



Central United Methodist Church– service at 10:00 a.m.

July 7th, 2024

7th Sunday after Pentecost

Preaching: Paul Battistini – Certified Lay Minister

Liturgist: MJ Strickland Musician: Kyle Akin

Streaming Coordinator: Rick Velez

Service on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/MiddleboroMethodists>

Centering Music:

Kyle Akin

Greetings and Ringing of the Bell:

MJ

Opening Prayer/ Call to Worship: *(in unison)*

Dear Lord,

We gather in your name, seeking your blessings upon this assembly. May your divine presence fill this place and may your grace flow abundantly among us. We ask for your blessings on each person here, for their joys and their struggles. Bless our time together, that it may be a source of inspiration, growth, and renewal. Lord, pour out your favor on this church service, that it may be a wellspring of spiritual nourishment for our souls. We thank you for your blessings, known and unknown, and we pray for your continued favor.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 37

Leader (L) reads first. Congregation (P) reads the bold type.

¹ Do not fret because of those who are evil
or be envious of those who do wrong;

**² for like the grass they will soon wither,
like green plants they will soon die away.**

³ Trust in the LORD and do good;
dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.

**⁴ Take delight in the LORD,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.**

⁵ Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him and he will do this:

⁶ He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn,
your vindication like the noonday sun.

**⁷ Be still before the LORD
and wait patiently for him;
do not fret when people succeed in their ways,
when they carry out their wicked schemes.**

⁸ Refrain from anger and turn from wrath;
do not fret—it leads only to evil.

**⁹ For those who are evil will be destroyed,
but those who hope in the LORD will inherit the land.**

¹⁰ A little while, and the wicked will be no more;
though you look for them, they will not be found.

**¹¹ But the meek will inherit the land
and enjoy peace and prosperity.**

Hymn of Praise: **UMH # 62** *"All Creatures of our God and King"* (verses 1,2 & 3)

First Scripture Reading: *Genesis 6: 5-22* (NIV)

MJ

⁵ The LORD saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time. ⁶ The LORD regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled. ⁷ So the LORD said, "I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created—and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground—for I regret that I have made them." ⁸ But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

Noah and the Flood

⁹ This is the account of Noah and his family.

Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God. ¹⁰ Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth.

¹¹ Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. ¹² God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. ¹³ So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. ¹⁴ So make
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Second Scripture Reading: *Genesis 7: 6-24* (NIV)

⁶ Noah was six hundred years old when the floodwaters came on the earth. ⁷ And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives entered the ark to escape the waters of the flood. ⁸ Pairs of clean and unclean animals, of birds and of all creatures that move along the ground, ⁹ male and female, came to Noah and entered the ark, as God had commanded Noah. ¹⁰ And after the seven days the floodwaters came on the earth.

¹¹ In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month—on that day all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened. ¹² And rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights.

¹³ On that very day Noah and his sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, together with his wife and the wives of his three sons, entered the ark. ¹⁴ They had with them every wild animal according to its kind, all livestock according to their kinds, every creature that moves along the ground according to its kind and every bird according to its kind, everything with wings. ¹⁵ Pairs of all creatures that have the breath of life in them came to Noah and entered the ark. ¹⁶ The animals going in were male and female of every living thing, as God had commanded Noah. Then the LORD shut him in.

¹⁷ For forty days the flood kept coming on the earth, and as the waters increased they lifted the ark high above the earth. ¹⁸ The waters rose and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water. ¹⁹ They rose greatly on the earth, and all the high mountains under the entire heavens were covered. ²⁰ The waters rose and covered the mountains to a depth of more than fifteen cubits.^{[a][b]} ²¹ Every living thing that moved on land perished—birds, livestock, wild animals, all the creatures that swarm over the earth, and all mankind. ²² Everything on dry land that had the breath of life in its nostrils died. ²³ Every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out; people and animals and the creatures that move along the ground and the birds were wiped from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those with him in the ark.

²⁴ The waters flooded the earth for a hundred and fifty days.

