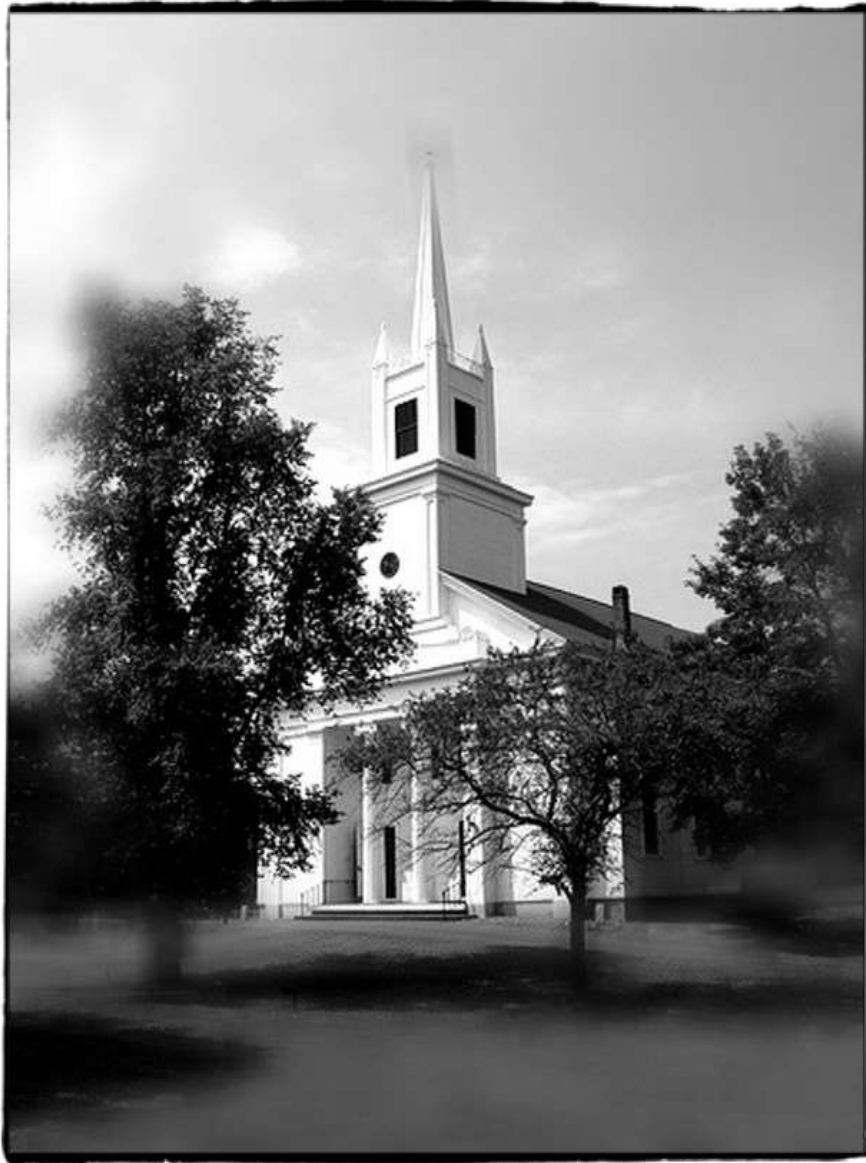


The Congregational Church *of* Topsfield

*An Open and Affirming Congregation
of
the United Church of Christ*



The Congregational Church of Topsfield, *An Open and Affirming Congregation of the UCC*
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ORDER OF WORSHIP
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
JANUARY 19, 2025
9:30 am

PRELUDE "Lift Every Voice and Sing" Johnson/Johnson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Martin Riekert

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

OPENING HYMN "Lift Every Voice and Sing" LIFT EVERY VOICE
HYMN #519 (MH) View page 6, verses 1 and 3

INVOCATION (RESPONSIVELY): Lay Reader, Conny Griesshammer

Leader: God of our weary years and God of our silent tears,
thou who has brought us thus far on the way,
we invite your presence into our midst as we pay tribute the all who have labored for justice,
equality and love.

**People: We pray that in this moment you would strengthen us
to continue to fight for the fulfillment of the dream that the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
so eloquently laid out on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial.**

Leader: Help us to labor so that every valley is exalted,
every hill and mountain made low,
the rough places are plain, and the crooked places made straight
so that the glory of the Lord is revealed,
and all flesh see it together.

