



**For children 6 years and under, we have a play area** along the back wall to your left as you enter the sanctuary. Please sit close to supervise children you bring. Clipboards with activities are available for children of all ages – ask an usher.

**To access our livestreamed service** use this link:

<https://youtube.com/@PEASE507> or go to [www.mcob.org](http://www.mcob.org), click on **LIVESTREAM: Watch the Service Live** or **YouTube icon**. It doesn't go live until the loft activates it, so if it isn't there immediately, leave the page and try again. You can also access copies of the bulletin and links to past services at [www.mcob.org](http://www.mcob.org). **Find us on Facebook** at Middlebury Church of the Brethren.

#### **Our Mission Statement**

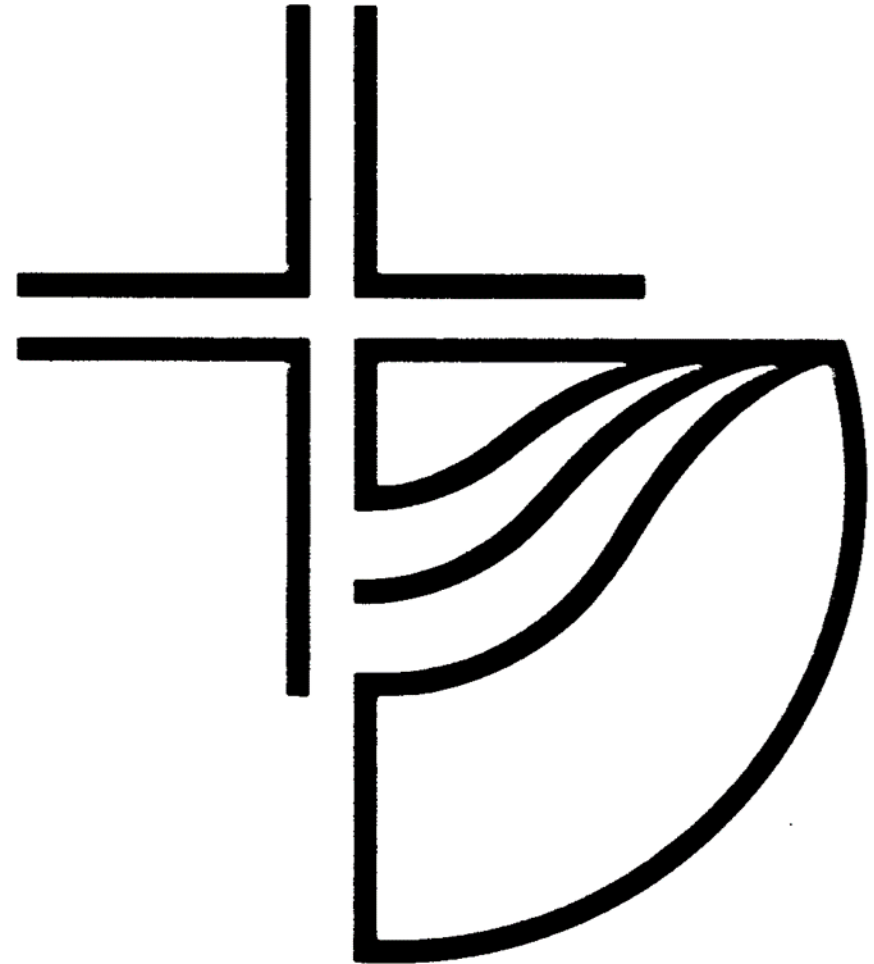
Believe God's Word. Live Christ's teaching.  
Grow spiritually and share God's love, peace, hope and joy.

#### **Middlebury Church of the Brethren**

**507 Bristol Ave.  
Middlebury, IN 46540  
574-825-2955  
[mcob@mcob.org](mailto:mcob@mcob.org)**

The Church of the Brethren symbol on the cover upholds images of life in Jesus Christ. The cross recalls our baptism into Christ's death and resurrection (Romans 6:4) and testifies to God's plan to bring "all in heaven and earth . . . into a unity in Christ" (Ephesians 1:10 NEB). The circle, partially defined, represents the world into which we are sent by Christ (Matthew 28:19). The circle also affirms that as members of Christ's body we are members one of another (Romans 12:5)—a people who confess "one Lord, one faith, one baptism" (Ephesians 4:5). The wave connotes new life in Christ, "born of water and the Spirit" (John 3:5). The wave further evokes the waters of justice (Amos 5:24), the cup of water offered in Christ's name (Mark 9:41), the basin and towel (John 13:5), and "springs of living water" (Revelation 7:17). Images central to life in Jesus Christ thus are lifted up as images for Brethren to live by.

