

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF MONTAGUE,
TRINITARIAN, MONTAGUE, MA
A Celebration of All Saints
October 29, 2023**

Bold italics indicate the work of the people.

**Indicates places to stand if able to.*

The Hymnal for today is the Red Hymnal

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP

Welcome to all who have come in search of something;

We have come to seek the living God.

Happy are those who find a way and follow that path;

We do not make this journey by ourselves.

Blessed are those who give their lives over to their Creator.

In faith, in trust, with hope, let us worship God.

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION*

*Loving God, shower us with grace and mercy, that we might bring
grace and mercy to a world in pain and want. Give us pure hearts
and humble spirits, that we might show Christ's example in all that
we say and do. Grant us hope and perseverance, that we might live
as saints, as our forebearers before us. In faithful reverence, we
pray. Amen.*

***HYMN OF GATHERING #584** "Ye Servants of God..."

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*We yearn to be counted among the saints of old, but the journey is
long and difficult. We long to love others as we should, even when*

*they revile and hate us. We seek to forgive those who wrong us,
even when it means swallowing our pride. We strive for the
openness of spirit to pray for those who persecute us, even when we
want to hold onto our wounds. Guide us on this journey of
discipleship, that we may grow as your children and live as saints
of your love. Amen.*

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Beloved of God, even when we fail, God's love never fails.

Thanks be to God!

***A Gloria**

From all that dwells below the skies, Let the Creator's praise arise!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the Redeemer's name be sung,

Let God the Spirit loose each tongue!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

SPECIAL MUSIC

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 (NT p.179)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 7:7-9 (NT p. 6)

LITANY OF OUR SAINTS IN LIGHT

A TIME OF SHARING

HYMN

"Seek Ye First"

(see insert)

PRAYERS

Prayers of Intercession

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 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

***CLOSING HYMN #306** “For All the Saints” (see insert)

***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

(Please remain seated for the Postlude)

PRAYER GARDEN

*The Prayer of Invocation and Confession today are attributable to:
Beu, B. J. and Scifres, Mary. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023.