

**NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE
OR WHERE YOU ARE
ON LIFE'S JOURNEY
YOU ARE
WELCOME & HERE**



Middlebury Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
August 2, 2026
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

*all those who are able please stand

Thank you to our substitute musician, Austin Zold

Our worship begins with the Prelude.

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

PRELUDE

His Eye Is On the Sparrow

James Mansfield

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist: Kalman Zold

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 50:1-2)

Liturgist

Leader: The heavens declare the righteousness of God

People: The earth declares God's beauty

Leader: From the rising of the sun to its setting

People: God's word shines forth in glory

***HYMN**

Ye Holy Angels Bright

Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #23

INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION (Based on Matthew 22:37-40)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Loving God, we confess that we have been unfaithful to our covenant with you and with one another. We have worshiped 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 10:17-19, 23)

Hear the good news! The confession of our hope is that Jesus Christ, who gave himself once and for all, forgives and saves. Our sins are remembered no more. 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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READINGS OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURE

Daniel 12:1-3

“At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

Hebrews 10:19-39

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one

another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

For if we willfully persist in sin after having received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins but a fearful prospect of judgment and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. Anyone who has violated the law of Moses dies without mercy “on the testimony of two or three witnesses.” How much worse punishment do you think will be deserved by those who have spurned the Son of God, profaned the blood of the covenant by which they were sanctified, and outraged the Spirit of grace? For we know the one who said, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay.” And again, “The Lord will judge his people.” It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

But recall those earlier days when, after you had been enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings, sometimes being publicly exposed to insults and afflictions and sometimes becoming partners with those so treated. For you had compassion for those who were in prison, and you cheerfully accepted the plundering of your possessions, knowing that you yourselves possessed something better and more lasting. Do not, therefore, abandon that boldness of yours; it brings a great reward. For you need endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what was promised. For yet

“in a very little while,
the one who is coming will come and will not delay,
but my righteous one will live by faith.
My soul takes no pleasure in anyone who shrinks back.”

But we are not among those who shrink back and so are lost but among those who have faith and so preserve our souls.

SERMON

From Memory to Hope

The Rev. Katrina Manzi

***HYMN**

When Peace Like a River

New Century Hymnal (Black) #438

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

Christ the Bread

James Southbridge

Austin Zold

***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)**

Holy God, receive these gifts that we offer with grateful hearts, and use our lives for the ministry of your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Communion is served in the pews and is open to all, including children, who wish to grow in faith in Jesus Christ
(All communion bread is gluten free)*

Invitation

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you

Leader: Lift up your hearts

People: We lift them up to the Lord

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise

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.]

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (UNISON)

Almighty God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***HYMN**

Son of God, Eternal Savior

Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #413

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Whole Armor of God

David Paxton

Please join us downstairs in the Social Hall after worship for fellowship and refreshments

Today's Substitute Musician

Today's substitute musician is Austin Zold. An accomplished pianist and violinist, Austin and his musical family are treasured members of the MCC community. Additionally, Austin has been active in community theatre and college musical ensembles.

Austin is in his senior year at Worcester Polytechnic Institute where he has also accepted a teaching assistant position for the 2026-7 academic year.

Thank you, Austin!



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DOING GOD'S WORK

The Congregation, *Ministers in the World*
Church Officers & Members of our Boards & Committees
Staff:

The Rev. Katrina Manzi, *Minister*

Donna Obarowski, *Choir Director*

David Obarowski, *Organist*

Diane Barnard, *Bookkeeper/Asst. Treasurer*

Sara Hubbard, *Faith Formation Volunteer Coordinator*

Rebecca Trosan, *Nursery Attendant*

Sarah Kwashnak, *Office Assistant*