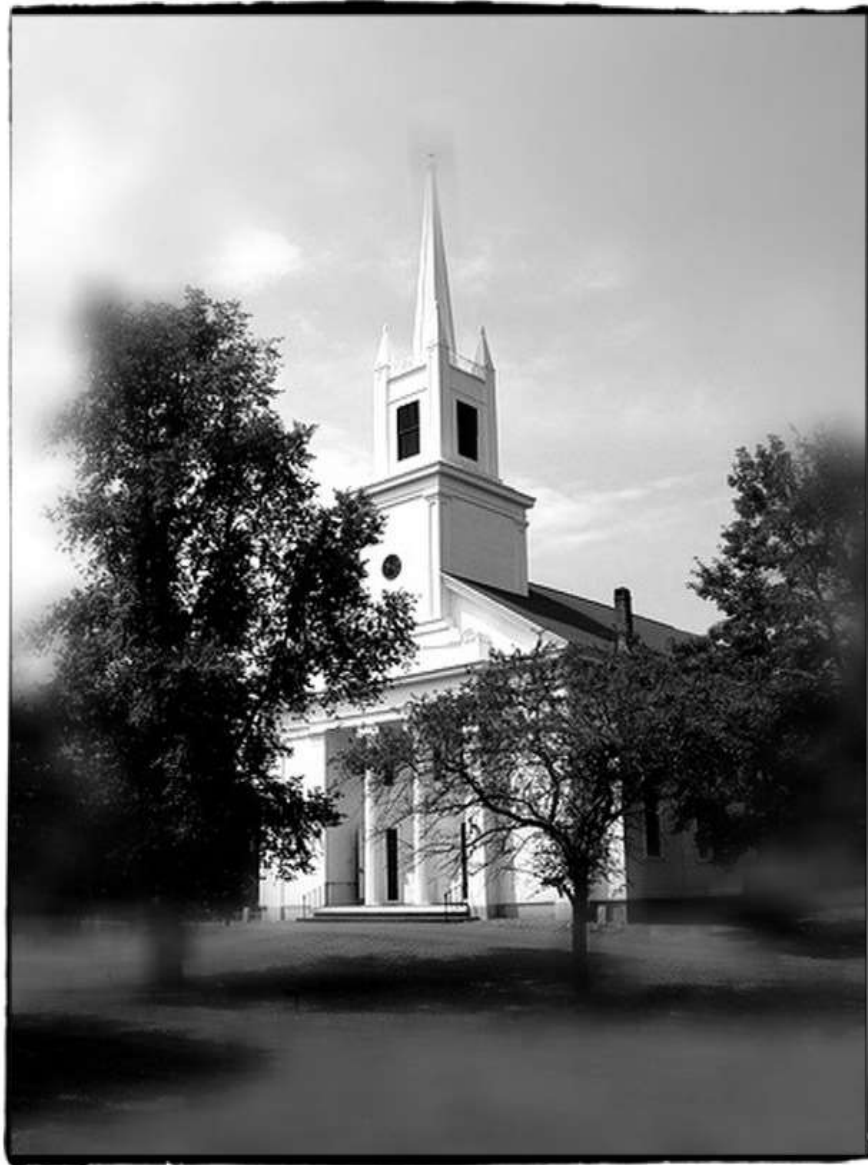


The Congregational Church *of* Topsfield

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



The Congregational Church of Topsfield, *An Open and Affirming Congregation of the UCC*
9 East Common St. Topsfield, MA. 01983 Church Office: 978-887-2101 Website: www.topsfieldchurch.org
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ORDER OF WORSHIP
TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 5, 2025
9:30 am

PRELUDE "Will You Come and Follow Me" John L. Bell

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Dr. David VanArsdale

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

OPENING HYMN "Forward Through the Ages" ST.GERTRUDE
HYMN #555 (MH) View page 6, all verses

CALL TO WORSHIP: Lay Reader, Alan Denton

Leader: Throughout God's world this day Christian churches are celebrating the Lord's Supper as one family dining together under one roof.
People: **Our sisters and brothers in Africa, Europe, Central America, Asia and in all countries join us lifting the bread of life and the cup of salvation.**
Leader: Neither powers nor principalities shall stop us nor deter our purpose, our sense of mission, or our challenge to go forth as disciples into every town proclaiming the love of Christ for all of creation.
People: **In Christ's love there is no East, no West, no North, no South, but only one Spirit of hope, love, and peace for all.**
Leader: May Jesus Christ bless the World Communion of the Church this day!

