



**Middlebury Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ**

**February 14, 2021  
Transfiguration of the Lord  
Scout Sunday**

**PRELUDE**

Where Love Is Found

arr Joel Rainey

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Manzi

**INVOCATION**

**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,**

**For ever and ever. Amen.**

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

**CALL TO CONFESSION (based on Luke 8:17)**

Rev. Manzi

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of compassion, in Jesus Christ we behold your transforming  
light, yet we continue to live in darkness. We have not loved as you  
command. We have not spoken truly. We have not cared for  
creation, including ourselves, according to your will. What we  
intend, we have not pursued; what we mean to avoid, we embrace.  
Empower us to live in your light and to walk in your ways for the  
sake of him who is the light of the world, Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
Amen.**

(Time for individual silent confession)

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON (based on 2 Corinthians 4:6, 5:17)**

Hear the good news! The one who calls light out of darkness now shines in our hearts to reveal the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

A Word About Scouting

Andrew Kwashnak

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**READINGS OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURE**

Rev. Manzi

**2 Kings 2:1-14**

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, "Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

**Mark 9:2-13**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead could mean. Then they asked him, "Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" He said to them, "Elijah is indeed coming first to restore all things. How then is it written about the Son of Man, that he is to go through many sufferings and be treated with contempt? But I tell you that Elijah has come, and they did to him whatever they pleased, as it is written about him."

**SERMON**  
**Holding On**

Rev. Manzi

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

My Good Lord's Done Been Here

African-American Spiritual  
arr. Moses Hogan

**Joys and Concerns and Pastoral Prayer**

*Katrina will share joys, concerns and witness to your brothers and sisters that she received prior to today's service.*

**OFFERING AND DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Where Love Is Found

**POSTLUDE**

Christ For the World We Sing!

arr Richard Blake