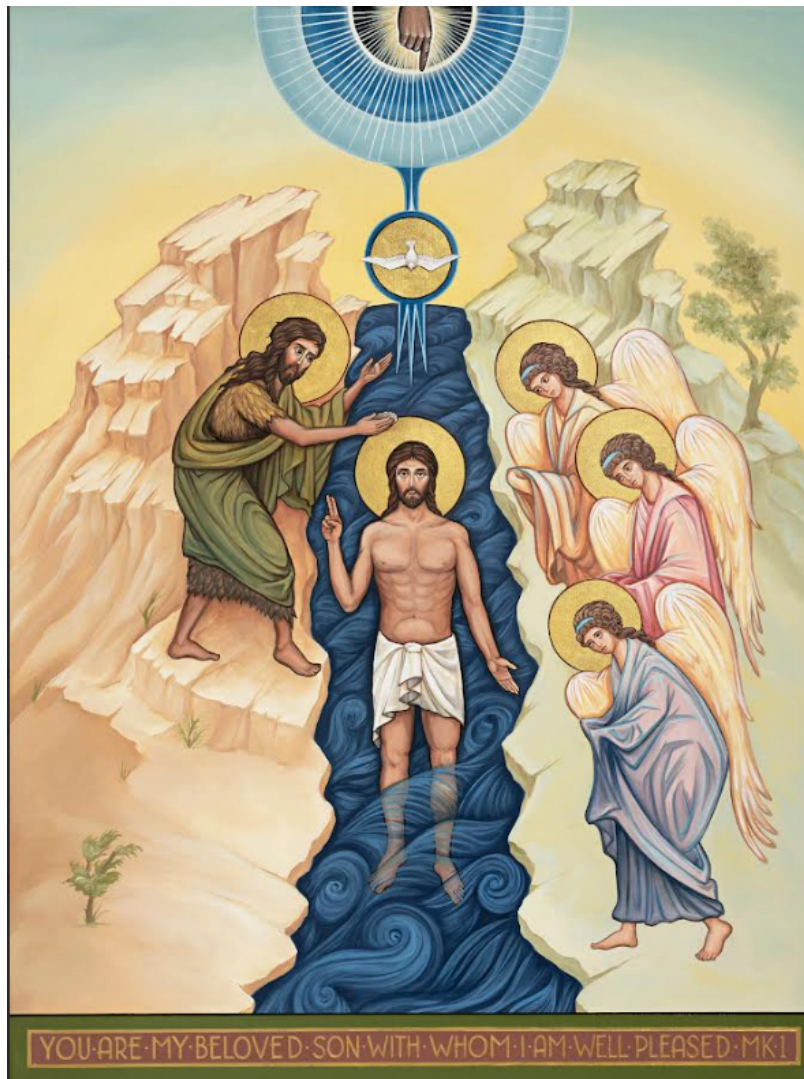


spired by the love and teachings of Jesus Christ, the Barre Congregational Church seeks to be a welcoming and caring congregation that supports each other and serves the wider world."

The Barre Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



The Baptism of the Lord, by Ruth Stricklin, © 2021 New Jerusalem Studios, LLC

Sunday, July 12th, 2026
Seventh Sunday After Pentecost
Rev. James Semmelroth Darnell
Pastor

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship

Pastor: God's Word is a lamp to our feet;

People: and a light to our path.

Pastor: God's Word is made visible in Christ;

People: in him we are rooted in truth.

Pastor: God's Word is revealed through the Holy Spirit;

People: and lived out in faithful service.

Pastor: Come and listen for God's Word in this time of worship.

People: We wait to receive the Word of Life.

* Opening Hymn

"O What a Beautiful Mornin"

#53

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved
you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus
Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Assurance of Grace

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

THE BAPTISM OF RONALD TAYLOR

WELCOME

PASTOR: Members and friends in Christ, we gather now to celebrate the gift of grace in the sacrament of baptism.