OPENING PRAYER IN UNISON:

**God of grace, You seek to grow new things within us.
We confess that we don't give you much to work with.
The seed of faith is small within us.
Hope is hard to muster. Love is often inconvenient.
Have mercy on us. Stir us, empower us, redeem us,
so that we might reach to you and move toward you
and grow in the ways of faith, hope, and love. Amen.**

SHARING OUR GIFTS

THE OFFERTORY "Let Us Break Bread Together" Traditional Spiritual

†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.

THE SHARING IN BREAD AND WINE

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (UNISON):

**We have been in the presence of the Lord, and we have sufficiently dined on the food of the Spirit.
We must return to this place again and again, that our hearts might be strengthened, our spirits
might be enlightened, our broken places mended, and our bruised and fractured lives and
relationships made peaceful. Amen.**

***CHILDREN K-6TH GRADE DISMISSED FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL- (MEET IN THE NARTHEX TO BE BROUGHT OVER)**

SCRIPTURE

Luke 17:5-10

Lay Reader, Alan Denton

Scripture Reading: Luke 17: 5-10

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶ The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a^[a] mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

⁷ “Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? ⁸ Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? ⁹ Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’ ”

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 #548 (MH)

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

View page 7, all verses

McKEE

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“In Christ There is No East or West”

H.T. Burleigh

Looking Ahead to Next Sunday October 12, 2025...

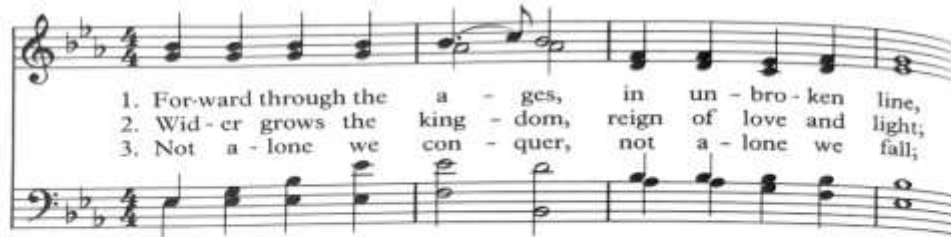
We read the familiar story of Jesus healing the ten lepers ... and one turns back to share his thanksgiving for his new life. What stories come to our minds when we hear of the good news of someone’s healing ... maybe the news from our own doctor who says, “You are now clear of cancer.” How do we say thanks to what happens in our lives?

Sermon: “*Saying Thanks LOUDLY!*”

Preaching: Dr. David VanArsdale

ALL VERSES

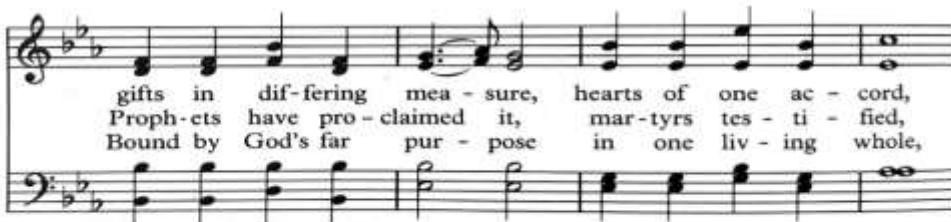
555 Forward Through the Ages



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.

ALL VERSES

In Christ There Is No East or West 548

1. In Christ there is no east or west, in
 2. In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their
 3. In Christ is neith - er Jew nor Greek, and
 4. In Christ now meet both east and west, in

him no south or north; but one great fel - low -
 high com - mun - ion find; his ser - vice is the
 neith - er slave nor free; both male and fe - male
 him meet south and north; all Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 gold - en cord close bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 heirs are made, and all are kin to me.
 one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

Congregational Church of Topsfield Parish Care Ministry

Prayer Listing Contact:

Kim Itz at: prayerlisting@topsfeldchurch.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 - Member 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 Muese - 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 Caretaker
Mary - Friend of Susan & Joe Gibbons

