



**MIDDLEBURY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
OPEN & AFFIRMING
MIDDLEBURYUCC.ORG**

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

**Middlebury Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
January 11, 2026
Baptism of the Lord**

*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

PRELUDE

When Jesus Comes to be Baptized

arr. David Lasky

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist: Kalman Zold

INTROIT

Adult Choir

Be still and know that God is here

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 29:2-4)

Liturgist

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name

People: Worship the Lord in holy splendor

Leader: The voice of the Lord is over the waters

**People: The God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty
waters**

Leader: The voice of the Lord is powerful

People: The voice of the Lord is full of majesty

***HYMN**

When Jesus Comes to Be Baptized

Bulletin (Page 7)

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 Colossians 2:12)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another. We allow the past to hold us captive. In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin. Fulfill the promises of our baptism so that we may rise to new life, and live together in grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Time for individual silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Based on Romans 5:5)

Hear the good news! Hope does not disappoint us, for God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us in baptism. Friends, believe this good news and give thanks: 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’S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READINGS OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 42:1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry out or lift up his voice
or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth,
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness;
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
I am the Lord; that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.
See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.

Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

SERMON

The Rev. Katrina Manzi

Baptism, the Church, and Ministry

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

Declaration of God’s Promises

Congregational Blessing

Individual Blessing

If you wish to receive a blessing, come down the left aisle (Multiplication table side) to the baptismal font, and Pastor Katrina will offer a blessing with the water. Return to your pew by the right aisle. Afterwards, we will all join together in the hymn.

***HYMN**

Baptized in Water

Bulletin (Page 7)

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

Full Control

Don Edwards

Adult Choir

***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)**

O God, at his baptism, you acknowledged Jesus as your beloved Son, and through him, you opened to us the way to become your children by grace. May these gifts we return to you be a sign of our dedication to live as your faithful daughters and sons, born in the waters of baptism by the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

***HYMN**

'Tis Winter Now; the Fallen Snow

Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #455

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Adult Choir

Threefold Amen

POSTLUDE

'Tis Winter Now, the Fallen Snow

arr. Brenda Portman

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

When Jesus Comes to Be Baptized

(sung to Winchester New)

When Jesus comes to be baptized, he leaves the hidden years behind,
The years of safety & of peace, to bear the sins of humankind.

The Spirit of the Lord comes down, anoints the Christ to suffering,
To preach the word, to free the bound, & to the mourner comfort bring.

Our everlasting Father, praise, with Christ his well-beloved Son,
Who with the Spirit reigns supreme, untroubled Trinity in one.

-Carolyn Gillette

BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION, REAFFIRMATION

Baptized in Water

2248



1. Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
2. Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
3. Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ, our King; heirs of sal - va - tion, trust-ing his
tomb with Christ, our King; one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
sign of Christ, our King; born of one Fa - ther, we are his



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's prais-es we sing.
giv - en, thank-ful - ly now God's prais-es we sing.
chil - dren, joy - ful - ly now God's prais-es we sing.



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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, *Interim Office Assistant*