**All: Let your love guide us to see one another as fully human
with diverse hues, colors, ethnicities and cultures,
and respect the content of their character.
Let your spirit strengthen us for the fight of today and tomorrow
until all God's children can say with full conviction,
"Free at last. Free at last. Thank God All-Mighty, I'm free at last." Amen.**

-From the UCC website – Service for Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend 2020

SHARING OUR GIFTS

THE OFFERTORY "Same Train" Traditional Spiritual

†THE DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him* all creatures here below; praise Him* above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost Amen**

*You may substitute God/Her **You may substitute Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***CHILDREN DISMISSED FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL- (MEET IN THE NARTHEX TO BE BROUGHT OVER)**

ANTHEM	“Eternal God”	Dmitry Bortniansky
SCRIPTURE	Isaiah 58:9-12, Amos 5:24, Matthew 11:28-30 View page 5	Lay Reader, Conny Griesshammer
SERMON	“MLK Lite”	Rev. Martin Riekert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER (Debts)

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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

*You may substitute Creator/Mother/Maker, etc. as you choose in saying the prayer.

CLOSING HYMN HYMN #428 (MH)	“For the Healing of the Nations” View page 7, verses 1, 2 and 4	CWM RHONDDA
BENEDICTION		
POSTLUDE	<i>Grande fantasia sur les chansons sportives</i>	Jackson Carruthers

**Scripture Reading: Isaiah 58:9-12, Amos 5:24, Matthew 11:28-30
(NRSVUE)**

⁹ Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”

If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually
and satisfy your needs in parched places
and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water
whose waters never fail.

¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

²⁴ But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

VERSES 1 and 3

519 Lift Every Voice and Sing

STRENGTH IN TRIBULATION

1. Lift ev - ery voice and sing, till earth and heav - en ring,
 2. Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening rod,
 3. God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;

ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty;
 felt in the days when hope un - born had died;
 thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us,
 we have come, tread - ing our path thru the blood of the slaugh - tered,
 lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;

let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening skies,
 yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet
 thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light,

fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,
 out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last
 shad owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand,

let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 come to the place for which our fa - thers sighed?
 keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
 where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

VERSES 1, 2 and 4

428

For the Healing of the Nations

1. For the heal - ing of the na - tions, Lord, we pray with
 2. Lead us for - ward in - to free - dom; from de - spair your
 3. All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, let it from the
 4. You, Cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten your great name on

one ac - cord; for a just and e - qual shar - ing of the things that
 world re - lease, that, re - deemed from war and ha - tred, all may come and
 earth be banned; pride of sta - tus, race, or school - ing, dog - mas that ob -
 hu - man - kind; for our grow - ing in your like - ness bring the life of

earth af - fords; to a life of love in ac - tion help us
 go in peace. Show us how through care and good - ness fear will
 scure your plan. In our com - mon quest for jus - tice may we
 Christ to mind, that by our re - sponse and ser - vice earth its

rise and pledge our word, (pledge our word) help us rise and pledge our word.
 die and hope in - crease, (hope in - crease) fear will die and hope in - crease.
 hal - low life's brief span, (life's brief span) may we hal - low life's brief span.
 des - ti - ny may find, (may find) earth its des - ti - ny may find.

Congregational Church of Topsfield Parish Care Ministry

Prayer List Contact:

Kim Itz at prayerlisting@topsfieldchurch.org

Healing Scripture:

"And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick" Matthew 14:14

Healing Prayer:

Dear Lord, I ask you to turn this weakness into strength, suffering into compassion, sorrow into joy, and pain into comfort for others. May your servants trust in your goodness and hope in your faithfulness, even in the middle of this suffering. Let all be filled with patience and joy in your presence as they wait for your healing touch.

Please Pray For:

Doug McIlvaine - Member of CCOT
Jane Moyer - Member of CCOT
Diana Titus - Member of CCOT
Cheryl Hopkins - Member of CCOT
Joyce Talbot - Member of CCOT
Abby Bowling - Member of CCOT
Susan Gruber - Member of CCOT
Dennis Heslet - Member of CCOT
Jacob Itz - Son of Kim & Charlie Itz
David Muise & Family- Family of Kim Itz
Scott Bortzfield - Son of Ruth Bortzfield
Jack Whelan - Brother of Steve Whelan
Steve Hoover - Son of Carol & Fred Hoover
Dorcas Gordon - Grandmother of Rasheed Townes
Doug Gruber - Brother of Susan Gruber
Mark Gosbee - Son of Judi & Gary Gosbee
Roger Talbot - Husband of Joyce Talbot
Phil and Marilyn Knowles - Parents of Scott Knowles

Kevin Goldenbogen - Former Youth Leader at CCOT
Trish Hudson - Former member of CCOT
Maria Cecilia Guerra - Sister of José Guerra
Eva - Friend of Irina Günzel-Guerra from Norway
Andrea Sommer & Family - Relatives of Irina Günzel Guerra
Sean Enos - Son of neighbor of Jane & Bruce Jones
Bobby Duchano - Friend of Charles Mathison
GML - Friend of Judi & Gary Gosbee
Phil Sinaikin - Friend of Christa & Martin Riekert
Jim Quinlivan - Dad of Julie Quinlivan
Mr & Mrs Sisamount - Parents of friend of Kim Itz
Rick Anderson - Friend of CCOT
Danielle Redding - Daughter of Christy and Jim Redding

