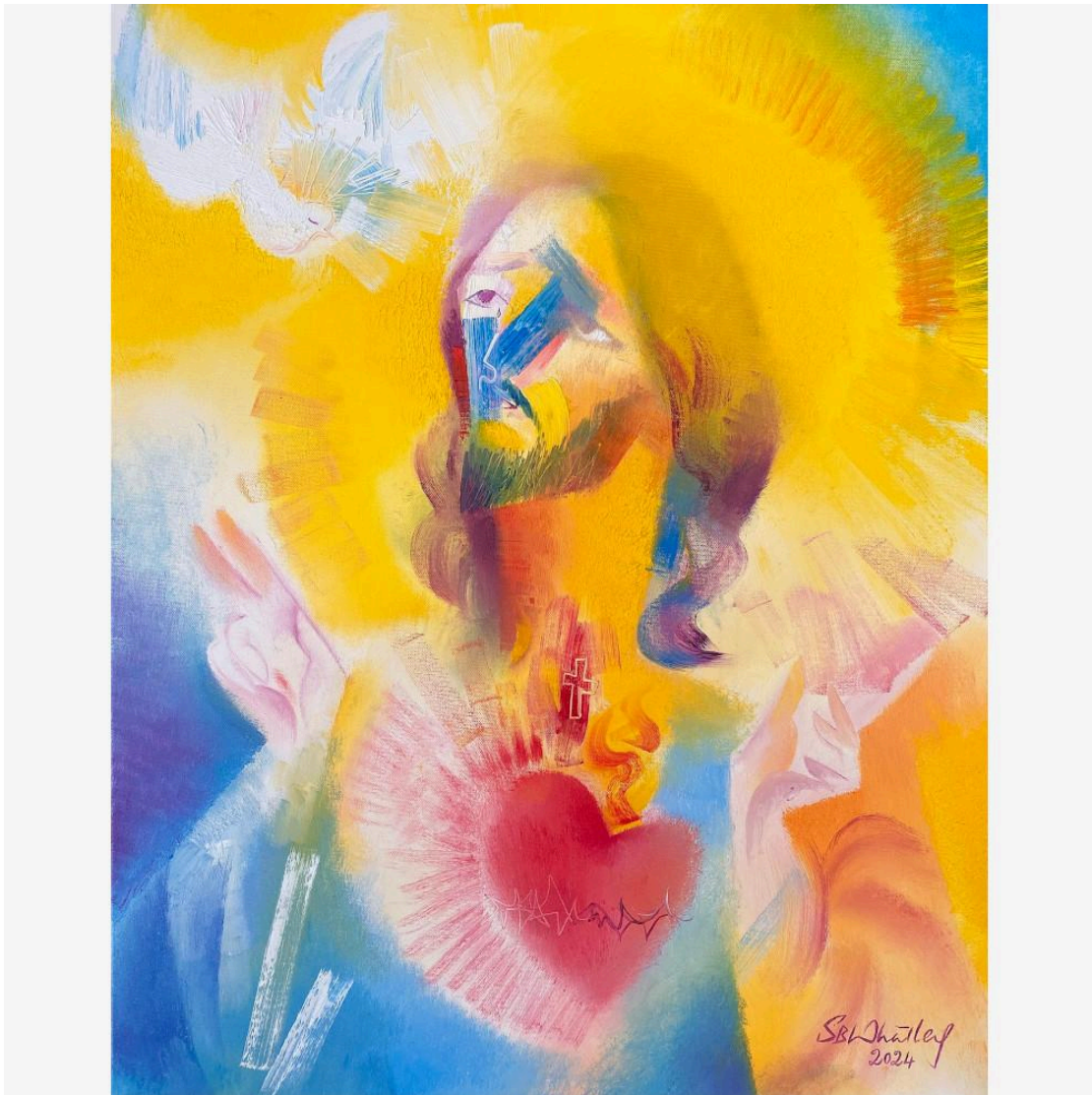


“Inspired by the love and teachings of Jesus Christ, the Barre Congregational Church seeks to be a welcoming and caring congregation that supports each other and serves the wider world.”

