

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

April 30, 2023 3rd Sunday after Easter

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

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Our Lord says "I am the gate."

We recognize your voice, Good Shepherd.

Come in! You will be safe and cared for here.

Yours is the voice we trust, Good Shepherd

I come to give life, and to give it abundantly.

We enter the gate with praise and thanksgiving!

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Shepherd of all, by laying down your life for your flock, you revealed your love for all. Lead us to abundant life, that guided by your care for us, we may gladly offer be a shelter and source of hope for others. Through Jesus Christ, Amen.

***HYMN #114** "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of all creation, who in love made an everlasting covenant with us, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you. We have been willful and prideful. Have mercy on us and forgive us. Return us from the wilderness to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Rejoice! None among the Savior's flock go unaccounted for.

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!

CHORAL ANTHEM

UNISON READING

Psalm 23

(Red Hymnal p.518 #69)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

New Testament

Acts 2:42-47

Gospel

John 10:1-10

SERMON

"Thy Rod and Staff Comfort Me"

HYMN # 225

"Jesus the Very Thought of Thee"

PRAYERS

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

A Litany of Intercession

(Black Hymnal #878)

The Lord's Prayer

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

***HYMN #454** “Great God, We Sing That Mighty Hand”
(all 4 verses)

***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 during the Postlude)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Deacon for April is Lu Ann Herrick
- Join us for fellowship and refreshments after worship.
- Rev. Koyama’s office hours are Tuesday am. Call ahead 808-282-6711.
- * NEXT SUNDAY MAY 7th WORSHIP BEGINS AT 9:00AM DUE TO MAY DAY TRAFFIC*

PRAYER GARDEN