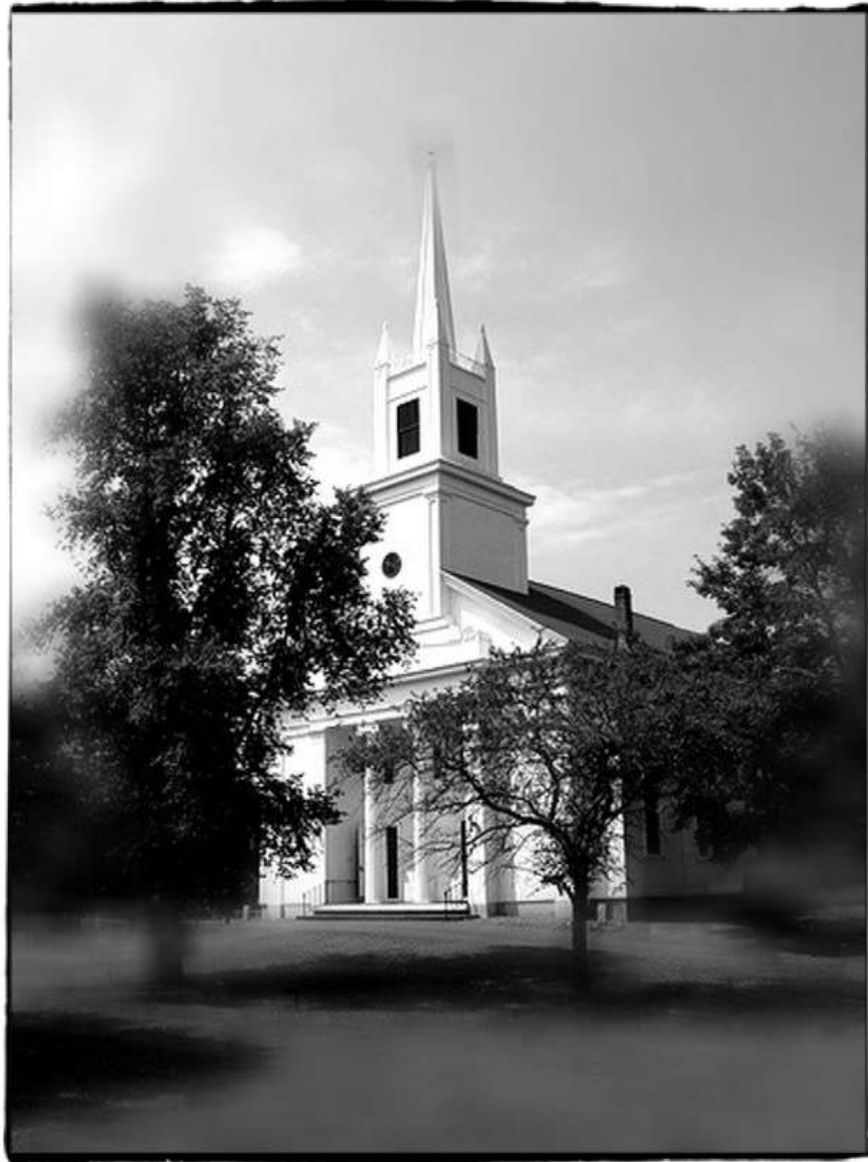


The Congregational Church *of* Topsfield

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



The Congregational Church of Topsfield, *An Open and Affirming Congregation of the UCC*
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ORDER OF WORSHIP
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 3, 2024
9:30 am

PRELUDE	“Saints Bound for Heaven”	King/Walker
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS		Rev. Martin Riekert
PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST		
SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION		
OPENING HYMN HYMN #555 (MH)	“Forward Through the Ages” View page 5, verses 1-3	ST. GERTRUDE
UNISON GATHERING PRAYER:		Lay Reader, Alan Denton

**O Living God of past and future,
we praise you
or this present moment.
Fill us with your joy and empower us with your Holy Spirit,
that our strength may be renewed
to sing a new song of your love
in a world which longs for your justice and peace.
All this we ask in the name of Jesus,
in whom we become
your new creation. Amen**

SHARING OUR GIFTS

THE OFFERTORY	“St. Gertrude”	Arthur Sullivan
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†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

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION PREPARATION OF THE ELEMENTS

Zoom and TV attendees: Participants will prepare and supply their own bread and cup. It is your choice if you want to physically break your own bread during communion or prepare it beforehand and eat and drink what you have prepared when asked to do so.

GUIDING WORDS

Rev. Martin Riekert

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

Leader: We rejoice in the God of life,
who gives us bread:
the fruit of the earth worked with human hands.
and who makes it into the bread of life.

