The Congregational Church of Topsfield

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ



ORDER OF WORSHIP THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME OCTOBER 26, 2025 9:30 am

PRELUDE Choralvorspiel: Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott Johann Gottfried Walther

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Dr. Dave VanArsdale

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

OPENING HYMN "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" TRENTHAM

HYMN #420 (MH) View page 5, all verses

CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVELY):

Lay Reader, Peter Lindholm

Leader: The Lord Almighty has set the path for his followers; may we have the strength to serve. **People:** Followers sometimes come with resources, while others come with tattered clothes.

Some followers depart from furnished homes, while others have had no place to lay their head.

Leader: We know that God's blessings and grace fall upon all of Christ's followers.

People: All our gifts and all of our service we bring to honor the One Spirit whom we adore.

OPENING PRAYER (IN UNISON):

Holy God, you look with blessing on the humble of heart and offer mercy to all who seek you.

As we gather for worship today, we come with both our praise and our shortcomings.

Help us to release the need to judge one another and to instead be guided by your grace.

Open our hearts to your word, that we may be transformed and drawn closer to your will.

Cleanse and restore us, for the sake of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

SHARING OUR GIFTS

THE OFFERTORY "Breath of God" Hatch/Jackson

†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.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CHILDREN DISMISSED FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL - (MEET IN THE NARTHEX TO BE BROUGHT OVER)

ANTHEM Nun danket alle Gott from Cantata BWV 79 Johann Sebastian Bach

SCRIPTURE Luke 18:9-14 Lay Reader, Peter Lindholm

Scripture Reading: Luke 18:9-14

⁹He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: ¹⁰ "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' ¹³But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' ¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

SERMON "Humility" Rev. Dr. Dave VanArsdale

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 "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" ABERYSTWYTH

HYMN #479 (MH) View page 6, all verses

BENEDICTION

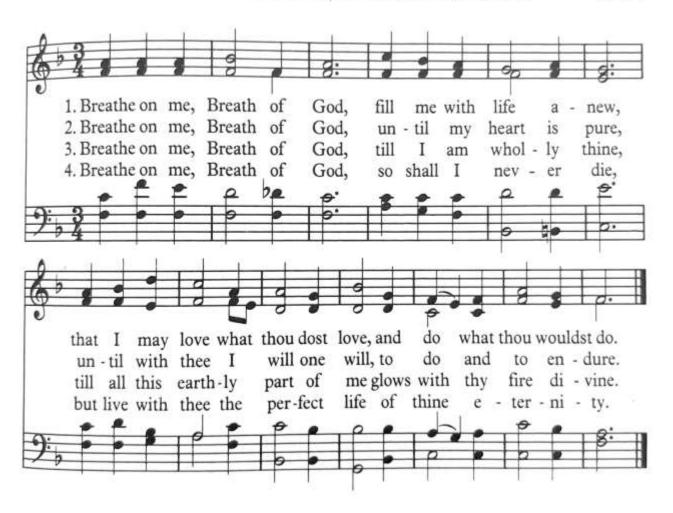
POSTLUDE Choralvorspiel: Nun danket alle Gott Justin Heinrich Knecht

Looking Ahead to Next Week, November 2, 2025

We read one of the favorite stories of Luke's Gospel: the story of Zacchaeus. We can easily visualize the short man watching the parade and not being able to see the star attraction. His climbing a tree is noticed by Jesus and their relationship begins. Let's come with great anticipation of the new era in ministry to begin as we explore the theme "Endowed for Ministry".

ALL VERSES

Breathe on Me, Breath of God 420



ALL VERSES



Congregational Church of Topsfield Parish Care Ministry

Prayer Listing Contact:

Kim Itz at: prayerlisting@topsfieldchurch.org

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 servants trust in your goodness and hope in your faithfulness, even in the middle of this suffering. Let all be filled with patience and joy in your presence as they wait for your healing touch.

Please Pray For:

Doug McIlvaine - Member of CCOT
Jane Moyer - Member of CCOT
Diana Titus - Member of CCOT
Cheryl Hopkins - Member of CCOT
Abby Bowling - Member of CCOT
Susan Gruber - Member of CCOT
Phyllis Heslet - Member of CCOT
Phil and Marilyn Knowles - Members of CCOT

Fred Hoover - Member of CCOT
Jacob Itz - Son of Kim & Charlie Itz
Jack Whelan - Brother of Steve Whelan
Doug Gruber - Brother of Susan Gruber
Mark Gosbee - Son of Judi & Gary Gosbee
Roger Talbot - Husband of Joyce Talbot
Lynn Barnes - Sister-in-law of Jim Barnes
Jim Quinlivan - Dad of Julie Quinlivan
Chloe - Great-great-niece of Diana Titus
Renata Carr - Sister of Ilona Vele
David Muise - Nephew of Kim Itz
Kevin Goldenbogen - Former Youth Leader
at CCOT

Trish Hudson - Former member of CCOT Maria Cecilia Guerra - Sister of José Guerra Eva - Friend of Irina Günzel-Guerra from Norway Andrea Sommer & Family - Relatives of Irina Günzel Guerra GML - Friend of Judi & Gary Gosbee Rick Anderson - Friend of CCOT Kay - Family friend of Ellie Losee Pete - Friend of Charlotte & Duane Melling Nancy Woolford - Friend of CCOT Margie & Vince Castellanet - Neighbors of Jane & Bruce Jones Nancy - Friend of Julie Quinlivan Linda VanArsdale - Daughter-in-law of Dave VanArsdale, bridge minister of CCOT Cathy Flynn - Daughter of John Arathuzik, **CCOT Church Caretaker** Mary - Friend of Susan & Joe Gibbons

Jon Mitchell - Friend of CCOT

