



Middlebury Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

July 18, 2021
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

Come, Thou Almighty King arr Richard Blake

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist:

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: I will forever sing of your steadfast love, O Lord

People: I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations

Leader: You have made a covenant with your servant David,

People: Promising to establish his descendants and throne forever

Leader: Your steadfast love endures forever

People: Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Blessed be the Lord

INVOCATION

Liturgist

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

Rev. Manzi

(based in Colossians 2:12)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God. In your lovingkindness, cleanse

us from our sin. Set us free from a past we cannot change; open us to a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Time for individual silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (based on Romans 5:5)

Hear the good news! Hope does not disappoint us, for God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us in baptism. Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Deacon: Stephanie Tiso

Carter James Titus

Congregational Welcome (unison)

With joy we welcome you into Christ's Church, Carter. Your baptism is not the end but the beginning of a journey of discovering how much God loves you. This is our blessing to you: "Grow in grace and wisdom and do not fear, for the Lord is with you. Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God."

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READINGS OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURE

Robbie Laughton

2 Samuel 7:1-14a

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my

people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. When he commits iniquity, I will punish him with a rod such as mortals use, with blows inflicted by human beings.

Mark 6:30-34

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

Mark 6:53-56

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

SERMON

Robbie Laughton

MUSICAL OFFERING

Just As I Am

Bradbury, arr. C. Courtney

Anna Kwashnak, soprano

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

***Doxology in Unison**

Pilgrim Hymnal #515

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

Almighty God, receive our offering for the sake of Christ our Lord. Make us worthy stewards of your gifts and generous citizens of the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ, through whom we pray. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

Come, Thou Almighty King

Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #246

***BENEDICTION**

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Come, Thou Almighty King

arr Gilbert Martin

DOING GOD'S WORK

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

Staff:

Katrina Manzi, *Minister*

Robbie Laughton, *Guest Preacher*

Donna Obarowski, *Choir Director*

David Obarowski, *Organist*

Valerie Beard, *Christian Education Coordinator*

Jeanine Bonaventure, *Office Administrator*

Diane Barnard, *Asst. Treasurer*

Rebecca Trosan, *Nursery Attendant*

Come, Thou Almighty King

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Anonymous, c. 1757

ITALIAN HYMN 6.6.4.6.6.6.4.

Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796

1 Come, thou al - might - y King, Help us thy
 2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, Gird on thy
 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, Thy sa - cred
 4 To the great One in Three E - ter - nal

name to sing; Help us to praise: Fa - ther, all
 might - y sword; Our prayer at - tend: Come, and thy
 wit - ness bear In this glad hour! Thou who al -
 prais - es be Hence ev - er - more! His sov - ereign

glo - ri - ous, O'er all vic - to - ri - ous, Come, and reign
 peo - ple bless, And give thy word suc - cess; Spir - it of
 might - y art, Now rule in ev - ery heart, And ne'er from
 maj - es - ty May we in glo - ry see, And to e -

o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
 ho - li - ness, On us de - scend.
 us de - part, Spir - it of power.
 ter - ni - ty Love and a - dore. A - men.

Another setting may be found at No. 295

THE TRINITY