

EASTERTIDE



Middlebury Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
April 27, 2025
Second Sunday of Easter

*all those who are able please stand

Our worship begins with the Prelude.

Please be mindful of those who wish to spend this time in prayer

PRELUDE

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

arr. Larry Shackley

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

INTROIT

Adult Choir

Jesus stand among us, In your risen power;
Let this time of worship be a hallowed hour. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Leader: The Lord is my strength and my might

People: He has become my salvation

Leader: I shall not die, but I shall live and recount the deeds of the
Lord

**People: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice
and be glad in it**

***HYMN**

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #30

INVOCATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER (ALL SING)

Insert

CALL TO CONFESSION (1 John 1:8-9)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Holy God, we confess that we have not been faithful witnesses to the resurrection. Jesus stands among us in word, sacrament, and neighbor, but we fail to recognize him. Jesus reigns over us as the risen Lord of all, but we fail to honor him. Jesus moves within us through the work of your Spirit, but we fail to respond. Forgive us, God of grace. Keep us in your presence, guide us by your Word, and fill us with your Spirit so that we may proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, who is risen indeed. Amen. (Time for individual silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Based on 1 John 2:1-2)

Hear the good news! We have an advocate with God – Jesus Christ, the righteous one – who offered his life in love to save the world from sin. Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #513

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
World without end. Amen. Amen.

Children Pre-K through 7th grade may exit through the back doors of the sanctuary and meet in the Social Hall for Sunday School

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READINGS OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURE

Psalms 150

Praise the Lord!

Praise God in his sanctuary;

praise him in his mighty firmament!

Praise him for his mighty deeds;

praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

Praise him with trumpet sound;
praise him with lute and harp!
Praise him with tambourine and dance;
praise him with strings and pipe!
Praise him with clanging cymbals;
praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord!

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

SERMON

The Rev. Katrina Manzi

Belief, Doubt, and Hope

***HYMN**

We Live by Faith

New Century Hymnal (Black) #256

JOYS, CONCERNS, & PASTORAL PRAYER

Prayer requests will be received from the congregation. Please be mindful worship is livestreamed, so we advise caution on using last names to preserve people's privacy.

OFFERTORY

Psalm 150

John Harper

Adult Choir

***Doxology in Unison**

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Alleluia, alleluia.
Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)**

Holy God, bless our offerings and our lives. Transform them into healing for the wounded, hope for the disheartened, courage for the frightened, and faith for the embittered. In the name of Jesus Christ, the first resurrected and ruler of the sovereigns of the earth. Amen.

***HYMN**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Hearts to Heaven

Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #180

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Adult Choir

Threefold Amen

POSTLUDE

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

arr. Denis Bedard

*Please join us downstairs in the Social Hall after worship for
fellowship and refreshments.*



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DOING GOD'S WORK

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

Staff:

The Rev. Katrina Manzi, *Minister*
Donna Obarowski, *Choir Director*
David Obarowski, *Organist*
Diane Barnard, *Bookkeeper/Asst. Treasurer*
Sara Hubbard, *Faith Formation Volunteer Coordinator*
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