

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
August 2, 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

PRELUDE

“In Perfect Peace”

S. K. Riggs

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: The day breaks
All: *Out loud but muted*
And God does not let us go.

One: The hour calls
All: *Out loud but muted*
And God does not let us go.

One: The evening falls
All: *Out loud but muted*
And God holds us fast.

One: Let us turn to God in worship
All: *Out loud but muted*
God, who never turns from us.

***HYMN**

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a
Shout of joy: bread is broken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Jesus lives again
earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound

Christ is able to make us one, at the table he
Set the tone, teaching people to live to bless,
Love in word and indeed express.

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a
World of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Immanuel) everywhere!

Jesus lives again
earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound

*GATHERING PRAYER

One: God, you see us.
You see our struggles,
You see our difficulties.

All: Out loud but muted
You see our possibilities,
You see our promise.

Connect the dots for us, O God.
Soften the hard spots with your blessing.

All: Out loud but muted
Call us in our wandering to hear you say our names.
Satisfy our longings as with loaves and fishes and manna from heaven.

For you are a good God, a God present in the scramble,
And in the end, you always, always have a blessing.

All: Out loud but muted
For this and so much more,
we give you thanks, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess together

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God is present to us, but we don't always feel it.
God is good to us, but we can't always accept it.
Fact is, there are things within and around us
that attempt to step between us and our relationship to God's goodness.
There are things that we think, things that we do,
that act to separate us from God.
The church calls that "sin."

Let us confess our sins to God, in the presence of each other.

Silence

God of all mercy:
I confess that sin grips me and
I cannot break free.
The sins in my mind, on my lips,
in my acts done or even ignored
Stand between me and you.

All: *Out loud but muted*
My entire heart is not always yours.
My love of neighbor falls short.
In the name of Jesus,
Have mercy on me.

Grant me your renewing forgiveness.
Lead me on your paths of righteousness,
And I shall delight in you
And I shall follow you
Giving glory to your holy name.

All: *Out loud but muted*
Through Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: The God who gives, gives all.
The God who loves, loves all.
The God who forgives, forgives all.
Through Christ, our sins, every one of them:
the sins of commission,
the sins of omission,
the sins we confessed with contrition -
all are forgiven.

All: *Out loud but muted*
By the grace of God, we are forgiven. Alleluia!

***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 14:13-21

SERMON

“Can You Accept Your Situation?”

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

*CALL TO OFFERING

When resources were short, did Christ worry?
No! Christ saw the gifts, and Christ multiplied them!
This is the miracle we witness every time we give to the church.
God will take what we have, and God will do good things with it.
You are invited to give, and even to participate
in the miracle of God's multiplying acts.
This morning's offering will now be given and received.

*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.**

OFFERTORY DEDICATION

God of increase and bounty, Source of all good things:
we offer these gifts as a portion of that which you have given us.
May these gifts be as loaves and fishes
for those who find themselves in poverty or hunger.
May this act of giving bring about change:
change in our lives,
change in the lives we touch,
change in the systems that harm.

Through Christ, who gave so much to save. **Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

As grain that was scattered on the hillside
was gathered together and made into one loaf,
so too, are we, scattered at tables in our own homes,
are bound together around Christ's table and become one.

As grapes grown in the field
are gathered together and pressed into wine,
so too are we drawn together
and pressed by our times
to share a common lot
and are transformed into Christ's self-giving love for all.

God be with you.

**All: Out loud but muted
And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts

**All: Out loud but muted
We lift them up to God.**

Give thanks to God, Blessed Trinity

All: Out loud but muted

It is right to give God thanks and praise

Praise to you Divine Creator.
Thank you for the gift of life,
the beauty of nature,
the structure of the law
and your steadfast loving kindness.

Praise to you Divine Redeemer.
Thank you for sharing our human existence,
from birth through death to everlasting life
you have shown us a way worth emulating,
bringing healing and hope to those most in need.

Praise to you Divine Sustainer.
Thank you for the vision to see beyond the immediate,
a calm in the midst of storm,
the strength to build an ever expanding community
and the courage to bring about any change necessary within our lives.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION/REMEMBRANCE

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Holy God, descend your Spirit upon these gifts of grain and grape
that they might be for us the presence of the living Christ
and pour out your Spirit upon us
so that we might be taken, blessed, broken and distributed
so that others might know the blessings
of living in communion with you and one another.
Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours Almighty God, now and forever.
Amen.

BREAKING AND POURING

THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

THE DISTRIBUTION

THE BLESSING

May the presence of Christ, Body and Spirit, keep and preserve you to everlasting life.

THANKSGIVING

Let us pray.

All: Out loud but muted

**For the beauty of creation,
the gift of life and your presence with each of us,
even though we are physically distanced,
we give you thanks.
Work through us so that we might be channels
of your mission in the world,
to build your community on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.**

GOING WITH THE WORD

***HYMN**

O Christ The Healer We Have Come

O Christ, the healer, we have come to
Pray for health, to plead for friends. How can we fail to
Be restored when reached by love that never ends.

From every ailment flesh endures our
Bodies clamor to be freed; yet in our hearts we
Would confess that wholeness is our deepest need.

In conflicts that destroy our health we
Recognize the world's disease; our common life de-
clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?

Grant that we all, made one in faith, in
Your community may find the wholeness that, en-
riching us, shall reach the whole of human-kind.

***BENEDICTION**

God's peace: carry, keep and hold you.
God's love: nourish, bless and enfold you.
God's spirit: inspire, lift and mold you.

Almighty God: + Triune, holy and blessed
Be with you now and forever. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE
Edwards

"You Call Us, Lord"

J.D.

Please stay muted during the postlude and join our Virtual Coffee Hour
immediately following the service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPCOMING MEETINGS (via Zoom)

- Book Club - August 3, 10 AM
- Council Meeting - August 4, 7 PM
- Search Committee Meeting - August 5, 7PM

The Second Congregational Church in Wilton,
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PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor Kerry Richardson (Interim Pastor)
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music
Stephanie Oullette, Liturgist
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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