

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF MONTAGUE,  
TRINITARIAN  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2015 25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MEDITATION: The greatest gift we can give for others is not just to share our riches but to reveal to them their own. *Benjamin D'Israeli*

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Christ bids us come with welcoming grace.

**All: We celebrate Christ's wide-embracing love.**

One: God bids us to be filled with Spirit's empowering gifts.

**All: We rejoice in the community God gathers for praise, and scatters for service.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**Lord of joy and mercy, be with us this day as we seek your voice and your guidance. Remove the obstacles that block our commitment and help us to truly be your disciples; for we ask this in Christ's Name. AMEN.**

HYMN: # 147R All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Commissioning of Teachers Prayer: **Lord God, we recognize that we are all learners and educators. Help us as we journey together to support one another, to share our lives, and to work for Your reign on earth. Amen!**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, you have exalted Jesus above all creation because of his embodied humility and faithful servanthood. We acknowledge that we have not always followed his example. We have at times embodied conceit in putting others down or artificially extolling ourselves. We have at times regarded ourselves as better than those less educated, less wealthy, less influential, less attractive, or less athletic. Teach us humility and help us to look to the**

**interests of others first so we may have the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Knowing that we stumble and fall down, God calls us and loves us anyways and all ways! Be at peace.

GLORIA PATRI

CHORAL ANTHEM

RESPONSIVE READING: #71, p. 518, Psalm 25

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

HEBREW SCRIPTURE: Exodus 17:1-7

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32

SERMON: Welcoming the Child

HYMN: # 227R Fairest Lord Jesus

PRAYERS

JOYS AND CONCERNS

L: The Lord be with you.

**P: And with your spirit**

L: Let us join in prayer.

**Pastoral Prayer**

SILENT PRAYER

**Lord's Prayer: 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever Amen.**

**Prayer Response**

OFFERING

Invitation to Giving

Offertory Anthem

Doxology #514

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self

**God of love, for all you have given, we give you thanks. May this offering be but one expression of our thanks. May these gifts, as**

**well as our lives, be engaged in your mission and witness:  
extending mercy, doing justice, deepening community, all for the  
sake of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

HYMN #406 Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Part of our mission is to make ourselves and our building more accessible, that we might bear witness in action and speech to God's presence in the world. To that end, we are asking everyone to wear name tags to make it easier to deepen your current relationships or create new ones. Eliminating the worry over remembering someone's name can go a long way in that effort. Thank you on behalf of the deacons .... and God! ☺

**TODAY:** Rally Sunday, *Welcome Back!* Sunday school resumes  
Join us at a special coffee hour in Fellowship Hall following worship  
.... Wear your name tag for a smile!

**October 4, 10 am service:** Blessing of the Animals on our front lawn. A special service honoring all God's creature's kind and good!

**Oct 18 CROP Hunger Walk** Find a way to be a part of this wonderful event that supports hunger relief in our area as well as around the world! See Sheryl or John Twyon for information.

**October 24** Pumpkin Fest in Turners Falls...join the fun and serve in our booth.

**Community Meals HELP NEEDED First Monday of the month -  
5:30pm at Our Lady of Peace in Turners Falls.**

Deacon for September is **Lu Anne Herrick** (413-522-0454)

Michelle Welcome is doing a wonderful job keeping our website up to date. If you have any information about a church event or a picture from a church activity, please pass it on to her at [michelle.welcome@comcast.net](mailto:michelle.welcome@comcast.net) Thanks Michelle!

See how beautiful and informative our website is by going to

[www.montaguechurch.org](http://www.montaguechurch.org)

\*\*Please fill out the pew card or let a deacon or Pastor Barb (413-949-3391) know if you would like a visit or have a prayer concern.\*\*

First Congregational Church of Montague

Trinitarian



Pastor Barbara E. Turner Delisle

Minister of Children's Education Rev Sherril Willis

Music Director Ann Cenzano

[www.montaguechurch.org](http://www.montaguechurch.org) 413-367-9467