

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF MONTAGUE,  
TRINITARIAN, MONTAGUE, MA  
Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentacost  
November 12, 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  
MOMENT OF SILENCE IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Happy are those who delight in the law of the Lord  
They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
yielding their fruit in season. Their leaves do not wither.  
For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous.  
In all they do, they prosper.  
Number us among the righteous, O God.* (adapted from Psalm 1)

**UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION\***

*God of love and goodness, You have fashioned us into a community  
of faith and called us to remember that we live by the power of your  
grace. On this day of promise, we look to the future with hope,  
opening ourselves to your Spirit at work in our lives -through Jesus  
Christ, Amen.*

**\*HYMN OF GATHERING #21** “We Gather Together”

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION\***

*You have anointed us, O God, and set us apart to be a Royal  
Priesthood and given us power over the world around us. Keep us  
mindful that we have been chosen to serve, and that it is your*

*loving will we must heed. Forgive us our shortcomings. When we  
are arrogant, let the needs that surround us make us humble. Help  
us to use the talents you have given us to provide food for body and  
spirit, to all who hunger and thirst. In Christ’s name we pray.  
Amen.*

**\*ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

*Rejoice! For you are blessed and the chosen of God  
As God has blessed us, so may we be a blessing to others.*

**\*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**

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM  
For Charles VanScotter**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Epistle Reading** 1 Peter 2:1-10 (NT p.858)  
**Gospel** John 15:1-8 (NT p.764)

**SERMON** “Dear Charles”  
**HYMN # 494** “We Would Be Building”

**PRAYERS**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns  
Prayers of Intercession  
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 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*

**\*HYMN #345** "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart" (verses 1&4 only)

**\*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)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Pastor's Office Hours: 9:30-12pm Tuesdays 808-282-6711 (Call ahead)
- Chapel and Kitchen doors will be locked at 9:55am, prior to worship.
- Please join us for refreshments downstairs following the service.
- The Deacon for November is Paul MacMunn

**PRAYER GARDEN**