

EASTERTIDE



Middlebury Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
May 18, 2025
Fifth 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

Good Christian Men Rejoice and Sing! arr. Emma Lou Diemer

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

INTROIT

Adult Choir

This is the day that the Lord hath made

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

Leader: Praise the Lord

People: Praise God in the heights

Leader: Praise God, all you angels; praise God, all creatures high
and low

**People: Rulers of the earth and all peoples, praise God's holy
name**

Leader: All people together

People: Let us praise the Lord

***HYMN**

Good Christian Men Rejoice and Sing! Pilgrim Hymnal (Red) #184

INVOCATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER (ALL SING)

Insert

CALL TO CONFESSION (Based on John 13:34)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Lord God, in the light of your glory we see the evil we have done, the suffering we have caused, the good we have refused, and the truth we have denied. Heal us of our sin, wash us in your mercy, and feed us with your grace, so that we may follow your way and tell the good news of the gospel. Amen. (Time for individual silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Based on Romans 8:34)

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Christ – and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new by God's generous grace. 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 148

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!

Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his host!

Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars!

Praise him, you highest heavens
and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for he commanded and they were created.
He established them forever and ever;
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps,
fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling his command!

Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!
Wild animals and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!
Young men and women alike,
old and young together!

Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.
He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to him.
Praise the Lord!

Revelation 21:1-6

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them and be their God;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

SERMON

The Rev. Katrina Manzi

Heaven on Earth

***HYMN**

Jerusalem, My Happy Home New Century Hymnal (Black) #378

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

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Carl F. Mueller

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)**

Loving God, we give you thanks for the ministry of reconciliation to which you call us in the name of Christ. Accept these gifts for your mission to heal all creation. May they be a testament to your love for us as we share them in love for you; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

***HYMN**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah Pilgrim's Hymnal (Red) #93

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Adult Choir

God be with you till we meet again;
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With his sheep securely fold you:
God be with you till we meet again. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

arr. Jason Payne

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*
Rebecca Trosan, *Nursery Attendant*
Sarah Kwashnak, *Office Assistant*