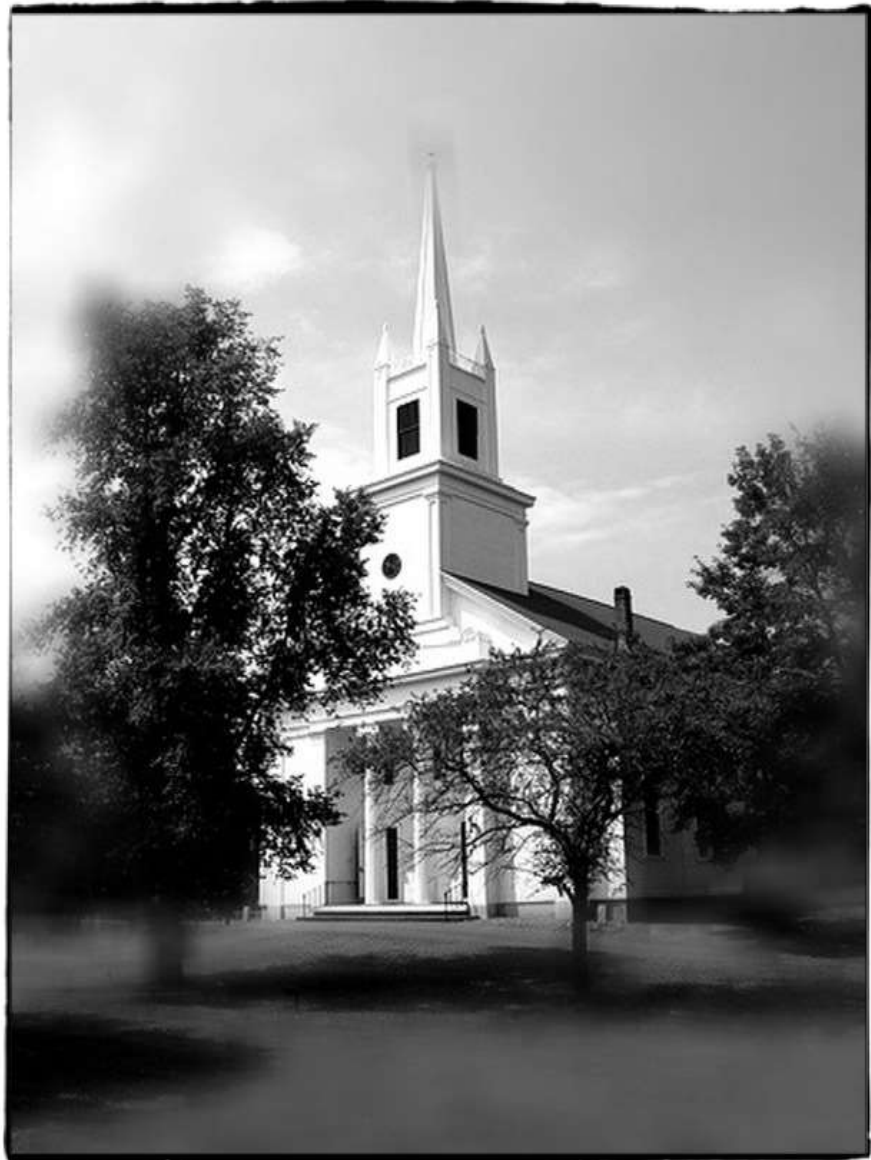


The Congregational Church *of* Topsfield

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



ORDER OF WORSHIP
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 19, 2023
9:30 am

Mask wearing in the Meetinghouse during worship is voluntary, participants in worship may choose to mask at any time.

PRELUDE "I Want Jesus to Walk With Me" Spiritual

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Martin Riekert

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

LENTEN REFLECTION AND CANDLE LIGHTING: Meg and Don Moran

OPENING HYMN "All People That on Earth Do Dwell" OLD HUNDREDTH
Hymn #18 (CH) View page 4, Verses 1 and 4

CALL TO WORSHIP: Lay Reader, Jon Palace

Leader: God who is beyond us,
maker of heaven and earth –

People: open our eyes to see the wonder of creation!

Leader: God was made known
In the life of Jesus the Christ

People: Open our hearts to know the deep love of Christ!

Leader: God who lives in each one of us as Spirit
Holy fire to kindle our true purpose

**All: Open our beings to each other to confirm that we all belong,
And together we can give birth to your new earth.**

-St Martins Presbyterian Church, Christchurch NZ

UNISON PRAYER:

**We come, God of the journey:
a people from different places, different histories, different cultures.**

**We come hoping to find companionship for the journey,
solidarity for the struggle.**

**We gather, God of Hospitality, around your 'welcome table',
a table not yet round, but rounding.**

**We gather seeking to become a 'round-table people,
welcoming of all, with no preferred seating,
no firsts and no lasts, and no corners for the 'least of these'.**

**We yearn, God of diversity, for a new way of living and relating
as neighbors not strangers,
as brothers and sisters, not 'them and us'.**

**We yearn to live fully celebrating both the diversity of our human family,
and the unity of our call to peace, love and justice. Amen.**

-St Martins Presbyterian Church, Christchurch NZ

SHARING OUR GIFTS

THE OFFERTORY

“When I Survey The Wondrous Cross”

Waly Waly

†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

Matthew 28: 16-20
View bottom of page 3

Lay Reader, Jon Palace

ANTHEM

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

Gilbert Martin

SERMON

“Wrong Time For A Faulty Hot Water Tank”

