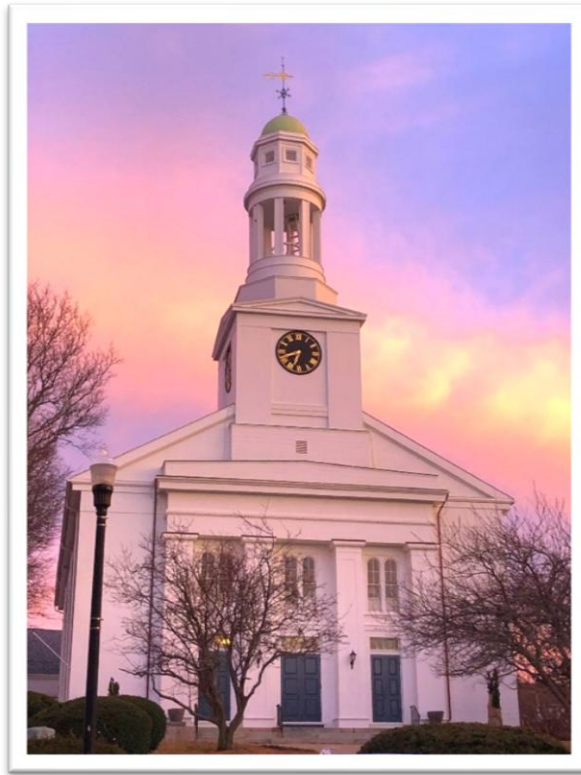


The First Congregational Church of Rockport United Church of Christ

12 School Street ~ Rockport, MA 01966

Sunday, September 20, 2026

17th Sunday after Pentecost



*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.*

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!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Prelude "Nettleton" Early American Tune/setting by P.P. Stearns

*** Processional Hymn "Let Me Enter God's Own Dwelling" #67 (Black)**

Call to Worship (Ps.105:1-5 adapt.)

One: O give thanks to the LORD; call on his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples.

All: Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.

One: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

All: Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually.

One: Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles and the judgments he uttered, O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

All: We remember, and we worship the Lord.

Welcome & Announcements

Children depart for Sunday School after Announcements

WORD

Hand Chimes “Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart”
F. Atkinson/arr. C. Moglebust

Prayer of Invocation Lou Cannon

One: O God, from your providing hand even the dissatisfied and grumbling receive what they need for their lives. Teach us your ways of justice and lead us to practice your generosity, so that we may live a life worthy of the Gospel made known through your Son Jesus.

All: Amen.

Scripture Exodus 16:2-15 Matthew 20:1-16 Lou Cannon

Sermon "The Sacred Art of Complaining."

*** Hymn** "Jesus I Live to You" #457 (Black)

RESPONSE

Prayers of the People and Pastoral Prayer

All: 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

Prayer Response (sing 3x)

Jaques Berthier - Taizé Chant

S
A
Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho-ly name -

T
B
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

Offering

Offertory Choir Anthem "King of Glory, King of Peace"

George Herbert/J.S. Bach

* Doxology

S
A
Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures here be-low;

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

Prayer of Dedication

One: Blessed are you, God of all creation; through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

All: Blessed be God forever. Amen.

SENDING AND DEPARTING

* **Hymn** "I Love to Tell the Story" #522 (Black)

* **Benediction**

Postlude "Oh! Had I Jubal's Lyre"

G. F. Handel

Coffee hour in Fellowship Hall is hosted by the Welcoming Committee

Today's Service Helpers

Liturgist Lou Cannon

Ushers Linda and Steve Rowell

Soloist Gillian Hurst

Hand Chimes Alison Trott, Lucy Fales
Evans, Rick Kasten

***Thanks and gratitude for all those who
help The Old Sloop sail smoothly
every day!***



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

Rev. Dr. James Olson, Interim Pastor

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

office@oldsloop.org

www.oldsloop.org.

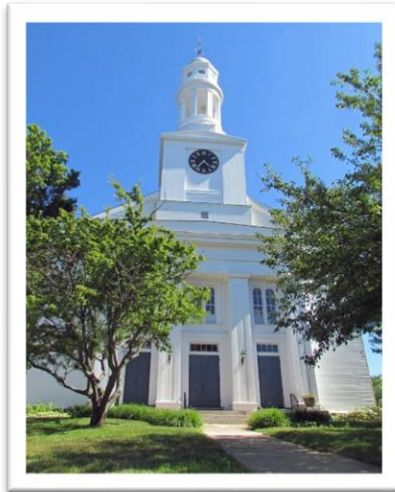
978-546-6638

office hours:

Wed,Th,Fri. 9-noon & 1-3

Pastor:Th.& Fri.10-noon





NEW MEMBER CLASS

We will be receiving any who wish to join us as full members of First Congregational Church of Rockport on Sunday, November 8 at the 10:00 a.m. service.

Information and formation sessions will be on Sundays, October 18 and 25 at 8:45 a.m. in the Morgan Room. Each interested person is also invited to have a one-on-one conversation with Pastor Jim, at your convenience.

Anyone interested in joining the church, please email to office@oldsloop.org so we might have an idea about who might come!



Welcome to parents of young children: Relax! There are worship carts available with coloring, books, fidgets, sensory items etc. to use during the summer months.

God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress those wiggles in God's house. Consider sitting toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to engage. Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, musicians, and leaders. Sing the hymns, pray and voice the responses. Children learn behavior by mimicking you.

If you must leave the Sanctuary with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. There is a room off the Narthex/main entry way with a stream of the service and toys as well, so you don't miss anything! As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

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.