ORDER OF WORSHIP Second Sunday Of Lent

February 28, 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 "Prayer" CM Weber

*CALL TO Worship

One: "Walk before me, and be blameless," said God to Abram,

Reader: "And I shall make my covenant between me and you." (Genesis 17: 1-2, paraphrased)

One: Quite openly, we've measured that distance.

Reader: Quite openly, we've stayed away.

One: Quite openly, we've distanced ourselves. Reader: Quite openly, we didn't want to be closer.

One: Quite openly, we are not blameless.

Reader: Quite openly, we are here.

We are here to open ourselves

to our In-between God.

*HYMN- NO. 252

"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

(Vs. 1, 3, & 4)

Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray, Teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.

As you did hunger and did thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord, To die to self, and so to live by your most holy Word.

And thro' these days of penitence, and thro' your passion-tide. For evermore, in life and death, O Lord, with us abide.'

INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We are quite open about our successes.

We feel free to boast when we have done well,

but we are not quite so open when things have gone wrong.

We do not praise God anyway.

Instead, we recognize the distance

between me and you

between you and God

between God and me.

Let's be quite open about it as we open ourselves to our Living God in silence

Extended prayerful silence.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

You can look behind.
You can search ahead.
God will meet you in between.
God promises to always be right there.
If you believe this to be so,
If you believe God is
between here and there
between me and you,
Share that peace with your neighbor.

*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 "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley" Spiritual

READING FROM SCRIPTURE Mark 8:31-38

SERMON "What Are you Willing To Do Without?"

*HYMN—NO. 253 "Lead Me to Calvary" (Vs. 1,3 & 4)

King of my life, I crown thee now, thine shall the glory be; Lest I forget thy thorn crowned brow, lead me to Calvary. Lest I forget Gethsemane, lest I forget thine agony, Lest I forget thy love for me, lead me to Calvary.

Let me, like Mary through the gloom, come with a gift to thee; Show to me now the empty tomb, lead me to Calvary. Lest I forget Gethsemane, lest I forget thine agony, Lest I forget thy love for me, lead me to Calvary.

May I be willing, Lord, to bear daily my cross for thee; Even thy cup of grief to share, thou has borne all for me. Lest I forget Gethsemane, lest I forget thine agony, Lest I forget thy love for me, lead me to Calvary

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

*INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Without talking back, Without asking questions, Let us move into God's love.

Let us go in-between with God to offer our gifts. Let us give God our thanks in our tithes and offerings.

*OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Be Still, My Soul"

H. Sorenson

*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 OF THE OFFERING

Reader: In-between God,

Bless these gifts with your love

So that we might share them quite openly With all who need your change. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

BENEDICTION (based on Mark 8:31-38)

One: Turn and look!

Reader: We want to become followers of Christ.

One: Turn and look!

Reader: We will speak quite openly.

One: Turn and look!

Reader: We will open ourselves to our In-between God.

*POSTLUDE "Glad Hosannas" C. Nordman

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)
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music
Kathleen Dube, Liturgist
All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

VOCALISTS

Hymns: Deb Degan #252, Darcy Bartsch #253
Anthem: Darcy Bartsch
Vocal Response: Deb Degan
Gloria Patri and Doxology:
Chris Blumm and Dana Dahl

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