

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Eighth Sunday of Pentecost
July 26, 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 "Arioso" J.S. Bach

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52*

Leader: The kin-dom of heaven is like:

People: A tiny mustard seed that carries the life of a tree

The kin-dom of heaven is like:

People: A tiny portion of yeast that makes bread rise

The kin-dom of heaven is like:

**People: A tiny pearl of great price
that we would give all our "stuff" to have**

The kin-dom of heaven is like:

**People: A fishing boat filled with catch—good and bad together—
With fisherfolk wise to recognize the good.**

HYMN "Jesus, Priceless Treasure"

Jesus, priceless treasure, source of purest pleasure,
Truest friend to me: Ah how long I've panted, and my heart has
Fainted, thirsting, Lord, for thee! Thine I am, O spotless lamb;
I will suffer nought to hide thee, nought I ask beside thee.

In thine arms I rest me; foes who would molest me
Cannot reach me here. Though the earth be shaking, every heart be
Quaking, Jesus calms my fear. Sin and hell in conflict fell
With their bitter storms assail me

Hence, all fears and sadness, for the Lord of gladness,
Jesus, enters in. Those who love the Father, though the storms may
Gather, still have peace within. Yea, whate-er I here must bear,
Still in thee lies purest pleasure, Jesus, priceless treasure!

INVOCATION

Holy One,
you call us to find your kin-dom
already hidden in our world—
in tiny, transforming possibilities.
in beauty that calls us to surrender all;
in complicated choices that call for wisdom.
Reveal yourself here in this moment
And heighten our senses that we may find you
And join you in building this kin-dom of love, and hope, and peace.
In the name of the One who calls us to seek,
Jesus, the Christ. Amen

PRAYER FOR GRACE AND WISDOM *1 Kings 3:5-12*

In today's reading from 1 Kings 3, The Holy One asks Solomon,
newly come to the throne, to ask for any gift.
Solomon ponders,
and asks for the gift that will enable him to serve the people of God best:
an understanding heart, to know good from evil, and to lead the people in wisdom.
There were other reasonable gifts that Solomon could have chosen;
But he put the needs of the people at the center of his desire.

Let's take a moment in silence to consider our lives,
the many competing needs that confront us;
Let's ask for the discernment and wisdom that Solomon longed for,
that our choices may reflect generosity and the common good.

Silence

ASSURANCE OF GRACE *Psalms 119:129-136*

Holy One, your word gives light and understanding to all;
we open ourselves to you in prayer
and find you already in our hearts,
leading us in the way of justice, compassion, and peace;
calling us to find you in our neighbors' need as well.
We give thanks.

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 13:31-33, 44-52

SERMON

“Is It Worth It?”

*HYMN

“You Are My All in All”

You are my strength when I am weak, you are the
Treasure that I seek, you are my All in All

Seeking you as a precious jewel, Lord to give
up I'd be a fool, You are my All in All

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

Our God calls us to seek and find the hints
of the Kin-dom in our world,
and to nurture its growth among us.
We will use our gifts, tithes and offerings
to rebuild the body of Christ.

*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

Grow these gifts in your love,
Bless our offerings, our hearts and our hopes in your love
To make us worthy of your work for your Kin-dom in heaven,
And among us here, even now.
Fill these gifts and each of us with your goodness. Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

Go forth in Wisdom, in hope, in courage
With hearts open to recognize the signs of the reign of God in our midst,
and courage to create more space for grace in our lives and our world.

POSTLUDE

“Jubilate Deol”

C. Norman

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

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor Kerry Richardson (Interim Pastor)
All the Congregation, Ministers to the World
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Email for Church Administration
Del Mogaverq 2ccwilton@gmail.com
Church Phone Number: 603-654-9045
Website: 2ccwilton.org
Pastor Kerry: 603-620-0235
Email: kerrywrichardson@comcast.net



The Second Congregational Church in Wilton,
United Church of Christ
25 Gregg Street
P. O. Box 246
Wilton, NH 03086