

MIDDLEBURY CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH
1796–2026...
230 YEARS OF SERVING GOD

FOUNDATIONS



BUILDING FOR THE THIRD CENTURY

Middlebury Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
September 13, 2026
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Homecoming, Foundations for Our Future, &
230th Anniversary Celebration

*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

The Church's One Foundation

arr. Heather Sorenson

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Liturgist: Ellen Aronheim

INTROIT

Adult Choir

This is the house of the Lord.
Come before His presence with thanksgiving.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 90:1-2, 14, 17) Liturgist

Leader: Lord, you have been our refuge

People: from one generation to another.

Leader: Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land or sea
were born,

People: From age to age you are God

Leader: Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning,

People: So we shall rejoice and be glad all the days of our life

Leader: May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us

People: and make the work of our hands last.

***HYMN**

The Church's One Foundation

Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #260

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.]

AFFIRMATION OF OUR CHURCH’S COVENANT (UNISON)

We covenant with God and with one another

In mutual love and trust:

To worship God together

To study and respond to God’s Holy Word

To witness in all the world to God’s reconciling love

To strive for love, justice, and peace

And to walk together in the ways of the Lord.

We rely on the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us.

We acknowledge God’s covenant with us, made known to us in Jesus Christ.

We recognize our continuing need for God’s grace,

And our dependence on each other in the fulfillment of this covenant.

***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.

RECOGNITION OF CAPITAL CAMPAIGN LEADERSHIP

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READINGS OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURE

Psalm 27:13-14

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord;

be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the Lord!

1 Timothy 6:17-19

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Luke 6:47-48

I will show you what someone is like who comes to me, hears my words, and acts on them. That one is like a man building a house who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock; when a flood arose, the river burst against that house but could not shake it because it had been well built.

REFLECTIONS

Ellen Aronheim, The Rev. Katrina Manzi

***HYMN**

All Are Welcome

Insert

JOYS, CONCERNS, & LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

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.

Leader: For the Church universal, of which our buildings are a visible symbol

People: Lord, receive our thanks and prayer

Leader: For this congregation, as we remember your promise that where two or three are gathered in your name there you are in the midst of them.

People: Lord, receive our thanks and prayer

Leader: For this place in which we gather for praise and prayer, witness and service, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord

People: Lord, receive our thanks and prayer

Leader: for the fulfilling of our desires and petitions as you see best for us

People: Lord, receive our thanks and prayer

Leader: For your blessings in the past and for a vision for the future

People: Lord, receive our thanks and prayer

Leader: For those who have been made your children by adoption and grace, who in this place were cleansed of sin, buried with Christ in the waters of baptism, and raised to new and eternal life

People: Lord, receive our thanks and prayer

Leader: For your presence among us whenever your word has been proclaimed and the Lord's Supper shared

People: Lord, receive our thanks and prayer

Leader: For the blessing of our vows and the crowning of our years with goodness

People: Lord, receive our thanks and prayer

Leader: For the ministries of worship and mission, nurture and fellowship, and for all whose lives have been touched by them

People: Lord, receive our thanks and prayer

Leader: For leaders and pastors who have led and loved us, and by the offering of their gifts equipped us for the work of ministry

People: Lord, receive our thanks and prayer

Leader: For all who throughout the last 230 years have faithfully stewarded this church and who have built, rebuilt, added on to, and maintained the property entrusted to our care for the glory of God

People: Lord, receive our thanks and prayer

Leader: For generosity and for all the gifts given to support the
worship, work, and witness of Christ's church here in
Middlebury

People: Lord, receive our thanks and prayer

Leader: For all the saints who have stood among us, whose
memory still enlivens our faith, and for those saints who are
now at rest with you

People: Lord, receive our thanks and prayer

OFFERTORY

A Time for Praise, A Time for Joy

Heather Sorenson

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 FOR OUR OFFERING AND CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PLEDGES (UNISON)**

Holy God, we give you thanks and praise for all that we have
comes from you. In gratitude for all your gifts given to our
church these past 230 years, we dedicate to you our pledges and
ourselves to build for your future. We dedicate our means, our
thoughts, our words, our gifts, our deeds, the working of our
hands, the thinking of our minds, and the loving of our hearts.
Guide us to use all that we have and all that we are for the
building up of your Church and the fulfillment of your
kingdom; through Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

***HYMN**

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #1

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Adult Choir

Sevenfold Amen

POSTLUDE

O God Our Help in Ages Past

arr. Healey Willan

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



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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*