and children with parental permission and parental contact information only.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS May 10-17, 2026

- Sunday, May 10 10:00 am Sunday Service Rev. Judy Brain
Youth Faith Formation with Amy Seabrook
Coffee Hour hosted by the Flowers Committee
- Monday, May 11 Office Closed
10:00 am to noon Rockport Garden Club (Morgan Room)
7:00 pm Trustees Meeting
- Tuesday, May 12 Office Closed
11:00 am Tai Chi (Fellowship Hall)
7:00 pm Al-Anon (Morgan Room)
7:00 pm Stewardship Committee
- Wednesday, May 13 Church Office Open 9am -2pm
9:15 am Yoga (Fellowship Hall)
3:00 pm Storytelling Zoom
5:00 pm Bible Study Zoom
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)
- Thursday, May 14 Church Office Open 9 am-2 pm
9:30 am Book Group (Morgan Room)
- Friday, May 15 Church Office Open 9 am-2pm
4:00 pm Prayer Service – Zoom
- Saturday, May 16 8:30 am AA meeting- (Fellowship Hall)
- Sunday, May 17 10:00 am Sunday Service Dir. of Faith
Formation, Katie Welch
10:15 Youth Faith Formation with Amy Seabrook
Coffee Hour hosted by the Welcoming Com.
2:00 pm Women’s AA group (Morgan Room)
7:00 pm Cabinet meets online



Old Sloop Presents

Sat May 30: The Black Feathers – Nora Meier opens
“The Black Feathers could well be Britain’s answer to Gillian
Welch and Dave Rawlings” – Flying Shoes