

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Twenty-Second day after Pentecost  
November 1, 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**

“We All Believe in One True God”

J.C. Bard“

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come all who are leaders in a turbulent time

**People:** *Out loud, but muted*

Explore God’s ways of justice, mercy, equity.

Come all who are leaders in a confusing time

**People:** *Out loud, but muted*

Hear God’s call to honesty, clarity, wisdom.

Come all who are leaders in a dangerous time

**People:** *Out loud, but muted*

Trust God’s ways of challenge, courage, presence.

**\*HYMN**

“For All The Saints”

For all the saints who from their labors rest, who  
Thee by faith before the world confessed, thy  
Name O Jesus, be forever blest.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might; thou,  
Lord their captain in the well fought fight;  
Though in the darkness drear, their one true light.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

But lo! There breaks a yet more glorious day; the  
Saints triumphant rise in bright array; the  
King of glory passes on his way.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth’s wide bounds and ocean’s farthest coast, through  
Gates pearl streams in the countless host,  
Singing Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

## INVOCATION

O Holy One,  
you have created us and placed us in community  
Complicated, fallible, searching.  
Open your words of life for us today as we gather  
to hear your Gospel, and sing your praises;  
show us the way to justice and peace  
that we may follow you joyfully  
into the future you hope for our world.  
In Jesus' name, **Amen.**

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess together

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Today's lessons all share the theme of leadership in community*

For the times when we have let complacency about our own circumstances  
take the place of advocacy for a just world for all

**People:** *Out loud, but muted*  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the times when we have let the appearance of faithfulness  
stand in for truly faithful effort

**People:** *Out loud, but muted*  
**Christ, have mercy.**

For the times when we have created burdens of injustice and inequality  
for others to bear

**People:** *Out loud, but muted*  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*Silence*

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

In Jesus Christ, our Messiah and teacher,  
we are forgiven and sent out to the world  
to model a leadership of justice for all,  
and joy in the reign of God.

## \*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 23:1-12

### SERMON

**“What Is The Point of Power?”**

**HYMN**

**“If My Peoples Hearts Are Humbled”**

If my people’s hearts are humbled, if they pray and seek my face  
If they turn away from evil, I will not withhold my grace  
I will hear their prayers from heaven; I will pardon every sin.  
If my peoples hearts are humbled, I will surely heal their land.

Then my eyes will see their sorrow, then my ears will hear their plea  
If my people’s hearts are humbled, I will set their nation free.  
If my people’s hearts are humbled, if they pray and seek my face.  
If they turn away from evil, I will not withhold my grace.

**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**

Paul reminds us of the “labor and toil” which flow into the proclamation of the Gospel.  
Let us share generously with the community gifts of time, talent, and treasure  
which will help to underwrite the ministry of this congregation and the wider church.

**\*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**

Living God, we are your people, we carry your presence.  
Use us and our gifts to accomplish your mission in the world.  
Multiply our effort to meet every need.  
This we pray in the name of Christ, whom with you and the Holy Spirit,  
reign in our hearts and lives, one God now and forever. Amen.

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES FOR ALL SAINTS.**

We remember all who have gone before us into your eternal splendor especially those  
in memory of whom we lit candles at the beginning of our worship and those of our  
faith community who have died in the last year . . .

We join them and all the angels and saints of heaven in the hymn of unending praise.

## HOLY COMMUNION

\*HYMN

“As We Gather At Your Table”

As we gather at Your table, as we listen to your word  
help us know, O god, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;  
teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love’s victory known.

Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;  
send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife.  
give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave;  
may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.

Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast  
where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.  
there no more will envy bind us nor will pride our peace destroy,  
as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

God be with you.

**People:** *Out loud, but muted*  
And with your spirit.

Lift up your heart

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

Give thanks to God.

**People:** *Out loud, but muted*  
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

### COMMUNION PRAYER

### THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION/REMEMBRANCE

### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Holy God, descend your Spirit upon these gifts of grain and grape,  
whether on this table or in the homes of your people,  
that they might be for us the presence of the living Christ.  
Pour out your Spirit upon us so that we might be reflections of your likeness  
in a hurting world 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 DISTRIBUTION

### THE BLESSING

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

## THANKSGIVING

One: Let us pray.

People: *Out loud, but muted*

Thank you most Holy God, for meeting us in this simple meal.  
May your presence within us ripple beyond us, ever expanding,  
until the day when you gather all your saints from the four winds  
to share in your eternal banquet. In all our words and actions may your  
name be praised now and forever more. Amen.

## GOING WITH THE WORD

### \*SENDING

Go forth from this time of worship  
as a flowing stream through a parched desert,  
pouring the love of God upon the hearts and lives  
of all you meet so that hope might take root and blossom.  
As you go, know that the God who created you,  
the Christ who redeems you and the Spirit who empowers you  
is with you today and ever more.  
Amen.

### POSTLUDE

“God is in My Heart”

L.A Warriner

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

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#### Meetings

November 4, Search Committee Meeting @ Parish Hall, 7:00 PM

November 9, Senior Book Club via Zoom, 10:00 AM

#### Worship Next Week

November 8, In Person Worship, 9:30 AM

### PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

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

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

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