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 #335 (CH)

“Creating God, Your Fingers Trace”
View page 5, Verses 1-4

TALLIS’ CANON

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley”

Traditional

Scripture: Matthew 28: 16-20 (NRSVUE)

¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”^[a]

GOD

Psalm 100

18 All People That on Earth Do Dwell

1. All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing
 2. Know that there is one God, in - deed, who
 3. En - ter the sa - cred gates with praise, with
 4. Pro - claim a - gain that God is good, whose

out your faith with cheer - ful voice; de - light in God whose
 fash - ions us with - out our aid, who claims us, gives us
 joy ap - proach the tem - ple walls. Ex - tol and bless our
 mer - cy is for - ev - er sure, whose truth at all times

praise you tell, whose pres - ence calls you to re - jice.
 all we need, whose ten - der care will nev - er fade.
 God al - ways as peo - ple whom the Spir - it calls.
 firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.

WORDS: William Kethe, 1561, alt.
 MUSIC: Louis Bourgeois, 1551

OLD HUNDREDTH
 LM

Alt. tune: OLD HUNDREDTH (altered rhythm)

PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL

Creating God, Your Fingers Trace 335

1. Cre - at - ing God, your fin - gers trace the
 2. Sus - tain - ing God, your hands up - hold earth's
 3. Re - deem - ing God, your arms em - brace all
 4. In - dwell - ing God, your gos - pel claims one

bold de - signs of far - thest space; let sun and moon and
 mys - teries known or yet un - told; let wa - ter's fra - gile
 now de - spised for creed or race; let peace, de - scend - ing
 fam - ily with a bil - lion names; let ev - ery life be

stars and light and what lies hid - den praise your might.
 blend with air, en - a - bling life, pro - claim your care.
 like a dove, make known on earth your heal - ing love.
 touched by grace un - til we praise you face to face.

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

Eva - Friend of Irina Günzel-Guerra from Norway

Doug McIlvaine - Member of CCOT

Edward & Memory Matavhunye & their community - President of the UCC in Zimbabwe

Doug Gruber - Brother of Susan Gruber

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

Brett Hoover - Grandson of Fred & Carole Hoover

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

Paul Worth - Husband of Claudia Worth

The Muisse Family - Family of Kim Itz

Willem Combrinck – Friend of Martin & Christa in New Zealand

Jennifer Smith – Friend of Martin & Christa in Vermont

Bill Rhyne - Husband of Kathy Rhyne

Jane Jones - Member of CCOT

Trish Hudson - Former member of CCOT

Dan Cassiday - Husband of Jackie Cassiday

Kathy Mscisz - Friend of Dolly McIlvaine

Kurt Nakanishi - Son of friend of Judi

Gosbee

Connor Rebbick - Roommate of Brandon Read

Jean Jones Valentine - Sister of Bruce Jones

Our prayers of sympathy and love are with the family of Ken Flewelling, who passed away this week.



Easter Plant Orders Order Today!!

Please help glorify our Easter Sunday worship service with colorful, springtime Easter plants by placing an order. The cost for each plant is **\$10.00**. Lilies, tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths are available.

The last date to order is: **Sunday, April 2nd, Palm Sunday.**

Flowers remaining at the church will be taken to the sick and shut-ins or remain to beautify the chancel, so please be sure to indicate if you intend to take the flowers on Easter Sunday. Please feel free to contact Ruth Bortzfield at: ruthbortzfield@gmail.com if you have any questions.

TO ORDER:

- Mail order form and payment to: Ruth Bortzfield, 22 Great Hill Drive, Topsfield, MA. 01983.
- Place in envelope in offering plate, labeled "Easter Flowers".
- Contact Ruth at: 978-317-6350

Please make checks payable to the Congregational Church of Topsfield

Your Name (as you would like it to appear in the dedication booklet)

Dedication (in memory, celebration of, etc) **if left blank, dedication will read "in memory of loved ones."*

 Easter Lily Tulip Daffodil Hyacinth

I will will not take the plant(s) after the Easter service.

Number of plants: _____ Amount enclosed \$_____

Thank you for your support!

*The Congregational Church of Topsfield
March Birthdays 3/13 - 3/25*



Charles Mathison	3/13
Alex Spaulding	3/13
Laney Ogden	3/16
Nancy Preble Barrett	3/19
Isaac Love	3/19
Maeve Symmes	3/21
Jim Redding	3/22
John Arathuzik	3/24
Tricia Haines	3/24
Tim McGinley	3/25

Coffee Hour Volunteers Needed

**We're looking for April hosts!
4/2, 4/16, 4/23 and 4/30**

If you can volunteer, please email:

Nancy Nelson

at: nbnelson21@gmail.com



*Thank you to our Coffee Hour volunteers, Bruce and Jane Jones,
for providing Coffee Hour after service today in the Emerson Center Fellowship Hall.
Hope to have you join us!*

SERVING THIS MORNING

Polly Croteau, Carolyn Detato
Jon Palace
Jon Palace
David Larson

*Altar Guild
Lay Reader
Head Usher
Usher*

Senior Minister
Martin Riekert, 978-887-2101
martin@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

The Congregational Church of Topsfield
An Open and Affirming Congregation of the UCC
9 East Common St. Topsfield, MA. 01983 Church Office: 978 887-2101 Website: www.topsfieldchurch.org

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