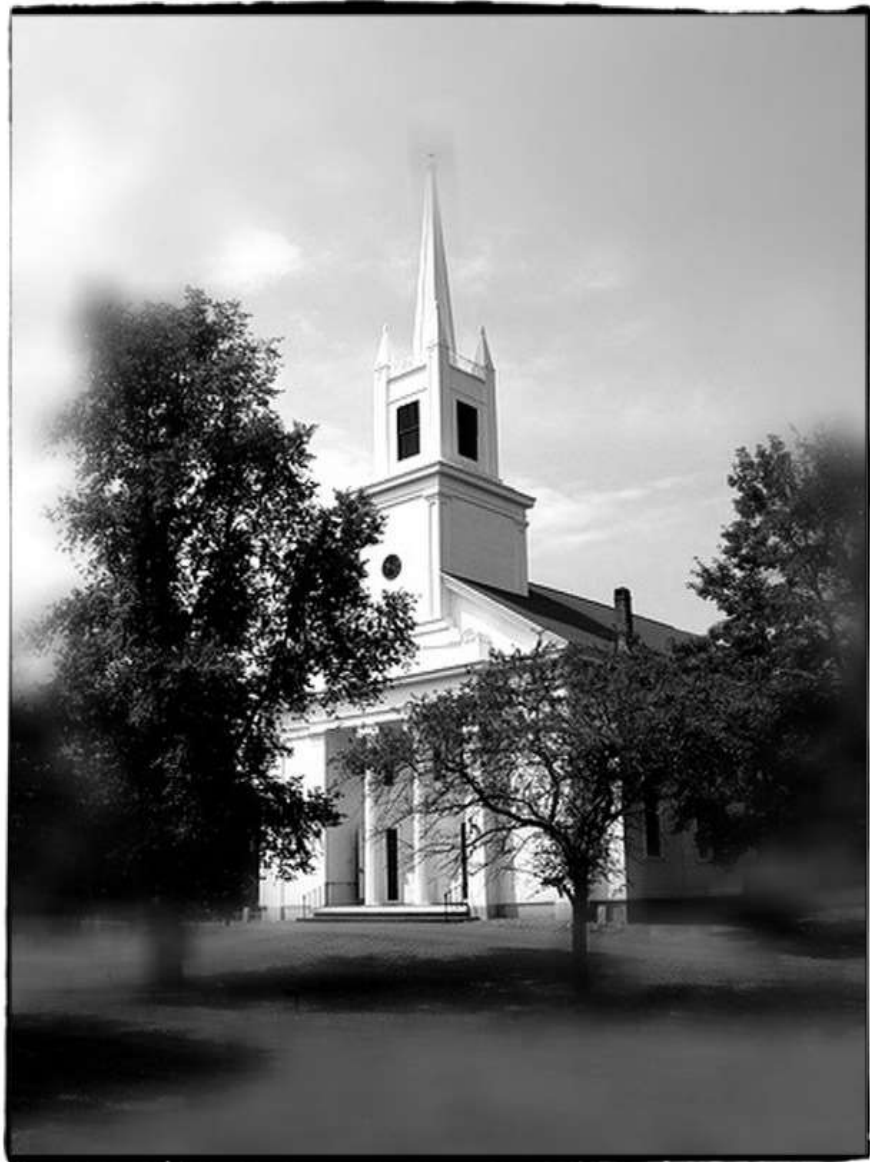


The Congregational Church *of* Topsfield

*An Open and Affirming Congregation
of
the United Church of Christ*



ORDER OF WORSHIP
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 25, 2022
9:30 am

*Masking during worship will be optional through the end of August, except during the singing of the Doxology and hymns.
We ask when you are singing to wear a face mask and please respect social distancing.
Please do not leave your seating area, during Passing of the Peace.*

PRELUDE "A Shelter in the Time of Storm" Ira Sankey

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Martin Riekert

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

OPENING HYMN "We, Thy People, Praise Thee" ST. ANTHONY'S CHORALE
Hymn #67 (MH) View page 6

CALL TO WORSHIP: Lay Reader, Meg Moran

Leader: God has gathered us to this place,
**People: where we hear those stories which show us
what the kingdom of God is like.**

Leader: God summons us to this place,
**People: where we can learn how to serve our God
without reservation, or hesitation.**

Leader: God will send us from this place,
**People: to tell others of God's hopes and dreams,
so they, too, can choose to follow God.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY (UNISON)

**You do not want us
to be ignorant of your
dreams and hopes for us,
God of holiness,
so you speak to us in parables,
so we might pay careful attention
to your words;
you tell us stories about
our grandparents in the faith,
so we might become mentors
to our grandchildren, and theirs.
Filling us with the holy oil
of generosity and grace,
you make us ready to welcome
Jesus Christ into our lives,
and to open our hearts
to those who are in need.
So, on this day, we choose to serve you,
God in Community.**

Amen

- Tom Shuman

SHARING OUR GIFTS

THE OFFERTORY

“He Hideth My Soul”

Ralph Kirkpatrick

†THE DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him* all creatures here below; praise Him* above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost Amen**

*You may substitute God/Her **You may substitute Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost

SCRIPTURE

I Kings 19:11-15
View page 5

Lay Reader, Meg Moran

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

Alan Hovhannes

SERMON

“What are you doing here....?”

Rev. Martin Riekert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Debts)

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*

*You may substitute Creator/Mother/Maker, etc. as you choose in saying the prayer.

CLOSING HYMN
Hymn #357 (CH)

“We Call Ourselves Disciples”
Verses 1,4 and 5 View page 7

LANCASHIRE

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Down By the Riverside”

Traditional, Sister Rosetta Tharpe

Scripture:

I Kings 19:11-15 (NRSVUE)

¹¹ He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake, ¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁴ He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” ¹⁵ Then the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram.

