

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Sixth Sunday of Pentecost
July 12 , 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

“The King of Love”

C. Gounod

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Today we worship with our hands as well as our hearts and voices.
With our bodies, we celebrate God’s word given to us,
in literal words, and God’s Word to us made flesh in Christ Jesus,
and known to us in our experience of life in creation.
Come to the table to enjoy the feeling of the earth
and to connect with God’s creation.
Our table is set with soil, seeds, water, and containers to plant the seeds.
I invite you to come to the table to plant a seed.

Join me in the spoken call to worship:

God visits the earth and waters it.

People: **Out loud, but muted**
Greatly enriching the earth.

God waters the earth, softening it with showers,

People: **Out loud, but muted**
And blessing the earth.

Along with the hills, the meadows, and the valleys,

People: **Out loud, but muted**
Let us shout and sing together for joy! (Based on Psalm 65:9-13)

***HYMN**

“In The Bulb There Is A Flower”

In the bulb there is flower, in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there’s a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There’s a song in every silence, seeking word and melody; there’s a dawn in every darkness bringing hope to you and me. From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity; in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity; In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see

INVOCATION

Loving God, you created life in us and all around us. Open us to receive your gifts of your world and your word that we may be not just hearers of the word, but doers also. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We acknowledge that we too often take for granted your gifts to us: our lives, this world, and your word to us. When we receive your word, may we nurture it so that it grows roots within us. May we not be distracted by the lure of wealth or the cares of the world. Let us be good soil, receiving your word, understanding it, and acting upon it. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (based on Romans 8:1-11)

We claim what the apostle Paul teaches: the Spirit of God dwells in you. You are forgiven and free. There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

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 13:1-9, 18-23

SERMON

“What Kind Of Soil Are You?”

*HYMN

“Come, Ye thankful People Come”

Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.
All is safely gathered in ere the winter storms begin.
God our maker, does provide for our wants to be supplied;
Come to God’s own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God’s own field, fruit unto his praise to yield,
Wheat and tares tighter sown, unto joy or sorrows grown.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear,
Lord of harvest grant that we wholesome grains and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his harvest home,
From his field shall in that day all offenses purge away,
Give his angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast
But the fruitful ears to store in his garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come to your final harvest home,
Gather all your people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,
There, forever purified, in your presence to abide.
Come, with all your angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home.

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 we give of our time, talent, or treasure to the church,
we offer back to God a portion of what we have been given.

***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.***

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Gracious God, filled by your generosity to us,
may we be generous to others.
Accept from us these gifts of word and money
as we commit our lives to you. Amen.

***BENEDICTION (Based on Isaiah 55: 12-13)**

As you tend the seed
tend the word in yourself.
While you wait for the seed to sprout,
meditate on a verse from the Bible.
Observe what happens when you memorize the verse.

Go out in joy and be led back in peace.
The mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,
And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Go from here in the joy of God,
secure in God's presence around you and within you

POSTLUDE

“All Hail the Power of Jesus Name”

Q. Holden

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

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