The Barre Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



The Sacred Heart of Jesus by Stephen B. Whatley, United Kingdom, 2024

Sunday, June 21st, 2026
Fourth Sunday After Pentecost
Rev. James Semmelroth Darnell
Pastor

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship

Pastor: We are called to bring a new understanding of God: that God so loves the world.

People: We are the salt of the earth.

Pastor: We are called to bring a new hope in God: that God gives us new life.

People: We are the light of the world.

Pastor: We are called to follow the commandments and the law.

People: The Law of God is to love God and to love one another.

Pastor: Come, let us be the salt of the earth, the light of the world.

People: Come, let us love one another with the love of God.

Let us join together in our love of God to worship and follow Jesus.

* Opening Hymn

“Love Divine, All Love Excelling”

#517

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

Holy God, we confess that we do not always love our neighbor.

We confess that we have despised others, even to the point of hatred.

We confess that we have been hurt by others.

We confess that forgiveness and reconciliation at times are just impossible for us.

We know that nothing is impossible in You.

We come to You, seeking healing and wholeness for us.

Help us, whenever possible, to live in peace with others, to seek reconciliation and healing and forgiveness.

For Your Son came and lived among us, was betrayed and denied, abused and put to death. He rose again, and came with the message of peace to those who had denied him and abandoned him. May we walk in his ways.

Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Reading from the Epistles

Romans 12: 9 - 21

Reading from the Gospels

Matthew 5: 43 - 46

Responding to the Word (*Responsive*)

One: The word of God, for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Loving Your Christian Nationalist Neighbor

*Hymn

“Jesu, Jesu”

#600

Expressions of Gratitude, Joys, and Concerns

After each prayer shared, we respond, “O Lord, hear our prayer.”

Pastoral Prayer (*Prayer Response*)

Pastor: Gracious God, hear our prayer,

People: and in Your love, answer

The Lord's Prayer

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 for 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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

*Hymn

“Lead Us From Death to Life”

Insert

Call to the Offering

Offertory

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures high and low.
Praise God for all that love has done.
Creator, Christ, and Spirit one. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Hymn

“They’ll Know We Are Christians”

#494

Benediction

**Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

**Please sit quietly for the postlude.



If you'd like to donate to the work of the BCC, please scan the QR Code with the camera application on your cell phone. A link will pop up. Please click it and fill out the donation form.

Announcement:

Volunteers Needed on Sunday Mornings!

We need your help to make Sunday morning worship an inspiring and welcoming experience for members and friends alike. Please consider signing up as a lector (reading Scripture during the service), usher, or greeter. The blue sign up book is available at the table in the back of the sanctuary. You can also sign up by reaching out to deacons Cathy James (lectors), Bev Thomas (greeters), or Rev. James at revjames.bccucc@gmail.com.

Welcome Guests!

We are so glad that you are worshiping with us today! The Barre Congregational Church, United Church of Christ is an open and affirming congregation where no matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here! We are blessed by your presence with us. Restrooms are located in the hallway to the right of the sanctuary and downstairs. We heartily invite you to join us for conversation and refreshments in our Fellowship Hall following the service.

We welcome the seekers.
We welcome those who question.
We welcome those who believe without question.
It is not for us to turn anyone away.
Arms wide open.
Welcome home.

Upcoming events and meetings:

Sunday, June 21st: Worship Service 9:30 am

Sunday, June 21st: Administration Ministry Meeting 7 pm (*Via Zoom*)

Wednesday, June 24th: Spiritual Self-Defense for LGBTQ+ Folks and Allies Discussion Group at 6 pm

Sunday, June 28th: Worship Service 9:30 am

Tuesday, June 30th: Deacons Meeting

Wednesday, July 1st: Spiritual Self-Defense for LGBTQ+ Folks and Allies Discussion Group at 6 pm

Thursday, July 3rd: Church offices closed for observed Holiday

Friday, July 4th: Church building closed for the Fourth of July

Sunday, July 5th: Worship Service 9:30 am with Rev. Carol Ann Barker

Please inform the church office of all upcoming events

Serving this Sunday

Bev Thomas, Lector

Linda & Jim West, Greeter

Deacons, Coffee Hour

Linda Rodriguez, Welcome

Thank you to our volunteers for their service to the Church.