We, Thy People, Praise Thee

67

Unison

We, thy peo-ple, praise thee, praise thee, God of ev - ery na - tion!

We, thy peo-ple, praise thee, praise thee, Lord of Hosts e - ter - nal!

1. Days of won-der, days of beau-ty, days of rap-ture filled with light
2. For thy bless-ings, for thy boun-ty, joy - ful songs to thee we sing,

tell thy good-ness, tell thy mer-cies, tell thy glo-rious might.
songs of glo - ry, songs of tri - umph to our God and King.

We, thy peo-ple, praise thee, praise thee, praise thee ev - er - more!

357 We Call Ourselves Disciples

1. We call our-selves dis - ci - ples, as pil-grims on the way.
2. The cup and cross be-fore us, pro-claim our hope a - bove,
3. We're bap-tized in the Spir - it, in wa-ters God pro-vides,
4. We join with all dis - ci - ples to live the Word in deed,
5. So now the vi-sion bright-ens, the light of Christ burns still

1. We seek the truth in wis - dom, and beau - ty in each day.
2. the sign of our Re-deem - er, the ves - sel of his love.
3. In Christ we rise to new - ness, for in him we have died.
4. to share the cup of wa - ter and bread with all in need;
5. in hearts of all dis - ci - ples to be the church God wills.

1. As wom-en, men, and chil - dren, we serve, Christ's path to clear.
2. Once more the cross is lift - ed, the cup poured out for all.
3. Now dead to powers of e - vil, and free from hope-less fears,
4. to work till God's com- pass - ion and righ-teous - ness pre - vail,
5. From qui - et med - i - ta - tion, and joy - ous hymns of praise,

1. In joy - ful ex - pec - ta - tion we see God's reign draw near.
2. When gath-ered at the ta - ble we hear our com - mon call.
3. we live with faith and pur - pose, cre - a - tive through the years.
4. till all this plan - et's peo - ple know jus - tice with - out fail.
5. we go to do God's mis - sion! Christ, lead us all our days!

Congregational Church of Topsfield

Parish Care Ministry

Prayer List Contact:

Kim Itz at prayerlisting@topsfieldchurch.org or 978 887-6567.

Healing Scripture:

"And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick" Matthew 14:14

Healing Prayer:

Dear Lord, I ask you to turn this weakness into strength, suffering into compassion, sorrow into joy, and pain into comfort for others. May your servant trust in your goodness and hope in your faithfulness, even in the middle of this suffering. Let him be filled with patience and joy in your presence as he waits for your healing touch.

Please Pray For:

Maria Cecilia Guerra - Sister of José Guerra
Karen Burnett - Member of CCOT
Eva - Friend of Irina Günzel-Guerra from Norway
Stoney Stonestreet - Member of CCOT
Doug McIlvaine - Member of CCOT
Edward & Memory Matavhunye & their community- President of the UCC in Zimbabwe
Doug Gruber - Brother of Susan Gruber
Stephen & Judith Carnahan - Friends of Stephen Moore
Paul Rogers - Father of Tony Rogers
Helen Talberth - Member of CCOT
Jane Moyer - Member of CCOT
Ralph & Diana Titus - Members of CCOT
Sean Enos - Son of neighbor of Jane & Bruce Jones
Rich and Cheryl Hopkins - Members of CCOT
Chuck Schwab - Friend of Charles Mathison
John Stein - Brother in Law of Susan Warner

David Pike - Brother of Susan Warner
Brett Hoover - Grandson of Fred & Carole Hoover
Steve Wilson and Family - Friends and former neighbors of Kim & Charlie Itz
Richard Duncan - Neighbor of Jane & Bruce Jones
Stephen Moore - Member of CCOT
Mark Gosbee - Son of Judi & Gary Gosbee
Roberto Chong - Uncle of Kim Love
John & Laurie Rowen - Friends of Cathy Imboden, Mary Jelinek & Sue Panella
Sally Garnett - Sister of Cathy Imboden
Fred Hoover - Member of CCOT
Kay Hagar - Member of CCOT
Ken Flewelling - Member of CCOT
Paul Worth - Husband of Claudia Worth
Earl Pickel - Friend of Ruth Bortzfield
Karen Muise - Family member of Kim Itz
Lucy Amico - Daughter of friend of Kim Itz

The Congregational Church of Topsfield September Birthdays



Happy Birthday to:

Andrew Panella: 09/03

Skylar Kane: 09/06

Carolyn Detato: 9/09

Grant Warren: 09/09

Jon Palace: 09/11

Barb Barnes: 09/14

Conny Griesshammer: 09/16

Philip Knowles: 09/20

Kristin Palace: 09/20

Charlotte Melling: 09/21

Phyllis Heslet: 09/24

Pamela Wilder: 09/24

Cathy Imboden: 09/25

Leslie Voss: 09/25

Mike Ierardi: 09/27

Chris Itz: 09/27



SERVING THIS MORNING

Polly Croteau, Carolyn Detato
Meg Moran
Robert Knutsen
Jon Palace

Altar Guild
Lay Reader
Head Usher
Usher

Senior Minister

Martin Riekert, 978-887-2101
martin@topsfieldchurch.org

Associate Minister

For Children & Youth Ministry
Amy A. Bruch, 978-887-2101
amy@topsfieldchurch.org

Music Director and Organist

Jackson Carruthers, 978-887-2101
jackson@topsfieldchurch.org

Communications & Office Manager

Kim Love, 978-887-2101
kimlove@topsfieldchurch.org

Joyful Noises Preschool

Yvonne Beirne, 978-848-2018
joyfulnoisestopsfield@gmail.com

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An Open and Affirming Congregation of the UCC
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