

Peacham Congregational Church
56 Church St., Peacham, VT 05862
802-592-3330



Baptism of Jesus

Interim Pastor, Nicole Klosterman

We are an Open and Affirming Church

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.*

Order of Worship
January 11 2026
Rick Witt, Lay Leader

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: Come unto Me, Ye weary – Victor Hildner

Lighting of the Candles

Responsive Call to Worship¹

Come! Let us follow Jesus to the edge of the Jordan River to be baptized.

We come to be cleansed and made whole.

Come! Let us witness John's confusion and Jesus' insistence that John baptize God Incarnate.

We come to join Jesus in choosing life in the kingdom of God.

Come! Let us hear God declare the truth of Jesus' identity and the truth of our identity as baptized people.

We come to remember and embody who we are as beloved children of God.

Come! Let us worship God who leads us into the baptismal waters and salvation life.

We come to worship God who empowers us through divine presence to live together as the family of God.

Opening Hymn 327 - “I Was There to Hear Your Burning Cry”

Passing of the Peace

Leader: As Christ welcomed everyone, no matter what their background, no matter what their social status; as Christ welcomed enemies and friends, outcasts and leaders, foreigners and neighbors, let us open our hearts and homes and lives. Let us be Christ to everyone we meet.

One: The Peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also, with You

One: Now share in a sign of peace with one another.

¹ Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, July 2025.

Joys and Concerns followed by Time of Silence

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Response

***Hear our prayer O God. Hear our prayer O god.
Incline Your ear to us and grant us Your peace. Amen***

Offering & Mission (Hunger Free Vermont)

Doxology #46 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.***

Unison Prayer of Dedication

**Holy One, Source of Living Water,
You have gathered us in, washed us in grace,
and reminded us that we are your Beloved.
Bless these gifts, and bless the lives from which they come.
Amen.**

Hymn 175 "O Sing A Song of Bethlehem" verses 1-3

Scripture:: Mark 1:4-11

Message: Baptism, A New Beginning by Rev. Dr. Marlayna Schmidt

Renewal of Baptism Ceremony²

Please come forward where noted.**

Beloved of God, today we remember that we are a people formed in water and Spirit. We remember that Jesus stepped into the waters of the Jordan, not because he needed to be cleansed, but to show us what it means to be fully human—to say yes to God and yes to belovedness. Today we step into that yes again.

All: We long to begin again.

The One who stretches out the heavens is still stretching us—stretching our courage, stretching our compassion, stretching our capacity to love and to be loved.

All: We open ourselves to be stretched into new life.

Hear the good news:
Nothing is sealed.
Nothing is beyond mending.
The story is not over.
It has only just begun.

² Adapted from Rev. Michael Anthony Howard, UCC Worship Ways.

All: All is forgiven. All is being made new.

Blessing of the Water

Holy One, you moved over the waters at creation.
You carried your people through the sea and into freedom.
Your Spirit descended upon Jesus in the river.
Bless this water now.

All: Amen.

****Please Come forward** to the font of water for renewal with the words, **“Nothing separates me from the love of God. Amen.”**

Affirmation of Calling

We are the Body of Christ—
not alone, but together.
The Spirit that was in Christ is in us.

Leader: I now invite you to dip your hand into the bowl of water and take a stone to keep as a reminder of your baptism. Let us pray...

All: We are God's beloved.

This is our covenant.

This is our life together.

Amen.

Closing Hymn 281 “Spirit of the Living God”

Benediction³

Go in peace; love and care for one another in the name of Christ; and may the Spirit of God, which filled John and Jesus, fill your hearts, souls, and minds; **may the power of God, which upheld them, strengthen us each day;** and may the love of God, which directed their every action, be your guiding light and your shining star, **both now and forevermore. Amen.**

Response #345– God Be with You Til We Meet Again, vs. 1

Postlude: Celtic Melody – Mark Andrews

³ Written by Rev. Richard J. Fairchild and posted on his Kir-shalom website. Re-posted on the re:Worship blog at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/12/benediction-epiphany-1-b.html>.

Announcements
January 11, 2026

Our 1st quarter mission is. If you would like to donate to please indicate on your check in the memo line ".

