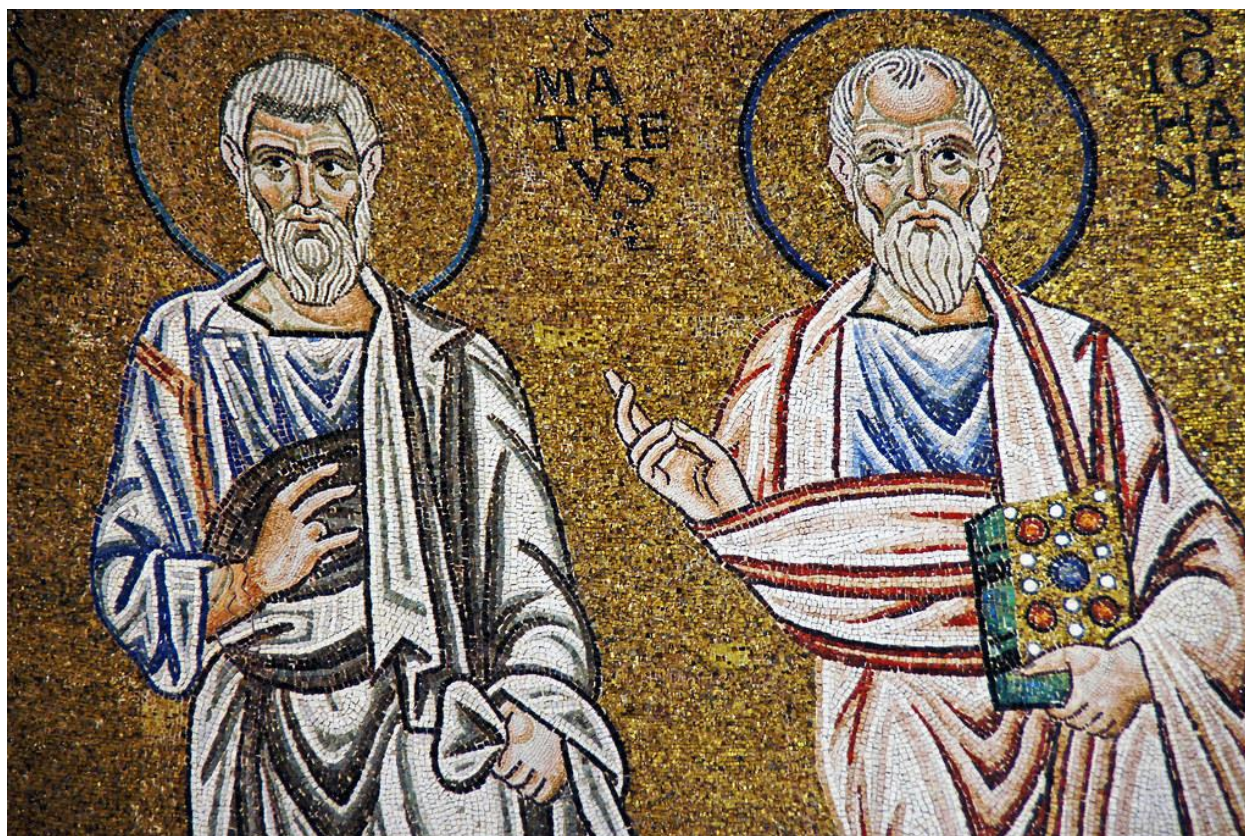


**CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Founded in 1816



*The mission of Centre Congregational Church is to worship and serve God,
following the example and teachings of Jesus Christ.*

-Church Bylaws, 21 May 2006

**An Open & Affirming Congregation
and a Just Peace Church**

Sunday, August 29, 2021

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Brattleboro Area Summer Union Service

**Fifth in a six-week sermon series entitled
*Apostolic Martyrs: Sacrifices Made for the Early Church***

WELCOME FRIENDS & GUESTS!!!
Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey,
you're welcome here!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

MEDITATIVE QUOTATION BEFORE WORSHIP

"God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him."

- John the Apostle

GREETING, WELCOME, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS The Rev. Dr. Scott Couper, Centre

GATHERING MUSIC

Fuga, Allegro, M. Blavet
Alison Hale, flute

INTROIT

Welcome Everyone!, M. May
Handbells: Jenifer Ambler, Holly Kennedy, Matt Kennedy

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Shawn Bracebridge, Dummerston

One: As surely as the new day has dawned, God comes to meet us and be known to us.

Many: We will sing to God and trust God's steadfast love. Our hearts rejoice in God's saving grace.

One: God gives life to the dead and creates new things from nothing.

Many: We believe, against all hope, that new life can be wrought in us.

One: Jesus invited people to fresh starts with the words "Follow me".

Many: We want to respond with our lives, to take the risks of discipleship.

One: God will raise us up and equip us for our life of service.

Many: We rejoice in God's promises and devote this hour to prayer and praise. Amen.

One: Amen.

-adapted from *Fresh Winds of the Spirit*, by Lavon Bayler, 1986

OPENING PRAYER

The Rev. Dr. Scott Couper

OPENING HYMN #298 NCH

O Savior, for the Saints

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

The Rev. Dr. Scott Couper

PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE Matthew 9:9-13 and John 19:23-27

Lisa Keller

*SCRIPTURE RESPONSE ("In the Lord..." sung twice)

ANTHEM

Every Time I Feel the Spirit, Spiritual, arr. L Shackley
Jenifer Ambler, Tony Grobe, Matt Kennedy, Sue Rowell

MESSAGE "Writers Sent"

The Rev. Dr. Scott Couper, Centre

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lisa Keller

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

Congregation

CLOSING HYMN #522 NCH

I Love to Tell the Story

BENEDICTION

The Rev. Audrey Walker, First Congregational

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Go Now in Peace, N. Sleeth
Handbells: Jenifer Ambler, Holly Kennedy, Matt Kennedy

SENDING MUSIC

Gavotta, M. Blavet
Alison Hale, flute