

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF MONTAGUE,
TRINITARIAN, MONTAGUE, MA
December 12, 2021 3rd Sunday in Advent
Bold italics indicate the work of the people.
**Indicates the people shall stand if able.*

The Hymnal for today is the Red Hymnal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE & PROCESSIONAL

A MOMENT OF SILENCE IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP

My soul magnifies the Lord;

My spirit rejoices in God my Savior

The Mighty One has done great things.

Holy is God's name!

(Luke 1:46b-49)

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

(Reader 1): We light this candle as a symbol of the
joy to be found in God's kingdom on earth.

(Reader 2): For the Lord elevates the lowly, releases
the captive, and brings sight to the blind.
We rejoice in God's justice and mercy,
For God is faithful to all generations.

(All): *Come Lord Jesus, Come!*

HYMN #110 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (All Verses)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*O Mighty One, who scatters the proud and fills the hungry, by your
Holy Spirit let your word leap in us and bring to our yearning the joy
that comes with new beginnings and renewed lives. Amen*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*God our Savior, we ask for your mercy. When we see the way the
wicked prosper by their schemes and how the righteous suffer, we*

*are afraid to repent and we flee from the righteousness of your Son,
in the wake of his coming. Forgive us. Help us to deal justly and
mercifully with everyone we encounter. Melt away all that separates
us from the joy and peace that is coming to us in the birth of your
Son. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Emmanuel.*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Minister: God forgives all our sins and will raise us to everlasting life.

All: *Thanks be to God!*

(The Gloria is omitted during this Advent time of waiting)

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 12:2-6

NT Epistle: Philippians 4:4-7

The Gospel: Luke 3:7-18

SERMON "Joy under Tough Circumstances"

HYMN #128 "In the Bleak MidWinter"

Prayers of Intercession

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The 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

CHORAL ANTHEM

*DOXOLOGY AND PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures
here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son
and Holy Ghost. Amen.* (sung to the tune of Old 100th)

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

With gratitude for all that you provide, dear God, and to the service of the world you love so much, we dedicate these gifts and our lives to you, in Jesus name. Amen

HYMN #119 “As With Gladness Men of Old”

***BENEDICTION**

Depart in peace to do God’s will; walk ever in the light. For Christ is with us evermore to guide us day and night.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The deacon this morning is Beth Marshall.
- Diaconate Meeting follows fellowship downstairs in the Social Hall
- Christmas Cantata Service next Sunday at 10am.
- Christmas Eve Service, December 24th at 6:30pm
- Christmas Flowers order through Deacon Beth Marshall 413-218-8190.
- Rev. Koyama’s office hours are Tuesday am. Call ahead 808-282-6711.