



**Middlebury Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ**

**May 23, 2021  
Pentecost Sunday**

**PRELUDE**

Come, Holy Spirit

Bethany McDonald

**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 1 Corinthians 2:9-10) Rev. Manzi

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Almighty God, you poured out your Holy Spirit upon the disciples to fill them with faith; we confess that we resist the force of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as people made one in Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Unite and transform us by the power of your Spirit, and fill us with a desire to do your will and be your faithful people for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

(Time for individual silent confession)

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (based on John 20:22-23)

Hear the good news! Through Christ, God has poured out the Holy Spirit upon us for the forgiveness of sins. Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**READINGS OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURE**

Rev. Manzi

**Ezekiel 37:1-14**

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me,

"Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

**Acts 2:1-21**

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear

them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

‘In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.  
Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.  
And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.  
The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.  
Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

## SERMON

## MUSICAL OFFERING

### 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 OURSELVES

## BENEDICTION

## BENEDICTION RESPONSE

## POSTLUDE

Come, Holy Spirit

David Paxton

### DOING GOD’S WORK

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

Staff:

Katrina Manzi, *Minister*

Donna Obarowski, *Choir Director*

David Obarowski, *Organist*

Valerie Beard, *Christian Education Coordinator*

Jeanine Bonaventure, *Office Administrator*

Diane Barnard, *Asst. Treasurer*

Rebecca Trosan, *Nursery Attendant*