



Middlebury Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

October 24, 2021
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Liturgist: Barbara Hampton

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 124:8. Psalm 46:1-2, 7) Liturgist

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: Who made heaven and earth

Leader: God is our refuge and our strength,

People: A very present help in trouble

Leader: Therefore we will not fear,

People: Though the earth shall change, though the mountains shake

Leader: The Lord of host is with us

People: The God of Jacob is our refuge and fortress

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 (based on Matthew 22:37-40) Rev. Manzi

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will. We have broken your law. We have rebelled against your love. We have not loved our neighbors, and we have refused to hear

the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us 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 8:1, 2 Corinthians 5:17)

Hear the good news! There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death. 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

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT Drew Kwashnak

Children preK-6th grade may exit through the back doors of the sanctuary and meet in the Narthex to go to Sunday School

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURE Heather Dechent
Exodus 1:8-16

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. ⁹ He said to his people, “Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.” Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, “When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.”

SERMON Heather Dechent

MUSICAL OFFERING

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

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #269

*BENEDICTION

Heather Dechent

POSTLUDE

DOING GOD'S WORK

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

Staff:

Katrina Manzi, *Minister*

Heather Dechent, *Guest Preacher*

Donna Obarowski, *Choir Director*

David Obarowski, *Organist*

Mark Corbett, *Guest Organist*

Valerie Beard, *Christian Education Coordinator*

Jeanine Bonaventure, *Office Administrator*

Diane Barnard, *Asst. Treasurer*

Rebecca Trosan, *Nursery Attendant*

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

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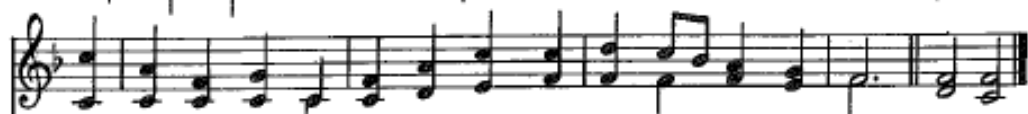
Timothy Dwight, 1752-1817

ST. THOMAS S.M.

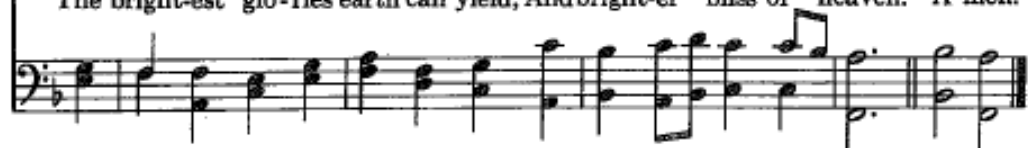
Williams' "New Universal Psalmist," 1770



1 I love thy king - dom, Lord, The house of thine a - bode,
2 I love thy Church, O God; Her walls be - fore thee stand,
3 For her my tears shall fall, For her my prayers as - cend,
4 Be - yond my high - est joy I prize her heav - en - ly ways,
5 Sure as thy truth shall last, To Zi - on shall be given



The Church our blest Re - deem - er saved With his own pre - cious blood.
Dear as the ap - ple of thine eye, And grav - en on thy hand.
To her my cares and toils be given Till toils and cares shall end.
Her sweet com - mun - ion, sol - emn vows, Her hymns of love and praise.
The bright - est glo - ries earth can yield, And bright - er bliss of heaven. A - men.



NATURE AND UNITY