# **Middlebury Church of the Brethren**



## **January 12, 2025**

**MIDDLEBURY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**  
**a welcoming and inclusive congregation**  
**offering Christ's hospitality to the world**

Worship—9:00am Fellowship—10:15am Sunday School-10:45am

**January 12, 2025**  
**First Sunday after Epiphany**  
**Joint Worship with Goshen City Church of the Brethren**

*In this account of Jesus' baptism, the heavens open, the Holy Spirit descends (in the form of a dove) and a voice says, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." With everything that Jesus will face, including the time of desert temptation (which is right around the corner), this affirmation – "You are the Beloved" – is a necessity as much as it is a gift. What does it mean to be affirmed as "the Beloved"?*

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Moments for Greeting Each Other**

**Prelude**

**Call to Worship**

**Isaiah 43:1-7**

**Opening Prayer**

**\*Hymn of Gathering** Brethren, we have met to worship #8

**Offering Invitation and Prayer**

*An offering plate is available at the back of the sanctuary for your gifts.*

**Children's Time**

**The Community Prays Together**

**Sharing our Joys and Concerns**

*One: In your mercy Lord*

***Many: Hear our prayer***

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Scripture Reading** Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 N.T. p. 60

**Hymn of Confession** Come, gracious Spirit #303

**Message** The Beloved

**Moments of Silent Reflection**

**Communion**

**Invitation**

**Receiving the Bread**

**Receiving the Cup**

**Prayer of Gratitude (unison)**

In deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people,  
we give ourselves to you, O God.

Send us to live as changed people  
because we have shared the Living Bread  
and cannot remain the same.

Ask much of us, expect much from us,  
enable much by us, encourage many through us.

So, God, may we glorify you  
as inhabitants of the earth and citizens of heaven.

Amen.

**\*Hymn of Sending** Love divine, all loves excelling #592

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

\*Please rise in body and/or spirit.

*The Prayer of Gratitude following communion is from the Iona Community, and can be found in Voices Together, #946.*

## **Office Hours**

**Pastor Kurt:** Wednesday and Friday, 9am-noon

**Treasurer / Daycare Business Manager Lorie:**

Monday through Friday, 8:30am–5:30pm

**New Office Assistant Keaira Lambright:** Wednesday 9am-2:00pm.

Bulletins will be printed on Wednesdays and cannot be adjusted after that. Please know that emails and voicemails that come into the office Thursday through Tuesday will not be seen until Wednesday.

## **Happening this Week**

- Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> Nurture Team meeting at 9:30am
- Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> Blood drive 2:00- 6:30pm

## **Upcoming in Worship**

**January 19:** “The wedding party” John 2:1-11

## **Sunday School Schedule Upcoming**

**December – February:** *A King Forever and Ever*, from Brethren quarterly, taught by Julie Bontrager

## **Announcements**

We are happy to welcome our friends from Goshen City Church of the Brethren this morning as we share in our 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month worship together.

Children Sunday school will be held in the fellowship hall following children’s time in worship.

The next Versiti **Blood Drive** will take place here Wednesday, January 15, 2:00-6:30pm. Sign up online to donate. Invite a friend!

## **Worship Participants**

Preacher – Kurt Borgmann

Worship Leader – Don Anderson

Pianist – Lorie Copeland

Flautist – Sherry Bickel

Guitarist – Jill Weaver

Ushers – Don Muhlnickel & Todd Grathen

Greeters – Don & Beth Muhlnickel

Audio/Video Support – Mark Roebuck, William Coffey, Matt Weaver, Jacob Cripe

If you are new or visiting, please fill out a visitor card available in the entryway. You are most welcome here!

