

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF MONTAGUE,  
TRINITARIAN, MONTAGUE, MA  
December 18, 2022 4th Sunday in Advent  
*Bold italics indicate the work of the people.*  
*\*Indicates the people shall stand if able.*

The Hymnal for today is the Black Hymnal.

PRELUDE & PROCESSIONAL  
ANNOUNCEMENTS  
A MOMENT OF SILENCE IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*CALL TO WORSHIP*

*Comfort my people, says the Lord.*

*Speak to them words of deliverance.*

***God will break the chains of the bound.***

*Comfort my people, says the Lord.*

*Speak unto them words of peace.*

***God will cast out the fears of the troubled***

***And lift up the eyes of those without hope.***

***The peace of God shall reign for evermore!***

HYMN #110 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (Verses 1 & 5-7)

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

(Reader 1): *The candles for hope, love and joy have been lit. Today we light the fourth candle as a symbol for the peace that only God can bring.*

(Reader 2): *For God will lead us to a place under the stars where we will drink deeply of God's righteousness.*

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

CHORAL RESPONSE – Light the Advent Candle"

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

***Holy One, By the light of your prophets illumine our hearts, that we may hear your call. Fill our songs of memory and praise with a full measure of your Holy Spirit, so that we may be channels of your***

***grace, making straight the path that leads to the manger side. In the name of the Christ who comes, we pray. Amen***

\*CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***Refining God, you have sent prophets and we have not listened. We have not always determined what is best or made way for your reign in our lives. Forgive us, we pray, and unite us in angel chorus as we sing your praise. For the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord Amen.***

\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Rejoice, God's reign of peace draws near!

***All: Thanks be to God!***

THE WORD IN MUSIC

**"SING GLORIA"**

Choir

(A Christmas Cantata by Lani Smith )

PRAYERS

Joys & Concerns

A Litany of Intercession

(Black Hymnal #878)

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

\*DOXOLOGY AND PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

***Praise God, the Source of life and birth.***

***Praise God, the Word, who came to earth.***

***Praise God, the Spirit, holy flame.***

***All glory, honor to God's name! Amen.***

*(sung to the tune of Old 100<sup>th</sup>)*

**\*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 #127 “Lo How A Rose E’er Blooming” (Verses in English)

**\*BENEDICTION**

**Response** (To the tune of Edelweiss)

*May the Lord, Mighty God, bless and keep you forever, grant you peace, perfect peace, strength in every endeavor; lift up your eyes and then see his face, and his grace forever; May the Lord, Mighty God, bless and keep you forever.*

**POSTLUDE**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The deacon this morning is Leslie Brown
- Council Meeting follows fellowship time in the Social Hall.
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, December 24<sup>th</sup> at **6:30pm**
- No worship Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Day.
- Rev. Koyama’s office hours are Tuesday am. Call ahead 808-282-6711.

PRAYER GARDEN