

**CELEBRATION OF THE 275TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST
CHURCH OF CHRIST; ORGANIZED
JUNE 8, 1632, LYNN,
MASSACHUSETTS**

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Celebration of the 275th Anniversary of the First Church of Christ; Organized June 8, 1632,
Lynn, Massachusetts by Various

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VARIOUS

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CHURCH OF CHRIST; ORGANIZED
JUNE 8, 1632,
LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS**



FIFTH MEETING HOUSE.

Corner South Common and Vine Streets.
Dedicated August 29, 1872. Cost \$52,919.13.
Seating capacity, 1,000. Spire 160 feet high.
The organ a memorial to Christopher and Joanna Bubier.
The bell a gift from the Sunday School, cast by William Blake, 1878.

©

CELEBRATION

OF THE

275th Anniversary

OF

The First Church of Christ

Organized June 8, 1632

LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS

Sunday, June Ninth
Nineteen Hundred Seven

LYNN, MASS.
PRESS OF THOS. P. NICHOLS & SONS
1907

Preliminary

THE manifest propriety of suitably observing such a unique event as the two hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of this, which in the maintenance of faith and adherence to site is the oldest church organization in this country, was generally recognized, and preliminary measures were taken well in advance for its celebration.

On March 2, 1906, the Church voted to observe, by appropriate exercises, the Two Hundred Seventy-fifth Anniversary of its organization, and proceeded to the appointment of a committee to act jointly with one from the Parish.

At a Parish Meeting held May 1, 1906, the Society received the communication from the Church, giving information of its action, and voted to concur with the Church, and the joint committee on the Two Hundred Seventy-fifth Anniversary was organized as follows :

Two Hundred Seventy-fifth Anniversary Committee

Chairman, C. J. H. WOODBURY *Clerk*, HENRY R. FRENCH

From the Church

HERBERT P. BOYNTON
PHILIP EMERSON
MISS LEILA W. HOLDER
GUILFORD S. NEWHALL
REV. GEORGE W. OWEN
MISS CLARA M. STATON
GEORGE A. WILSON

From the Parish

HENRY R. FRENCH
FREEMAN H. NEWHALL
J. L. PENDLETON
LOUIS M. SCHMIDT
C. J. H. WOODBURY

Deacon George H. Martin and Miss Sadie W. Martin were appointed on this committee and performed efficient work, but resigned before the anniversary meeting on account of their departure for Europe.

This committee held a number of meetings and decided upon the exercises, whose details were carried into effect by sub-committees on programme, finance, invitations, music, decorations, hospitality and publication.

In this work the sub-committees were assisted by a number who were not members of the general committee.

The close relation of the history of this Church with the affairs of the town, especially during the colonial period in which the events occurring in this county have warranted the declaration that "Essex County is the most historic county in America," rendered it proper that the Municipality and the Lynn Historical Society should participate in the exercises.

The invitations were accepted on the part of the City by the Mayor, and the attendance of members of the City Government; while the Lynn Historical Society, on Oct. 15, 1906, by action of its Council accepted the invitation and appointed a committee on the subject, and a representative to speak on behalf of that organization. Furthermore, the Historical Society took action relative to the erection of a memorial tablet to commemorate the site of the Old Tunnel Meeting House, but this had not been carried into effect at the time of the celebration.

In addition to the above, official invitations were also sent to all the Churches in Lynn, to the Congregational Churches in Lynnfield, Saugus, Swampscott, Nahant,

Salem, Marblehead, Beverly and Peabody. To the editors of the *Congregationalist*, to all past officers of the Church, and to absent members.

A general invitation was cordially extended to the public through the daily press.

The Meeting House was decorated for the occasion with the Colonial colors and also the National colors, in addition to which the committee on decoration made two silk banners which bore the names of the Pastors of the Church, and floral decorations added to the occasion.

The communion set of Colonial silver contributed by various donors was brought out and placed on the communion table for the first time for many years, as its use has been displaced by the modern individual cups.

Members of the congregation cordially assisted in every detail where they could be of service. The infirm and the aged were brought to the meeting-house in automobiles and carriages of the members of the Parish.

While the services of those connected with the Church or its ministrations may not require specific mention, yet it should be stated that the thanks of the Church and Parish are cordially tendered to the many whose services were given to this occasion.

Mr. B. J. Lang, who was organist at the old church in 1851 and 1852, renewed his acquaintances and presided at the organ during the afternoon and evening services, conducting the musical numbers for which the special chorus had been trained by Mrs. Gertrude Hinman Rice, the Organist of the Church.

A number of the members of the Lynn Oratorio Society

contributed to the musical portion of the service by joining with the regular Church Choir.

In addition to solos by Miss Grace Tufts and Mrs. Harriet Russell Hart of the choir, Miss Louise Woodbury sang solo parts in the oratorio numbers, and Mrs. Paul W. Brickett played the violin at the morning service.

The services were reported in Boston and Lynn newspapers, especially the *Lynn Daily Evening Item* and the *Lynn Evening News*, of June 10, 1907, whose accounts were extensive and accurate.

Several light showers occurred during the day but the threatening, rather than stormy, weather did not prevent the Meeting House from being filled to repletion at each service.

Extensive researches have been made to obtain accurate lists of former ministers and officers, and dates when given in full are those of authentic record, and a majority of them are here published for the first time.

C. J. H. WOODBURY,
FREEMAN H. NEWHALL,
J. L. PENDLETON,
GUILFORD S. NEWHALL,
Committee on Publication.

Programme

MEMORIAL SERVICE

10.30 A.M.

PRELUDE — Flute Concerto *Rink*

HYMN 120 — "Lyons" *Haydn*

INVOCATION — By the Pastor

GLORIA

VIOLIN SOLO — "Adoration" *Borowski*
| *Mrs. PAUL W. BRICKETT.*

RESPONSIVE READING

PASTOR : How amiable are Thy tabernacles,
O Jehovah of hosts!

PEOPLE : *My soul longeth, yea, even jainteth for the courts of
Jehovah;
My heart and my flesh cry out unto the living God.*

PASTOR : Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house,
And the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay
her young,
Even Thine altars, O Jehovah of hosts,
My King and my God.

PEOPLE : *Blessed are they that dwell in Thy house:
They will be still praising Thee.*

PASTOR : Blessed is the man whose strength is in Thee;
In whose heart are the highways to Zion.