

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

Feb 26, 2023 First Sunday in Lent

Bold italics indicate the work of the people.

**Indicates places to stand if able to.*

The hymnal for today is the Black Hymnal

PRELUDE & PROCESSIONAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP

We have entered into the season of Lent.

We have entered into a wilderness time.

Let this day of worship be an oasis in the desert.

We gather to worship the God of all creation;

To remember God's revelation in Jesus.

Today we will revisit the Garden of Eden.

We will witness to God's overflowing generosity!

We worship God, who gives us choices and limits.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Righteous God, if we are to resist temptation, we need your presence in our lives. Send your angels to minister to us when the tempter comes to call. Put not our hearts to the test, but shelter us with your protective love. For you are our God and we are your people. Through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. Amen

***HYMN #459** "Come, O Fount of Every Blessing"

***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

We confess that when we are confronted with temptations, we are easily overcome. They lure us with promises we find hard to resist. Our temptations blind us to the plenty that is already ours. Free us

from these deceptions that bind us, so that we may find true contentment in your grace.

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

God gives to the faithful a cup full to overflowing!

Thanks be to God!

The Gloria is omitted during Lent

CHORAL MUSIC

RESPONSIVE READING OF PSALM 32 (Black Hymnal p 642)

(The Reader will read the first part of each verse. The Congregation responds by reading the indented portions)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Hebrew Scriptures

Genesis 2:15-17, 3: 1-7

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

SERMON

"Blessed Limits"

HYMN # 410 "If You But Trust in God to Guide You"

PRAYERS

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of Intercession

Prayer Response

***DOXOLOGY AND PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures hear below. Praise him 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 #434** “All Beautiful the March of Days”

***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 for February is Janet Andrews.
- Join us downstairs for refreshments and fellowship after the service.
- Office Hours are Tuesdays from 9:30-12:00 noon. To set up a time to come in or request a visit call Rev. Koyama at 808-282-6711.

PRAYER GARDEN