



*"No matter who you are, or
where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here"*

**Middlebury Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
October 13, 2024
Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost**

*all those who are able please stand

Our worship begins with the Prelude.

Please be mindful of those who wish to spend this time in prayer

Thank you to our substitute today, Ho Man Cheung. Born in Hong Kong, he is pursuing a doctoral degree in Piano Performance at the University of Hartford where he also teaches piano.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Liturgist: Ellen Aronheim

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 22:3-5)

Leader: God, you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

People: In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted you, and you delivered them

Leader: To you they cried, and they were saved; in you they trusted and were not put to shame

People: God, you are holy. All praise to you, now and forever

***HYMN**

High in the Heavens, Eternal God Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #82

INVOCATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER (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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not

into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen. [We use “Father” and “trespasses,” but please use whatever words bring you closest to God.]

CALL TO CONFESSION (Based on Psalm 22:11)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Loving God, we confess that we have been unfaithful to our covenant with you and with one another. We have not heeded your commandments. We have worshipped other gods: money, power, greed, and convenience. We have served our own self-interest instead of serving you and your people. We have not loved our neighbor as you have commanded, nor have we rightly loved ourselves. Forgive us gracious God, and bring us back into the fullness of our covenant with you and one another; through Christ, our Lord. Amen. (Time for individual silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Based on Hebrews 4:14-16)

Hear the good news! Scripture tells us we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens: Jesus, God’s Son, our Savior. He can sympathize with all our weaknesses because he has been tested in every respect. Therefore we can approach the throne of grace with boldness and receive mercy. Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #513

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
World without end. Amen. Amen.

Children Pre-K through 7th grade may exit through the back doors of the sanctuary and meet in the Social Hall for Sunday School

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READINGS OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURE

Job 23:1-9, 16-17

Then Job answered: “Today also my complaint is bitter; his hand is heavy despite my groaning. Oh, that I knew where I might find him, that I might come even to his dwelling! I would lay my case before him, and fill my mouth with arguments. I would learn what he would answer me, and understand what he would say to me. Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power? No; but he would give heed to me. There an upright person could reason with him, and I should be acquitted forever by my judge.

“If I go forward, he is not there; or backward, I cannot perceive him; on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him; I turn to the right, but I cannot see him. God has made my heart faint; the Almighty has terrified me; If only I could vanish in darkness, and thick darkness would cover my face!

Hebrews 4:12-16

Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

SERMON

The Rev. David Camphouse

“Let’s Get Ready to Grumble!”

***HYMN**

Fairest Lord Jesus

Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #227

JOYS, CONCERNS, & PASTORAL PRAYER

Prayer requests will be received from the congregation. Please be mindful worship is livestreamed, so we advise caution on using last names to preserve people's privacy.

OFFERTORY

***Doxology in Unison**

Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #515

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)**

Gracious God, with this offering we present also ourselves, all that we have been, all that we are, and all that we shall become. Grant that we and our gifts may always be used for the advancing of your Kingdom; in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***HYMN**

Stars and Planets Flung in Orbit

New Century Hymnal (Black) #567

***BENEDICTION**

Please join us after worship for fellowship and refreshments.

Guest Preacher: The Rev David Camphouse

Rev. David Camphouse is the Director of Silver Lake Camp & Retreat Center in Sharon, CT. He is ordained in the United Methodist Church, and has earned certification in Camp and Retreat Ministry, Christian Education, and Human Resources. He arrived to the Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ in January of 2023 with his wife, Rev. Anna Camphouse, and their three kids. David brings a lifetime love of camping, and more than 30 years of experience in managing and running camps with a passion for the promise of Silver Lake becoming a beloved experience of God's community.



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