**All: We rejoice in the God of life
who gives us wine:
the fruit of the vine tended with daily care,
and puts the flavor of the new world into it.**

Leader: As the wheat and grapes are joined on this table in bread and wine –
into a visual symbol for us –

**All: May our church join together
into a visual symbol for the entire world.**

- From a liturgy for World Communion Sunday (World Council of Churches)

SERVING OF ELEMENTS

Rev. Martin Riekert

COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (UNISON):

God of love, we are deeply grateful for once more being drawn into community through this meal. Inspire us to live sacramentally, mediating your love with courage, compassion, and hope. Empower us anew to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you. We pray in the Spirit of Chris. Amen

*Invitation and Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving by Brian Brandsmeier as adapted by Martin Riekert

COMMUNION HYMN
Hymn #393 (CH)

“One Bread, One Body”
View page 6, verse 1

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

BELL CHOIR ANTHEM

“Here I Am, Lord”

Daniel Schutte, Arr. Helman

SCRIPTURE

I Corinthians 1:1-3
View page 4

Lay Reader, Alan Denton

SERMON

“Avoiding Sainthood”

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 #633 (CH)

“Lead On, O Cloud of Presence”
View page 7, verses 1-3

LANCASHIRE

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“When The Saints Go Marching In”

Traditional

Scripture Reading:

I Corinthians 1:1-3 (NRSVUE)

1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

2 To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord^[a] and ours:

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

VERSES 1-3

THE NATURE OF THE CHURCH

555

Forward Through the Ages

1. For-ward through the a - ges, in un - bro - ken line,
2. Wid - er grows the king - dom, reign of love and light;
3. Not a - lone we con - quer, not a - lone we fall;

move the faith - ful spir - its at the call di - vine;
for it we must la - bor, till our faith is sight.
in each loss or tri - umph lose or tri - umph all.

gifts in dif - fer - ing mea - sure, hearts of one ac - cord,
Proph - ets have pro - claimed it, mar - tyrs tes - ti - fied,
Bound by God's far pur - pose in one liv - ing whole,

man - i - fold the ser - vice, one the sure re - ward.
po - ets sung its glo - ry, he - roes for it died.
move we on to - geth - er to the shin - ing goal.

Refrain

For-ward through the a - ges, in un - bro - ken line,

move the faith - ful spir - its at the call di - vine.

VERSE 1

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

1 Corinthians 10:16-17

393 One Bread, One Body

Refrain (Unison)

Chords: D7, G, C, G, C, G, D, Em, B, Em, D, G, Em, A7, D7, G, C, (G), Em, D, Em, D, Em, F, Am, D7

Lyrics:

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all,
 one cup of bless-ing which we bless. And
 we, though man-y through-out the earth,
 we are one bod-y in this one Lord.
 1. Gen-tile or Jew, ser-vant or free,
 2. Man-y the gifts, man-y the works,
 3. Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,
 wom-an or man, no more,
 one in the Lord of all. One
 gath-ered to one, for all.

VERSES 1-3

Lead On, O Cloud of Presence

633

1. Lead on, O cloud of pres - ence; the ex - o - dus is come;
 2. Lead on, O fi - ery pil - lar; we fol - low yet with fears,
 3. Lead on, O God of free - dom, and guide us on our way,

in wil - der - ness and des - ert our tribe shall make its home.
 but we shall come re - joic - ing, though joy be born of tears.
 and help us trust the prom - ise through strug - gle and de - lay.

Our bond - age left be - hind us, new hopes with - in us grow.
 We are not lost, though wan - d'ring, for by your light we come,
 We pray our sons and daugh - ters may jour - ney to that land

We seek the land of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow.
 and we are still God's peo - ple. The jour - ney is our home.
 where jus - tice dwells with mer - cy and love is law's de - mand.

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
Doug Gruber - Brother of Susan Gruber
Jane Moyer - Member of CCOT
Diana Titus - Member of CCOT
Sean Enos - Son of neighbor of Jane & Bruce Jones
Cheryl Hopkins - Member of CCOT
Trish Hudson - Former member of CCOT
Kurt Nakanishi - Son of friend of Judi Gosbee
David Muisse & Family- Family of Kim Itz
Jacob Itz - Son of Kim & Charlie Itz
Andrea Sommer & Family - Relatives of Irina Günzel Guerra
Mary Vernon Saunders - Cousin of Mary Jelinek
Joyce Talbot - Member of CCOT
Abby Bowling - Member of CCOT
Susan Gruber - Member of CCOT

Phil and Marilyn Knowles - Parents of Scott Knowles
GML - Friend of Judi & Gary Gosbee
John Kinhan - Member of CCOT
Danielle Redding - Daughter of Christy & Jim Redding
Kevin Goldenbogen - Former Youth Leader at CCOT
Bobby Duchano - Friend of Charles Mathison
Dorcas Gordon - Grandmother of Rasheed Townes
Mark Gosbee - Son of Judi & Gary Gosbee
Scott Bortzfield - Son of Ruth Bortzfield
Jack Whelan - Brother of Steve Whelan
Steve Hoover - Son of Carol & Fred Hoover
Phil Sinaikin - Friend of Christa & Martin Riekert
Mr & Mrs. Sisamout - Parents of friend of Kim Itz
Dennis Heslet- Member of CCOT
Judy Turksel- Mom of Kristin Palace