

United Churches of Durham Middlefield Federated Church

May 3, 2026



Art: "Jesus the way, the truth, and the life" by Ain Vares

THE UNITED CHURCHES OF DURHAM and MIDDLEFIELD FEDERATED CHURCH

228 Main St, Durham CT 06422, (860) 349-3683

Pastor: Rev. Eva Cudmore, (860) 227-0722

Minister of Music: Mike Meurs

Assoc. Min. of Music: Jenny-Joy Moore

Administrator: Aren Alberico

Worship Service

May 3, 2026

Welcoming New Members/Communion

GATHERING

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

This is the day the Lord has made
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

PRELUDE

"Blessed Assurance"

P. Palmer Knapp

* CALL TO CELEBRATION

God, in your house there are many dwelling places—
room for all your Beloved.

We belong to you.

Christ, you prepare a place for us and come for us and take us into
yourself.

We come to you.

We are in you, and you are in us, and we are in Christ.

We worship you. Alleluia!

* GATHERING HYMN **The Church's One Foundation** (Vs. 1,2,6) # 545(6)

* PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Loving God, Jesus said we come to you through him. By your grace we enter into his love, receiving his mercy, open to his healing, being built into his house, made into his royal priesthood. We are in Christ, who is in you. Bless us, and make us your people, in the name and the Spirit of Christ. Amen.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
(We exchange greetings of peace)

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Today we joyfully and gratefully welcome Scott, Carolyn, and Molly Cairns, Linda Harris, Susan Hunter, Naomi Klotzko, Flint McLellan and Sue Reynolds as new members of our congregations.

ADDRESS

MAKING OF PROMISES

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

PRAYER OF AFFIRMATION

Loving God, we praise you for calling us to faith and for gathering us in the Church, the body of Christ. We thank you for your people in this local church and rejoice that you increase our community of faith. May we live in the Spirit, building one another up in love, sharing in the life and worship of the Church, and serving the world for the love of Jesus Christ. Amen.

WELCOME

THE WORD

YOUNG AT HEART MESSAGE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please stand in your pew and give your prayer appeal. We end the appeal with the following call and response:

This is my prayer.

This is our prayer.

MORNING PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our God/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

INVITATION

CONFESSION OF SIN and ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

God of mercy, we confess that we have not loved you with all our being.

We have done things which we ought not to have done, and we have left undone things which we ought to have done. We have built walls between neighbors and between countries, and we have ignored the cries of those in need.

Forgive us and set us free, that we may live into the hope of your calling, that your reign may come on earth as it is in heaven. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

(Time for silent confession)

Thanks be to God: Jesus died for our sins.

We are forgiven!

We are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The Lord Jesus, the same night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you: do this in remembrance of me."

After the same manner also, he took the cup when they had supped, saying, "This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

In this bread and in this wine, we receive again the generous, and costly gift of life, offered to us through the sacrifice of Jesus.

This meal is a proclamation of God's goodness, a thanksgiving for God's grace and a sharing in God's life. And we will keep celebrating in this way until Jesus returns. Amen

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;

**Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary:
Suffered under Pontius Pilate;
was crucified, dead and buried.
He descended into hades:
the third day he rose again from the dead:
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God,
the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead:
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian church,
the communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen**

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Loving and generous God,
Pour out your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and cup,
that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ.
**Pour out your Holy Spirit on us,
that we may be the Body of Christ,
who have died and have been raised to new life,
to serve you in love without fear,
in the power of your Holy Spirit
and the strength of eternal life.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

We receive and share the elements seated in the pews. After receiving them, please hold on to them until all have been served and we partake together.

THANKSGIVING

GOING FORTH

*** SENDING HYMN**

It Is Well with My Soul

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*** BENEDICTION**

The way is long, **let us go together.**
The way is difficult, **let us help each other.**
The way is joyful, **let us share it.**
The way is Christ's for Christ is the way,
let us follow.

The way is open before us,
let us go.

The love of God, the grace of Christ,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen

POSTLUDE

"River Flows In You"

Yiruma

** Indicates standing for those able*

Today's Worship Participants

Pastor Rev. Eva Cudmore
Liturgist Fred Wintsch
Minister of Music Mike Meurs
Assoc. Min. of Music Jenny-Joy Moore
The MFC/UCD Choir

Words for worship: Steve Garnaas-Holmes, Unfolding Light

Upcoming Worship Schedule

Unless otherwise noted, Worship is held at 10am at UCD.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Coffee Hour</u>	<u>Additional Notes</u>
May 10	Trustees	Mother's Day
May 17	MFC	Church Birthday Celebration
May 24	Missions	Pentecost Sunday

Spring Tag Sale: Saturday, May 9, 8am-1pm

The Annual Spring Tag Sale is this coming Saturday, May 9, 2026, from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM! Come browse a wide variety of items, discover great deals, and enjoy a lively morning of community connection! Tag sale items may be dropped off and set up in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, **May 6**; Thursday, **May 7**; and Friday, **May 8** from **2:00–6:00 PM**. Please note that there are no early birds, so plan to arrive right at opening! For more information or assistance, call 860-490-7624. We hope to see you there!

2026 Alan and Craig Chiarappa Scholarship



The scholarship is open to anyone who is furthering their skills with continued education, and who have contributed to the work and values of MFC and UCD. The **Deadline** for the applications is **May 31st**. You can find the applications at <https://tinyurl.com/MFCscholarship2026> or by scanning the QR Code. The recipient will be awarded in June during

worship. The scholarship was established in memory of Alan and Craig Chiarappa, sons of Elmer and Angela Chiarappa. It is sustained through generous donations from church members, family, and friends.

Church Birthday Party: Sunday, May 17, 11:00am

Join us after worship for a special birthday celebration! Thanks to the generosity of our members, a variety of cakes will be shared, and together we'll sing "Happy Birthday" to everyone. As part of the celebration, you are invited to make a donation that reflects your age—whether that's 9 pennies, 9 dimes, 9 dollars, or any amount that feels meaningful to you.

Come, Share The Lord

Langsam.

Chords: G, Am, D⁷, G, C, D⁷, G

We gath-er

Chords: G, Am, D⁷, G, G, D^{su}, D

here in Jes-us name, His love is burn - ing in our hearts like liv - ing flame, For through the

Chords: G, D, G, G/H, G, Am, G

lov - ing son the fath - er makes us one. Come take the bread, come drink the wine come share the Lord.

Chords: D, C, D, G, C, G/H

No one is a strang - er here, ev' - ry - one be - longs,

Chords: C, Am, G/, C, Am, D^{su}, D

Find - ing our for - give - ness here, we in turn for - give all wrongs; He joins us

Chords: G, G, Am, D, G, G, D^{sus}, D

here, He breaks the bread, The Lord who pours the cup is ris - en from the dead. The One we

Chords: G, Am, D, G, G/H, Am, D, G

love the most is now our gra - cious host; Come take the bread come drink the wine, Come share the Lord.

Chords: D, C, D, G, C, G

We are now a fa - mi - ly of which the Lord is head;

Chords: C, Am, G/, C, Am, D^{su}, D

though un - seen he meets us here in the break - ing of the bread. We'll gather

Chords: G, G, Am, D, G, G, D^{sus}, D

soon where ang - els sing; we'll see the glor - y of our Lord and grac - ious king, Now we ant -

Chords: G, Am, D, G, G, Am, D, G

i - ci - pate the feast for which we wait. Come take the bread Come drink the wine Come share the Lord.