

The United Methodist Church  
12 Commerce Street  
Clinton, CT



***Celebrating the Baptism of  
Luca James Czubat  
Sawyer Reid Milardo-Ward***

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
June 21, 2026

## WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

\*Please stand in body, and/or spirit

Prelude

Welcome, Acknowledgements of first-time visitors and announcements

Words to Ponder: *“If in prayer I come before a throne of grace, the faults of my prayer will be overlooked.”* Charles Spurgeon

Introit

\*Call to Worship (Responsively)

L: Welcome! This is a time to celebrate and worship God who loves us!

**P: We are grateful and thankful for all God's blessings in our lives.**

L: We gather to remember that Christ gave his life for us.

**P: We humbly praise God for such a gift!**

L: Come, friends! Come and worship the God of love and hope.

**P: Praise be to God at all times and in all places! Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn

“God will Take Care of You”

No. 130

Opening Prayer (*Unison*)

**Holy God who created all that exists, we praise you. We open our hearts and our spirits this day to your eternal love and forgiving mercy. Be with us as we participate in this worship service. Remind us again that Jesus Christ gave his life that we might fully understand the depth and breadth of your love. In all things and at all times we praise you. Amen.**

1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Reading (Old Testament)

Genesis 21:8-21

*Abraham sends Hagar and Ishmael away, but God promises to make Ishmael's descendants into a great nation. When Hagar and Ishmael find themselves without food and water in the wilderness, God comes to their rescue.*

Leader: This is the Word of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

“I'm Going Up”

Chancel Choir

Children's Moment

Pastor Rhonda

**WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD**

\*Hymn

"I Need Thee Every Hour"

No. 397

Sermon

"Never Overlooked"

Pastor Rhonda

Call to Discipleship /Altar Call

*Celebrating and Remembering Fathers*

**Loving God, you who are our father and our mother, we come to you in prayer for fathers today. For some of us, our father's love is like God's love -- too deep, too long, too wide, too strong to measure. For some of us, God's love fills in the empty spaces our fathers left behind.**

**Throughout scripture we see images of fathers:**

**fathers like Joseph who are filled with grace and love, and fathers like Jairus and so many others seeking healing and wholeness for their beloved children**

**we see fathers like Paul who might not have biological children but who still parent an extended family of faith**

**fathers who parent through grief after the loss of a child like David and Adam**

**fathers parenting in an uncertain world like Noah**

**but we also see fathers like Abraham and Jacob and Jephthah who make mistakes parenting, and how those mistakes can become horrible sins.**

**We see absent fathers, indulgent fathers, forgetful fathers, abusive fathers in scripture, just as we do in our own lives.**

**Today, we acknowledge that this can be a messy day for some of us, but we also honor and thank the many types of good fathers in our lives. We give you thanks for those who show us grace and seek healing with us and who love us. Bless them. Help us to see them and support them.**

**We would also like to remember and pray for those for whom this day is not as joyful:**

**those who have lost a child, those who struggle with infertility,  
those who are single parents and thrust into roles as both mother and father,**

**those who may not always have a healthy relationship with their father or children, and those who have lost their dad, especially those who are spending their first Father's Day without him here.**

**Remind us all, God, that your love is shown to us in many ways, through many people, and help us be messengers of that love today. Amen.**



*Luca James Czubat*



*Sawyer Reid Milardo-Ward*

### **INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE**

Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we are initiated into Christ's holy Church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

## **PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATE**

A representative of the congregation presents the candidate:

I present *Luca James Czubat & Sawyer Reid Milardo-Ward* for baptism.

*Pastor Rhonda addresses parents and sponsors (Godparents):*

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you, do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

**I do.**

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

**I do.**

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church, which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

**I do.**

Will you nurture *Luca & Sawyer* in Christ's holy Church, that by your teaching and example *they* may be guided to accept God's grace for *themselves*, to profess *their* faith openly, and to lead a Christian life?

**I will.**

*Pastor Rhonda addresses the congregation and the congregation responds:*

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

**We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include now *Luca & Sawyer* before you in your care?

**With God's help, we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround *Luca & Sawyer* with a community of love and forgiveness that *they* may grow in *their* trust of God, and be found faithful in *their* service to others. We will pray for *them*, that *they* may be a true disciple who walk in the way that leads to life.**

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, [who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.]**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

### **THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray - Eternal God: When nothing existed but chaos, you wept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah, you saved those on the ark through water. After the flood, you set in the clouds a rainbow. When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea. Their children you brought through the Jordan to the land, which you promised.

**Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day.**

In the fullness of time, you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. He called his disciples to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations.

