

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF MONTAGUE,
TRINITARIAN, MONTAGUE, MA
January 16, 2022 1st Sunday after Epiphany**

Bold italics indicate the work of the people.

**Indicates places to stand if able to.*

The hymnal for today is the Red Hymnal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

The magi came from far away, following a star.

We come to worship, and the star sheds light on our lives.

The magi brought gifts to offer the child.

We too brings gifts; our hopes, our dreams.

Shepherds and magi, the meek and the mighty –

All were welcome in that place beneath the star.

We too have come to Bethlehem

And return to our homes rejoicing!

*** INVOCATION**

Most Gracious God, you have brought us from the east and the west, the north and the south, so that we might gather in your light and know peace in our hearts. Illuminate our hearts and minds, so that we may be agents of your blessedness, here and everywhere. Through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. Amen

***HYMN # 144** “What Star Is This, With Beams so Bright”

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of loving kindness, there are times when we see bad things happening to others, but fail to lend a helping hand. We do not want to meddle. We fear getting involved or are confused as to the best course of action. And yet there are times when we knew what

was needed and still failed to act. We ask your forgiveness for these sins of omission. Grant us the wisdom to know when to act and to choose our words well. Grant us the courage to act in ways that will draw our suffering world into the realm of your healing light.

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

In Christ we are forgiven.

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!

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON

“An Odd Assortment”

HYMN # 143

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

PRAYERS

Joys and Concerns (Joys are followed by Concerns)

Prayers of Intercession

Pastoral Prayer

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

CHORAL ANTHEM

*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 #141 “The First Noel” (verses 1-4 only)

*BENEDICTION

Response (To the tune of Amazing Grace)

“Depart in peace to do God’s will, walk ever in the light. For Christ is with us evermore, to guide us day and night.”

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Deacons for January are Lorraine York-Edberg and Janet Andrews.
- Please join us downstairs for fellowship and refreshments after worship.
- Council Meeting follows the Fellowship Hour.
- Brief Congregational Meeting to Vote in New Members after worship next Sunday (January 23).
- Rev. Koyama’s office hours are Tuesday am. Call ahead 808-282-6711.