The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. Baptism is the sacrament through which we are united to Jesus Christ and given part in Christ's ministry of reconciliation. Baptism is the visible sign of an invisible event: the reconciliation of people to God. It shows the death of self and the rising to a life of obedience and praise. It shows also the pouring out of the Holy Spirit on those whom God has chosen. In baptism, God works in us the power of forgiveness, the renewal of the Spirit, and the knowledge of the call to be God's people always.

VOWS

PASTOR: Ronald, do you desire to be baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

RONALD: I do.

PASTOR: Do you renounce the powers of evil and to receive the freedom of new life in Christ?

RONALD: I do.

PASTOR: Do you profess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?

RONALD: I do.

PASTOR: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciple(s), to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

RONALD: I promise, with the help of God.

PASTOR: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow in the Christian faith, to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, celebrating Christ's presence, and furthering Christ's mission in all the world?

RONALD: I promise, with the help of God. All who are able may stand as the congregation is asked to make promises.

PASTOR: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to the one about to be baptized, as he lives and grows in Christ?

PEOPLE: We promise our love, support, and care in the name of Jesus Christ.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

All who are able may stand.

PASTOR: Let us unite with the church in all times and places our faith in the triune God. Do you believe in God?

PEOPLE: I believe in God.

PASTOR: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

PEOPLE: I believe in Jesus Christ.

PASTOR: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

PEOPLE: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

PRAYER OF BAPTISM

The congregation may be seated,

PASTOR: Christ be with you.

PEOPLE: And also with you.

PASTOR: Let us pray.

We thank you, God, for the gift of creation called forth by your saving Word. Before the world had shape and form, your Spirit moved over the waters.

Out of the waters of the deep, you formed the firmament and brought forth the earth to sustain all life. In the time of Noah, you washed the earth with the waters of the flood, and your ark of salvation bore a new beginning. In the time of Moses, your people Israel passed through the Red Sea waters from slavery to freedom and crossed the flowing Jordan to enter the promised land.

In the fullness of time, you sent Jesus Christ, who was nurtured in the water of Mary's womb.

Jesus was baptized by John in the water of the Jordan, became living water to a woman at the Samaritan well, washed the feet of the disciples, and sent them forth to baptize all the nations by water and the Holy Spirit.

The water is poured.

ACT OF BAPTISM

PASTOR: Ronald Taylor, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE: Amen!

PASTOR: We give you thanks, Most Holy One, mother and father of us all, for Ronald and for the grace acknowledged here today in water and the Holy Spirit. Embrace us all as children in the one household of your love. Grant us grace to receive, nurture, and befriend Ronald as a baptized and redeemed member of the Body of Christ. Give to him and all the baptized: strength for life's journey, courage in time of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.

Reading from the Psalter
Reading from the Epistles

Psalms 133
Colossians 3: 5 - 17

Responding to the Word (*Responsive*)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon The Gospel According to Broadway: Oklahoma!

Special Music "Surrey with the Fringe on Top"

Expressions of Gratitude, Joys, and Concerns

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

Pastoral Prayer (*Prayer Response*)

Pastor: God in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

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.

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

*Communion Hymn "Seed Scattered and Sown" #395

Sacrament of Holy Communion *See Booklet*

*Closing Hymn "I've Got Peace Like a River" #530

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 worshipping 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, July 13th: Worship Service 9:30 am with Rev. James
Wednesday, July 15th: Deacons Potluck, Barre Town Pavilion
Sunday, July 19th: Worship Service 9:30 am with Rev. James, First day of Sunday School
Sunday, July 19th: Administration Meeting 7 pm via Zoom
Monday, July 20th: Day 1 of Camp BCC
Tuesday, July 21st: Council Meeting
Please inform the church office of all upcoming events

Serving this Sunday

Susan McKnight, Lector
Bonita Cortese, Greeter
Cary Friberg, Flowers
Council, Coffee Hour
Linda West, Welcome
, Usher

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