

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF MONTAGUE,
TRINITARIAN, MONTAGUE, MA
Twenty-third Sunday after Pentacost
November 5, 2023**

*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

*Creating God, we gather in your name to worship you.
We give thanks that there is a small spark of God within us.
Kindle that small spark into a flame of love and service.
Sustaining God, we gather in your name to worship you.*

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION*

Gentle, yet powerful. Lowly, yet mighty. Shepherd, yet King. Be present among us. In your gentleness, guide us. In your power, strengthen us. In your lowliness, strip us of our pride. As our Shepherd, call us to be your servants. As our king, call us to your royal priesthood. Through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen

***HYMN OF GATHERING #31** “All Things Bright & Beautiful”

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION*

God, you are the giver of every good gift. Forgive us for our lack of gratitude. We resent what we lack and are jealous of those who seem to have more. Forgive us for not taking pleasure in all the goodness you have showered upon our lives. Teach us how to live

in humility and service in the Spirit of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

*Beloved of God, Christ forgives your sins.
May God bless and keep us evermore.*

***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

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament 1 Samuel 8:1-22 (OT p. 232)
Gospel Matthew 23:1-12 (NT p. 22)

SERMON

“The One True King”

HYMN # 207

“Just As I Am”

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 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

COMMUNION

(see insert)

***HYMN #21** “God Reigns O’er All the Earth”

***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

- Franklin Assoc. Meeting – today at 2pm at Community Church of North Orange, 48 Main St. Orange, MA.
- Fete Noel, Saturday November 11, from 8:30am – 1:30pm.
- Sunday, Nov 12th at 10am Worship, the baptism of Charles VanScotter
- 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.
- The Deacon for November is Paul MacMunn

PRAYER GARDEN