



Middlebury Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

June 20, 2021
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

This Is My Father's World

arr Phillip Keveren

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Manzi

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The God of our salvation teaches us right paths and leads us in truth

People: We give thanks for the Lord's steadfast love, faithfulness, and wisdom

Leader: God does not see as mortals see

People: We look on outward appearance; God looks on the heart

Leader: Search us, O God, and know our hearts

People: And lead us in the way everlasting

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 (1 John 1:8-9)

Rev. Manzi

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you have made us citizens of heaven, but we confess that we have set our minds on earthly things. We have let our desire for security restrain our commitment to serve the poor. We have let our fear curb our obligation to love our enemies. We have let our love of things dull our generosity to the needy. Yet, you know the

desires of our heart and nothing is hidden from you. By the power of the Holy Spirit, conform us to the glory of Christ, that we may grow evermore in his likeness and image and do your will in the world.

Amen.

(Time for individual silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (based on 1 Timothy 1:15, 1 Peter 2:24)

Hear the good news! The saying sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good. 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

1 Samuel 16:1-13

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise

and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Matthew 6:22-23

“The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

SERMON
God’s Sight

MUSICAL OFFERING

Jesus Shall Reign arr. Jason Krug
MCC Handbell quartet

Joys and Concerns and Pastoral Prayer

Katrina will ask if there are any prayer requests from the congregation. Please feel free to share your prayer concerns, joys and witness to your brothers and sisters. She will also share requests that she received prior to today’s service.

OFFERING AND DEDICATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

Holy God, we have beheld your goodness to us. Accept the offering of the work of our hands, and use us for the sake of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

POSTLUDE

Jesus Shall Reign arr Beverly Kingston

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*
Howie Gay, *Sexton*