# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF MONTAGUE, TRINITARIAN, MONTAGUE, MA

**April 27 – June 1, 2025** 

**Easter Season Bulletin** 

Bold italics indicate the work of the people. \*Indicates places to stand if able to.

PRELUDE
PROCESSIONAL
ANNOUNCEMENTS
MOMENT OF SILENCE IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Now is Christ Risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept!

Break forth in joy, sing together,

for God has comforted those whose hearts were broken in sorrow. Since by human sin came death,

So by human faithfulness came the resurrection of the dead. Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through Jesus Christ.

#### UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of all beginnings, may this day and every day begin with our praise to you. Let every breath be a witness to your Spirit, dwelling within and among us. Open our hearts to receive your saving gifts. Loosen our tongues to speak of your unsurpassed greatness. May the sounds of our celebration testify to the joy that is ours in serving you in Christ's name. Amen

## \*HYMN OF GATHERING

(see insert)

## \*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of our ancestors, how easily we have made you a relic of the past. We act as if you were unreal or irrelevant. By our inattention, we have rejected you and the one you sent to teach us. We are ruled more by fears than by faith, by hostility more than peace, by a sense

of failure more than by assurances of grace. Forgive our misuse of the precious days you have entrusted to us. Help us to see the signs of your presence and witness with joy to you, our Risen Savior.

#### \*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

In Christ we are loved and forgiven. Let us respond with praise and thanksgiving!

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!

#### SPECIAL MUSIC

**CHILDREN'S TIME** 

SCRIPTURE READINGS

(see insert)

**SERMON** 

**HYMN** (see insert)

#### **PRAYERS**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns 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/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 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

**COMMUNION** 

(1st Sunday of the Month)

\*CLOSING HYMN

(see insert)

## \*BENEDICTION

**Sung Response** 

(from Hymn #238 Black Hymnal)

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain; Wheat that in dark earth for many days has lain; love lives again, that with the dead has been: Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

## **POSTLUDE**

(Please remain seated for the Postlude)

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