

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Fifth Sunday of Pentecost

July 5, 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** (Matthew 11:16-19)

Leader: Jesus says Come to me—Everyone!
When I play a joyful tune

People: **Out loud, but muted**
we'll dance!

When I sing a lament

People: **Out loud, but muted**
we'll weep!

When I chant for justice

People: **Out loud, but muted**
we'll sing along!

***HYMN** "Be Thou My Vision"

***INVOCATION**

Come to us, Holy One,
And immerse us in the beauty of life with you!
Come to us, Holy One,
And enliven our community with the intensity of your love
Come to us, Holy One,
And embolden our community with the urgency
of your justice
in the name of the One who calls us to play and to work in community,
Jesus, our beloved.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eugene Peterson's translation of Romans 7: 15-25 in
The Message offers a classic confession of our human struggle against sin:

Leader: I know that all God's commands are spiritual,

People: **Out loud, but muted
but I'm not.**

I decide one way,

People: **Out loud, but muted
but then I act another, doing things I absolutely despise.**

I decide to do good,

People: **Out loud, but muted
but I don't really do it;**

I decide not to do bad,

People: **Out loud, but muted
but then I do it anyway**

I truly delight in God's commands

People: **Out loud, but muted
But the power of sin sabotages my best intentions**

My decisions to do good don't result in actions:

People: **Out loud, but muted
Sin is there to trip me up.**

I've tried everything ...

People: **Out loud, but muted
Who can help me?**

*Invite silence for a time to ponder the contradictions of our lives,
and our need for God's generous grace.*

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The answer, thank God, is that Jesus Christ can and does help us.
He acted to set things right in this life of contradictions
where I want to serve God with all my heart and mind,
but am pulled by the influence of sin to do something totally different.
He calls us: Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy burdened.
I will share your yoke and make it light;
I will lead in the Way you desire to travel.

*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 11:16-19,25-30

SERMON

“Like a Child”

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

The treasure of God's glory is Jesus, shining in our hearts.
We hold this treasure in the earthen vessels of our lives.
Let us share freely of the gifts we have been given,
that the glory of God may be known
in the works of community, justice and peace.

*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

People: Out loud, but muted

Take and receive these gifts dear God,
bless and multiply them
that they may show the world your glory,
shining through our lives.

*HYMN

“Let us break bread together”

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.

Many: Out loud but muted
And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts

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

Give thanks to God, Blessed Trinity

Many: 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.

Many: 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

Nearer My God To Thee

*BENEDICTION

Go forth in peace to live into Jesus' most joyful command: Come to me!
And may we follow him into a rest that bears fruit in justice, love and peace
for each of us, and all of us.

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.

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