Youth Message:

Paul

Third Scripture Reading: *Genesis 8: 13-21 (NIV)*

¹³ By the first day of the first month of Noah’s six hundred and first year, the water had dried up from the earth. Noah then removed the covering from the ark and saw that the surface of the ground was dry. ¹⁴ By the twenty-seventh day of the second month the earth was completely dry.

¹⁵ Then God said to Noah, ¹⁶ “Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives. ¹⁷ Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you—the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground—so they can multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number on it.”

¹⁸ So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives. ¹⁹ All the animals and all the creatures that move along the ground and all the birds—everything that moves on land—came out of the ark, one kind after another.

²⁰ Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. ²¹ The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: “Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though^[a] every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done.

Special Music:

Kyle Akin

Sermon: *“Build Me an Ark”*

Paul Battistini, Certified Lay Minister

Hymn: **UMH # 620**

“One Bread, One Body”

Holy Communion Invitation:

Leader: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him and seek to grow into his likeness. Let us draw near with faith, make our humble confession, and prepare to receive this Holy Sacrament.

Confession and Pardon (All):

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own goodness, but in your unfailing mercies. We are not worthy that you should receive us, but give your word and we shall be healed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that is proof of God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

MJ

Trusting in the presence and blessing of the Holy Spirit upon each of us, we hear anew the sacred story in the letter Paul wrote to the people of ancient Corinth:

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (I Corinthians 11.23-26, NIV)

THE LORD'S PRAYER: *(sung)* **W&S #3068**

Our Father, which 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 debts
as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD

Paul

Leader: Because there is one loaf,
We, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

The United Methodist Church has a policy of an Open Table. All who believe in Jesus Christ as our Savior are welcome to the feast. Please come forward and share with us.

PRAYER (after receiving Communion) Prayer (All)

Most bountiful God, we give you thanks for the world you have created, for the gift of life, and for giving yourself to us in Jesus Christ, whose holy life, suffering and death, and glorious resurrection have delivered us from slavery to sin and death. We thank you that in the power of your Holy Spirit, you have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet.

We are your children, and yours is the glory, now and forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God Moments: *(Joys and Concerns)* Paul

Pastoral Prayer: Paul

Tithes and Offerings / Doxology (UMH #95):

Prayer of Thanksgiving: Paul

Announcements: MJ

Closing Hymn: UMH #344 "Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore"

Blessing: Paul
Go in peace and share God's love with others.

Birthday

July 2- Donna Tibbetts

July 8- Janet Buckley

July 13- Paul Battistini

August 3- Don Buckley

August 7- Bill Greenlaw

August 10- Jim Waite

August 25- Pastor Sandy Sweet

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, July 7th- Ham Brunch after worship, all are welcome. Food donations welcome, see sign-up sheet.

Sunday, July 21st- Worship with our friends at Oak Point. Still Working will lead the service.

***We are collecting for another Saver's run so bring in your household items, soft goods and books. If you have any questions or need help, see Jody Battistini (508-947-8285).**

LAY SERVANT SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Preaching</u>	<u>Liturgist</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>Usher</u>	<u>Counter</u>
7/7/24	Paul Battistini	MJ S	Nancy E.	Kevin O	MJ S
7/14/24	Susan Scott	Paul B	Sherri V	Linda M	Paul B
7/21/24	Still Working		Bill G.	Bill G	Paul B
7/28/24	Dave Dextraze	Linda M	Charlie F	Susan R	Bob R



Thank you for worshipping with us at Central United Methodist Church.
Come as a stranger, leave as a friend.

Ministry Team

Rev. Neil (Sandy) Sweet, Coordinating Pastor, Elder sandypadre@aol.com

Ann Burnham, Certified Lay Minister Tedann84@verizon.net

Dave Dextraze, Certified Lay Minister Ddextraze1@comcast.net

Susan Scott, Certified Lay Speaker susiscott@aol.com

Paul Battistini, Certified Lay Minister, Team Leader & Emergency Pastoral Care:
cell: (774) 766-2390 paul_batt@hotmail.com

OFFICE:

14 School Street, Middleboro, Ma 02346

Email: middleboromethodists@verizon.net

Website: middleboroumc.com Church

FB page: www.facebook.com/MiddleboroMethodists