**Declare Christ's works to the nations, his glory among all the people.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit, to bless this gift of water and on *Luca & Sawyer* who will receive it, to wash away *their* sins and clothe *them* in righteousness throughout *their life*, that, dying and being raised with Christ, *they may* share in his final victory.

**All praise to you, Eternal God, through your Son Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns forever. Amen.**

### **BAPTISM WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS**

*Luca James Czubat*, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Sawyer Reid Milardo-Ward*, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Pastor Rhonda place hands on the head of Luca / Sawyer and says:*

The Holy Spirit work within you, that being born through water and the Spirit, you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*When Luca & Sawyer have been baptized, Pastor Rhonda invites the congregation to welcome them:*

Now it is our joy to welcome our new brothers *Luca & Sawyer* in Christ.

**Through baptism you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood. We are all one in Christ Jesus. With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you as a member of the family of Christ.**

### **COMMENDATION AND WELCOME**

Members of the household of God, I commend *Luca & Sawyer* to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase *their* faith, confirm *their* hope, and perfect *them* in love.

*The congregation responds:*

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

*Pastor Rhonda addresses Luca & Sawyer:*

The God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit that you may live in grace and peace. **AMEN.**

Offertory

\*Doxology

#95

\*Prayer of Dedication (*Unison*)

**On this lovely day, we praise and thank you, O Lord. We bring before you our gifts, our lives, our talents. Take all these gifts and use them for work in your kingdom. Bless the gifts and the givers of all gifts. Amen.**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns / Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (*Unison*)

**Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.**

\*Closing Hymn

“Trust and Obey”

No. 467

Benediction

God has given you all that you will need as you reach out in love and caring to others. Go into God's world bringing the good news of redemption and hope. In Jesus' Name, go in peace and may the God of Peace go with you always. Amen.

\*Response

“Bless Us Now”

Frank Milnes

Bless us now as we depart, Watch o'er us, God, while we're apart; Give strength to conquer daily strain, and bring us to Thy house again. Amen

## Postlude

Worship Resources

Call to Worship, Prayer of Dedication, Benediction

[https://ministrymatters.com/2020-05-05\\_worship\\_connection\\_proper\\_6\\_year\\_a/](https://ministrymatters.com/2020-05-05_worship_connection_proper_6_year_a/)

Opening Prayer, Yearning

[https://ministrymatters.com/2025-11-05\\_june\\_14\\_2026\\_third\\_sunday\\_after\\_pentecost/](https://ministrymatters.com/2025-11-05_june_14_2026_third_sunday_after_pentecost/)

### **SUNDAY, JUN 21**

9:00 Adult Sunday School

10:00 Worship

11:00 Missions Mtg.

### **TUESDAY, JUN 23**

10-2pm Clever Crafters

7:00 Bible Study Online

### **WEDNESDAY, JUN 24**

9:30 TOPS

5:00 Community Supper

### **THURSDAY, JUN 25**

10:00 Bible Study

7:30 Choir

### **FRIDAY, JUN 26**

5:30 AA meeting

This week we pray for... \*those with impaired health: Joe and Amanda Andrejcsk, Alice Reale, Melissa Bouffard, Dottie Capece, Ron Dangona, Michael McKinnon, Kathy Schuyler, Bev Engelhart, Patty Holdridge, Tom Symmes, Barb Vincelette, Sue & Bob Morrison, Marilyn Gerard, Jeffrey Harding, Ginny Hauser, Mike Loukides, Lyle Cubberly and Bev Bowen.

### ***June 21st***

Ushers: Dennis & Evelyn Scaglione, Sally Maxwell, Charlotte Parisi

Camera Operator: Val Gilcher

Video Coordinator: Erica Babjak

Worship Leader: Michael Babjak

Lectionary Scriptures: Genesis 21:8-21; Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17; Romans 6:1-11; Matthew 10:24-39

Sermon: Pastor Rhonda R. Taylor

Fellowship Host: The Hales

Counters: Jackie Blomberg, Gay McPhee

Music/Choir Director: Bob Hale

Organist: Patty Hurlburt

***New Office Hours***

9-12 weekdays

860-669-8396

Email: [office@clintonctumc.org](mailto:office@clintonctumc.org)

Financial Secretary: Jackie Blomberg/Treasurer: Carol Bell

Worship Resources

Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, Prayer of Dedication (adapted), Benediction

<https://ministrymatters.com/2020-05-24-worship-connection-proper-7-year-a-option-2/>

Father's Day prayer – written by Shannon Sullivan

<https://www.shannonesullivan.com/blog/a-prayer-for-fathers-day>