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# Rev. Thomas Bentley

# **CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

United Church of Christ 5 Summer St. Lynnfield MA 01940 781-334-3050 www. Centre-Church.org We Welcome Everyone: An Open and Affirming Church

Rev Thomas Bentley, Pastor Douglas W. Hodgkins, Organist/Choir Director Leah O'Brien, Director of Tower Day School Alison O'Connor, Church Administrator

# **CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

United Church of Christ 5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts **November 5, 2023 10:00 am**  Schubert

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Barbara Langill

Leader: Come, draw near to the Lord. Rest your cares upon God. People: We come, seeking God's guidance for our lives. Leader: Open your hearts and spirits to receive God's word for you. People: Help us, O Lord, to be attentive to your word and will. Leader & People: O Savior, let me walk with you in earthly paths of service true; tell me your secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care. AMEN

#### **OPENING PRAYER (in unison)**

Barbara Langill

God of gentle, loving guidance, who brought the Israelites into a new land, filled with new hope and promise: Be with us today, opening our hearts and spirits to an awareness of your abiding love and presence with us. Help us to place our trust solely in you; for we ask this in Jesus' Name, AMEN.

#### **\*OPENING HYMN**

"O Savior Let Me Walk With You"

#### **New Testament Reading**

#### Barbara Langill

#503

Thessalonians 2:9-13 (pg 1075)

You remember our labor and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was toward you believers. As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children, urging and encouraging you and pleading that you lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers.





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1) O Savior, let me walk with you in earthly paths of service true; Tell me your secret, help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care. 2)Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love. Teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way. 3) Teach me your patience; let me be in closer, dearer company, In work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong. 4) In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broadening way, In peace that only you can give, with you, O Savior, let me live.



 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all strife; such a life as killeth death.
Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in length; such a feast as mends in length; such a strength as makes a guest.
Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a joy as none can move: such a love as none can part; such a heart as joys in love.

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Call to Offering Offertory \*Doxology 100th

Lead Me Lord

Blackwell **Tune: Old** 

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Living God, whom we adore

**Prayer of Dedication** 

**Joys and Concerns** 

**Pastoral Prayer** 

# **THE LORDS PRAYER (in unison)**

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

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## ANTHEM

He Breaks The Bread, He Pours The Wine

Hayes

# **GOSPEL READING**

**Barbara Langill** 

# Matthew 23:1-12 (pg 901)

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat: therefore. do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. They do all their deeds to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. They love to have the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have people call them rabbi. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students. And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. The greatest among you will be your servant. All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.

# MESSAGE

**Rev. Tom Bentley** 

"In that Quiet and Humble Space with God"

## HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation Communion Prayer Distribution of Elements CLOSING HYMN "Come My Way, My Truth, My Life" #331 BENEDICTION Rev. Tom Bentley POSTLUDE Praise To The Lord, The Almighty Arr. Swann



Our ushers this morning are Kathi Martin, Annmarie Pendola, Jeff Langill and David Bjorkman

Our coffee fellowship hosts this morning are Ann & Dwight Decker

