

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Twenty-Third Sunday of Pentecost
November 8, 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 "How Many Are Thy Works, O God" J.Haydn

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16*

One: Call upon God's Wisdom

People: *Out loud, but muted*

All: She will answer!

One: Seek God's Wisdom

People: *Out loud, but muted*

All: She dwells in the midst of life.

One: Follow God's Wisdom

People: *Out loud, but muted*

All: She leads in the paths of light and generosity.

***HYMN** "Wake, Awake for Night is Flying"

Wake, awake, for night is flying, the watchmen on the heights are crying; awake, Jerusalem, at last Midnight hears the welcome voices, and at the thrilling cry rejoices; "Come forth, you maidens! Night is past. The bridegroom comes! Awake, your lamps with gladness take!" Alleluia! Prepare yourselves to meet the Lord, whose light has stirred the waiting guard.

Zion hears the watchmen singing, and in her heart new joy is springing. She wakes, she rises from her gloom, for her Lord comes down all glorious, the strong in grace, in truth victorious. Her star is risen; her light is come.

O, come, you Blessed One, Lord Jesus, God's own Son. Sing hosanna! We go until the halls we view where you have bid us dine with you.

Now let all the heavens adore you, and saints and angels sing before you. The harps and cymbals all unite. Of one pearl each shining portal, where, dwelling with choir immortal, we gather round your dazzling light No eye has seen, no ear has yet been trained to hear what joy is ours! Crescendos rise, your halls resound; hosannas blend in cosmic sound.

***GATHERING PRAYER**

Holy God,
We hear echoes of your Wisdom in Christ Jesus,
The One you sent to dwell in our midst
and lead us to abundant life.
Keep us alert to the call to follow,
ready to respond with justice and joy
in your holy moment,
which is always Now.

***CONFESSION OF SIN**

Amos 5: 18-24

Though we may delight to be here, together, in worship,
let us remember that the Prophet Amos offers us a word from God
to challenge any complacent comfort.
Our praise, our worship, our singing,
however beautiful and heartfelt,
must be accompanied by the work of justice in community.

What pleases God is to have justice pour from our lives like waters,
and righteousness from our work, like an ever-flowing stream.

So let us pause for a moment:
what parts of our lives, our community, our world,
are thirsting for waters of Justice and Righteousness

Silence

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

God’s grace flows through our lives, refreshing and making all things new.
Let this grace flow from us as justice and righteousness,
that our lives and work may bless our world. In Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

GLORIA PATRI Tune: GREATORIX

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 25:1-13

SERMON

“Are You Prepared?”

***HYMN**

“Hope Of The World”

Hope of the world, O Christ of great compassion;
speak to our fearful hearts by conflict rent;
save us your people, from consuming passion,
who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.
Hope of the world, God’s gift from highest heaven,
bringing to hungry souls the bread of life:
still let your Spirit unto us be given
to heal earth’s wounds and end her bitter strife
Hope of the world, afoot on dusty highways,
showing to wandering souls the path of light:
walk now beside us, lest the tempting byways
lure us away from you to endless night

Hope of the world, who by your cross did save us
from death and dark despair, from sin and guilt:
we render back the love your mercy gave us;
take now our lives and use them as you will.

Hope of the world, O Christ, o'er death victorious,
who by this sign did conquer grief and pain:
we would be faithful to your gospel glorious;
you are our Lord, and you forever 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

Readiness for Mission is one way to interpret
the diligence of the Wise Wedding Attendants.
Their lamps are filled and available to be sparked into light
at the moment the Beloved appears
to begin the wedding feast of justice, love and peace.

Let us be ready, too, with our tithes and offerings,
to support the work of our congregation and the wider church.

*DOXOLOGY Tune: OLD HUNDREDT

**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

Let us pray.

People: *Out loud, but muted*

**God, we have come, and given generously of our gifts.
Take, bless and multiply them
so that they may be a blessing in your world.
In Jesus' name. Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

Keep your lamps filled and your hearts open,
ready for the call of God.
Go in peace, counting on
the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit.
Amen!

POSTLUDE

“Petite Allemande”

G.Parker



PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

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

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

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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

