

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Transfiguration Sunday
February 14, 2021
Second Congregational Church in Wilton,
United Church of Christ
Bold print means congregational participation.

Welcome to the worship of God at the
Second Congregational Church in Wilton,
United Church of Christ.
We are glad you are here today!

An asterisk () indicates to please stand, if you are able.*

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"Melodie"

A. Grunfield

***CALL TO COMMUNITY**

One: Gathering in this sacred place
we anticipate new wonders each week.

Reader: **Wherever two or three are gathered to worship,
a holy spirit is present.**

One: Open our eyes to witness
the fantastic love and wondrous joy waiting to be revealed,
even this day, even in this place.

Reader: **We will want to linger and camp in this sanctuary
but when we leave today may our hearts be open
to all the wonders of God's beautiful world.**

***HYMN— NO. 480**

"I Open My Eyes, That I May See"

(Verses 1 & 3)

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth you have for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unlock and set me free.
Silently now, on bended knee, ready I wait your will to see;
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine.

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart, and let me prepare love with your children thus to share.
Silently now, on bended knee, ready I wait your will to see;
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine.

INVOCATION

O Holy One, on mountaintops and valley floors
you reveal to us the light of your love.
Our hearts desire is to bask in the amazing glory of the divine presence.
With each encounter we are changed and transformed.
Draw us nearer that we might receive a double portion of your Holy Spirit.
Help us, O Holy One, to live our lives as a reflection of divine glory.
May we walk among our siblings and friends as a blessing,
bearing light into dark places, hope to displace despair,
and love that casts out hate.
Our world is hurting
and we need the followers of Jesus to follow more closely.
Maybe then we will hear your voice speaking to us and saying,
... "listen to my Child, the Beloved!" **Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us, God, when we linger too long by the waters,
and on the mountain tops,
enthralled with the glory that flows from you.
When we fail to listen to your voice, leading and guiding us,
shake us from our contentment
and send us forward endowed with your power. **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The God of Elijah, the God of Moses and the God of Jesus
desires mercy more than sacrifice
and a contrite heart rather than burnt offerings.
Love God and do the right thing
and forgiveness shall be your friend
and mercy your true companion. **Amen.**

***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

ANTHEM

“Gather Us In”

M. Haugen

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Mark 9:2-9

SERMON

“A Change in Perception”

***HYMN—NO. 245**

“We Have Come at Christ’s Own Bidding”

We have come at Christ’s own bidding to this high and
Holy place, where we wait with hope and longing for some
Token of God’s grace. Here we pray for new assurance
That our faith is not in vain, searching like those
First disciples for a sign both clear and plain.
Light breaks through our clouds and shadows, splendor bathes the
Flesh-joined Word, Moses and Elijah marvel as the
Heavenly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts behold with wonder
How the Law and Prophets meet: Christ with garments
Drenched in brightness, stands transfigured and complete.
Strengthened by the glimpse of glory, fearful lest our
faith decline, we, like Peter, find it tempting to
Remain and build a shrine. But true worship gives us courage
To proclaim what we profess, that our daily
Lives may prove us people of the God we bless.

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.

VOCAL RESPONSE

“Wide Wide as The Ocean”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***OFFERING INVITATION**

Peter offered to build a tabernacle on the mountain with Jesus.
But God does not dwell in houses made with human hands.
Let us offer ourselves in service to those God loves.
Let us offer our sacrifices to build community,
bring peace, and be a double blessing
to those in need throughout the world. Amen

***OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

“Seek Ye First”

K. Lafferty

***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 these gifts we proclaim not ourselves but Jesus
and commit ourselves to follow a way that leads to love and life.
May our sacrifice be witness to our love for each other
and the God who loves us all. Amen

GOING WITH THE WORD

BENEDICTION

Now may the God who said,
“Let light shine out of darkness”
and has shone in our hearts,
give us light to bear to the world
that all may see and know that God is love. **Amen.**

***POSTLUDE**

“Moderato Cantabile”

L.V. Beethoven

*Please stay muted during the Postlude and join our
Virtual Coffee Hour immediately following the service*

Announcements/Meetings via Zoom

- Council Meeting, February 16, 7:00 PM
- Ash Wednesday Service, February 17, 7:00 PM

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

VOCALISTS

Hymns and Vocal Response: Deb Degan

Gloria Patri and Doxology:

Chris Blumm and Dana Dahl

Anthem: Darcy Bartsch

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United Church of Christ

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