

“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



Samaritans marking Passover on
Mount Gerizim, West Bank, Palestine, 2006

Sunday, September 13th, 2026
Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Rev. James Semmelroth Darnell
Pastor

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship (*Responsive*)

Pastor: We are called to love the Lord our God

People: We are called to love with all our heart and soul

Pastor: We are called to love the Lord our God

People: We are called to love with all our mind and strength

Pastor: We are called to love the Lord our God

People: And we are called to love our neighbor as ourselves.

* Opening Hymn

“I Love To Tell the Story”

#480

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

Gracious, inviting God,

you continually provide us with opportunities to practice generous hospitality.

**But our fear of difference,
reluctance to share,
and desire to be in control
make our welcome appear weak and insincere.**

**Because we long for what is familiar and comfortable,
we have difficulty honoring the stranger as a sacred guest who bears the
face of Christ.**

**Worn out and irritated by the work we think we must do, we miss
opportunities to receive the gifts that such guests offer us.**

**Forgive us, O God, for focusing on the wrong things.
Show us how to do what is right. Amen.**

Assurance of Grace

Reading from the Old Testament

Ezekiel 16: 49 - 55

Reading from the Gospels

Luke 9: 51- 53, 10: 25- 37

Responding to the Word (*Responsive*)

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Jesus In Samaria

Special Music

“Simple Gifts”

Expressions of Gratitude, Joys, and Concerns

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

Pastoral 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.

*Hymn

“O Sing A Song Of Bethlehem”

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

“Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant”

#585

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:

The Barre Congregational Church member per capita dues are now due for the 2026/27 year. It amounts to 16.72\$ per member.

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, September 13th: Rebound Sunday;
8:00 AM Handbell Choir
8:45 AM Chancel Choir
9:30 AM Worship Service with Rev. James & Sunday School
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Cookout (*Please RSVP with the church office*)
Sunday, September 13th: Fall Bible Study at First Presbyterian Church 11: 15 am
Tuesday, September 15th: Council Meeting
Saturday, September 19th: Saturday Morning Breakfast 8:00 am - 9:30 am
Sunday, September 20th: Worship Service with Rev. James & Sunday School
Fall Bible Study at BCC 11: 15 am
Rescheduled Administration Ministry Meeting 12:30 pm
Please inform the church office of all upcoming events

Serving this Sunday

Bev Thomas, Lector
Karen Gordon, Greeter
Cary Friberg, Flowers
Council, Coffee Hour
Linda West, Welcome
, Usher

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