

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Second Sunday of Pentecost
June 14,2020
Second Congregational Church in Wilton,
United Church of Christ

WELCOME to the worship of God at the
Second Congregational Church in Wilton,
United Church of Christ.
We are glad you are here today!

Bold print means congregational participation.
An asterisk () indicates to please stand, if you are able.*

GATHERING FOR THE WORD
WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Strangers visit Abraham and Sarah, and they welcome them with a feast!

People: *Out loud but muted:*
How wonderful!

Strangers promise Sarah and Abraham a child in their old age!

People: *Out loud but muted:*
Too wonderful!?

Strangers leave Abraham and Sarah. To wait and ponder:

People: *Out loud but muted:*
“Is anything to wonderful for God?”

Let us worship our Wonder-full God!

***HYMN**

“Gather Us In”

INVOCATION

Holy One, who we so often don't recognize,
come into our midst and make your presence known!
Renew our strength, refresh our imaginations,
retool our weary efforts to carry your Peace into the world.
Amaze us with your power to make all things new
And let us face your world with curiosity and hope.
In the name of the One who leads us on the Way, Jesus, the Christ.
Amen!

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(inspired by Genesis 18: 1-15 and Matthew 9:35-10:8)*

Leader: Like Sarah and Abraham, we may be discouraged,
tired of waiting for a future that seems impossible

People: *Out loud but muted:*
Is anything too wonderful for God?

Oh God, you call us to seek you in all times and places, and work with courage to prepare
the way for your Kin-dom, but our resolve too often fails and we give up too soon.

People: *Out loud but muted:*
Holy One, Have mercy.

Oh God, you call us to offer peace to friends and strangers
to prepare the way to your Kin-dom,
but we fail to cultivate the spirit of peace in our own lives.

People: *Out loud but muted:*
Christ, have mercy.

Oh God, you call us to be full of joyful confidence to prepare the way for your Kin-dom,
but anxious doubt often burdens us and blocks our witness to your good news.

People: *Out loud but muted:*
Holy One, have mercy.

SILENT PRAYER ... in the name of Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Sarah laughed at first, doubting God's promise;
Sarah laughed at last, delighted at God's promise fulfilled.
May we laugh in hope and delight in pondering:
How wonderful: In Christ, our sins are forgiven!

People: *Out loud but muted:*
Thanks be to God!

*GLORIA PATRI Tune: GREATOREX

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.

ENGAGING THE WORD

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Matthew 9:35-10:8

SERMON

"I Realized I Can't Do It Alone"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT 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 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 and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

The Psalmist writes: I love our God, who heard my cries and prayers!
Let us offer our gifts to God at this time, to support the life and work of
the people of God in our community, and around the world.

*DOXOLOGY Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*DEDICATION PRAYER

People: *Out loud but muted*

Holy One, accept these gifts and multiply them
so that the wonder of your love, and justice and peace
may be known throughout the world!

GOING WITH THE WORD

*HYMN

“The Healing of The Nations”

*BENEDICTION

Go forth from this time together
With hearts open to the surprising, inexhaustible love of God.
Greet friends and strangers with the gifts of Christ:
Mercy, and justice, and joy.
Expect the Spirit to meet us wherever we are, in struggle, in grief, and in peace.
Ponder: Is anything too wonderful for God?

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor Kerry Richardson (Interim Pastor)

All the Congregation, Ministers to the World



A WARM WELCOME TO ALL GUESTS! If you are visiting us, we offer you a special welcome and invite you to stay for refreshments in the Parish Hall after worship. We would love to have you join us! Please sign our visitor's book, and if you are seeking a place to live out your faith, would like more information about this community of faith, or want to talk with someone about who we are and what we do, please speak with Pastor Kerry or one of the Deacons.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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