NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
OPEN & AFFIRMING
MIDDLEBURYUCC.ORG

Middlebury Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
November 15, 2026
Twenty-Fifth 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

PRELUDE
Awake, My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve arr. Jeremy Yowell

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Janine Sullivan-Wiley

INTROIT Adult Choir
Sing praises, sing praises,
give thanks to the Lord who is with us in this place

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 36:5-9) Liturgist
Leader: Your steadfast love, O God, reaches to the heavens, and your faithfulness to the clouds.
People: Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, and your justice runs deeper than the sea.
Leader: How precious is your steadfast love. All people find shelter in the shadow of your wings, and with you is the fountain of life.
People: In your light we see light. Come, let us worship God.

***HYMN**
Awake, My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #362

INVOCATION Liturgist

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 Micah 6:6-8)

CONFESSION (UNISON)
Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you our God. Amen. (Time for individual silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Based on Romans 8:31-39)
Hear the good news! If God is for us, who can be against us? Nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord, not death nor life, not our failures nor our fears. Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel: nothing can separate us from God's love. Through the work of Jesus Christ we are reconciled, restored, and 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
1 John 3:1-3
See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

SERMON Christopher Fatherley
For We Will See Him

***HYMN**
God of Our Life, Through All the Circling Years Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #97

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
Canon of Praise Natalie Sleeth
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. Amen

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)**
God of righteousness, we bring these gifts of our labor and of ourselves, our participation in the grace already given to us. Use them to build up your kingdom of justice and love. Make

us living witnesses to your ways in the world, to cherish Christ's glory with expectant listening. Amen.

***HYMN**
God of Grace, and God of Glory Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #366

***BENEDICTION** (Based on Numbers 6:24-26)

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** Adult Choir
Glory, glory, Thine the glory,
Through the ages, evermore. Amen.

POSTLUDE
God of Grace and God of Glory arr. Lea McShan

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

Guest Preacher: Christopher Fatherley

Christopher Fatherley lives in Fairfield with his family. He is currently enrolled in the Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree program at Fuller Theological Seminary. He graduated from Yale Divinity School in 2023 with a Master of Arts in Religion (MAR) degree. He serves as a hospital chaplain with Norwalk Hospital and is seeking ordination through the United Church of Christ. Christopher was raised in the Quaker tradition. Prior to his call to ministry, he was a research analyst with a degree in Library Science. Christopher's undergraduate degree was in fine art.

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