

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**Twenty-First Sunday of Pentecost**  
**October 25, 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**

“Blessed Jesus, At Thy Work”

J.S.Bach

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: You, O God, know our hearts.

All: **Guide our hearts, O God.**

One: You, O God, see our ways.

All: **Shape our ways, O God.**

One: You, O God, call our spirits.

All: **Call us now, O God, as we call on you.**

**\*HYMN**

“Be Still My Soul”

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side;  
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;  
leave to your God to order and provide;  
in every change he faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend  
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: your God will undertake  
to guide the future, as he has the past.  
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;  
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.  
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know  
the voice that ruled them here on earth below.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on  
when we shall be forever with the Lord,  
when disappointment, grief and fear are gone,  
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.  
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,  
All safe and blest we shall meet at last.

**\*GATHERING PRAYER**

Happy are we, O God, when our hearts are full,  
our ways are yours, our spirits enlivened by your call.  
Happy are we, O God, when our lives are guided by delight.  
We gather here today for just that, holy God.  
We gather to draw on all you would give us  
to be more fully yours. In Jesus' name. **Amen.**

**\*CONFESSION OF SIN**

Happy are those who turn away from the counsel of the wicked.  
But oh, that counsel can be so seductive -  
it draws us in, holds us fast, distracts our priorities,  
obstructs our capacity to love.

But we seek no obstructions, we reject wicked counsel.  
We embrace God's embrace.

For whatever ways we don't, we confess.  
In whichever ways we sin, we repent.

Hear our prayers, O God, as, before you, we seek wholeness.

*Silence*

When we have denied your invitation to the banquet of love and justice,  
or failed to extend the invitation to others,

**ALL: God of mercy, grace, reconciliation and goodness:  
We are sorry for so much - for words we cannot bear to say  
for memories we cannot bear to relive  
for thoughts we cannot bear to admit.**

**But you know our hearts.  
Relieve us of our burdens,  
Bind our hearts not to the unbearable but rather, to you  
So that, in all ways, we may live in the joy of your salvation  
And the delight of your loving embrace.**

*Silence*

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**One: Happy are we, holy people, when we walk in the ways of our God.  
Happy are we, beloved ones, as we receive God's forgiveness.**

**All: Happy are we, God's own,  
Because we are made whole, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**GLORIA PATRI Tune: GREATOR EX**

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 22:34-46

SERMON

**“What We Still Need Is Love”**

\*HYMN

**“God’s Love Made Visible”**

God’s love made visible! Incomprehensible  
He is invincible! His love shall reign! From love so bountiful,  
Blessings uncountable make death surmountable! His love shall reign!  
Joyfully pray for peace and good will! All of our yearning  
He will fulfill. Live in a loving way!  
Praise him for every day! Open your hearts and pray! His love shall reign!

God gave his Son to us to dwell as one of us,  
His blessing unto-us! His love shall reign! To him all honor bring,  
Heaven and earth will sing, praising our Lord and King! His love shall reign!  
Open all doors this day of his birth, all of good will  
Inherit the earth. His star will always be  
Guiding humanity through out eternity! His love shall reign!

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

Anyone who has ever loved knows that to love is to give -  
to give from the place we feel it most.  
This giving may be sacrificial,  
but the sacrifice is compromised if it cannot be done joyfully.  
May we join together in the delight of giving?

\*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

With what you see before us, God, we demonstrate our deepest love.  
Receive our gifts - our very best - as sweet offerings before you.  
May they be the blessing to others that they have been for us. Amen.

**\*BENEDICTION**

One: Almighty God bless and keep us  
All: Merciful God, make your face to shine upon us.  
One: The blessed and Holy Trinity  
All: Be with us now and forever.

POSTLUDE

“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty”

T. Canning

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Deacons Meeting - October 25, following worship

**Meetings Via Zoom**

- Book Club - October 26, 10:00 AM
- Budget Committee Meeting - October 27, 7:00 PM
- Search Committee Meeting - October 28, 7:00 PM
- Worship\* - November 1 - 9:30 AM, Holy Communion

*\*If you would like to participate in the candle lighting portion of the service, please have a candle.*

**Reminder**

Daylight Saving Time Ends - November 1

**PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

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

The Second Congregational Church in Wilton,

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