1/11/26 9:30 a.m. Lay Service
Renewal of Baptism
1/18/26 9:30 a.m. Nicole Klosterman
Communion with Carol Fox
1/25/26 9:30 a.m. Nicole Klosterman

From the Mission Committee: This week we are asking for **BUTTER**. The following will be the regular rotation going forward:

1st Sunday Bread
2nd Sunday Butter
3rd Sunday Cheese (8-oz blocks)
4th Sunday Eggs
[5th Sunday Cheese]

The Mission for 1st Quarter (Jan.-Feb.-Mar.) is **Hunger Free Vermont**.

IMPORTANT:

We have begun using coffee hour, following worship on the third Sunday of each month, to provide the membership with updates on and answer questions about what's happening at the Church. On Sunday January 18, coffee hour will focus on The Third Century Fund capital campaign. In the meantime (or if you cannot attend), you can ask questions or comment by request at this link:www.peachammeetinghouse.org/contact

Information about Peacham Congregational Church

Weekly Worship – Sunday @ 9:30 a.m.

Interim Pastor.....Nicole Klosterman (802)-227-4956

Email: peachamchurchpastor@gmail.com

Please contact Nicole to schedule a visit or call.

Mon - availability varies

Tues 11 am - 2:30 pm

Weds - unavailable

Thurs - availability varies

Fri 9-11 am

Here is a link to schedule a pastoral care visit with

Nicole: <https://calendly.com/peachamchurchpastor/30min>

Email: peachamchurchinformation@gmail.com for general inquiries

Church Admin.....Patty Gardner Treasurer.....Bruce Westcott
Collector.....Ann Goss AccompanistBruce Westcott
Sexton.....Jeff Lane Web MinistryJonathan R. Potter
Church Council President & ModeratorJohn Marshall

Deacons:

Susan Chandler, Chris Danielson, Carolyn Deasy, Patty Gardner,
Anita Vann, Rick Witt, Bruce Maclean, Deacon Emeritus

327 I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

Unison

1. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be there when you heard the won - der of the word I was. 5. In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too 7. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you there to cheer you on; you were raised to praise the old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold. liv - ing God, to whom you now be - long. through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun. were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.

2. I was there when you were but a child, with a 4. If you find some one to share your time and you 6. When the eve - ning gen - tly clos - es in and you

faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your shut your wea - ry eyes, I'll be there as I have wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell. vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun. al - ways been with just one more sur -prise.

Fine

D.C.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me; Spir - it of the
liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me,
use me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

WORDS and MUSIC: Daniel Iverson, 1926

Daniel Iverson was a North Carolina Presbyterian minister who was moved to create this response while attending a revival service.

IVERSON
75.75.875

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O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

175

1. O sing a song of Beth-le-hem, of shep-herds watch-ing there,
 2. O sing a song of Naz-a-reth, of days of joy and sun,
 3. O sing a song of Gal-i-lee, of lake and woods and hill,
 4. O sing a song of Cal-va-ry, its glo-ry and dis-may,

and of the news that came to them from an-gels in the air:
 O sing of fra-grant flow-ers' breath, and of the sin-less One:
 of One who walked up-on the sea and bade its waves be still:
 of One who hung up-on the tree, and took our sins a-way:

the light that shone on Beth-le-hem fills all the world to-day;
 for now the flowers of Naz-a-reth in ev'-ry heart may grow;
 for though, like waves on Gal-i-lee, rough seas of trou-ble roll,
 for Christ who died on Cal-va-ry is ris-en from the grave;

of Je-sus' birth and peace on earth the an-gels sing al-way.
 now spreads the fame of Je-sus' name on all the winds that blow.
 when faith has heard the Sav-ior's word, falls peace up-on the soul.
 and Christ, our Lord, by heav'n a-dored, is might-y now to save.

WORDS: Louis F. Benson, 1899; alt.

MUSIC: Traditional English melody; coll. Lucy Broadwood;
 arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, *The English Hymnal*, 1906

KINGSFOLD
CMD

Louis Fitzgerald Benson elevated hymn standards when he edited the major 1895 revision of the Presbyterian hymnal.

LIFE AND MINISTRY