

ORDER OF WORSHIP
March 7, 2021
Third Sunday In Lent (Amistad Sunday)
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

“What Wondrous Love”

Appalachian Folk Hymn

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Our lips sing praise and our whole selves rejoice
in the God who makes us free.

Reader: We gather, recognizing that not all human beings
have known this freedom.

One: The divine will was made known in Eden and in Egypt;
in Gettysburg and in Cape Town.

Reader: Born in freedom, redeemed from slavery,
our destiny in Christ is liberty.

***HYMN NO. 391**

“Will You Let Me Your Servant”

Will you let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you? Pray that I might
Have the grace to let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,
Here together on the road; we are here to
help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you,
In the nighttime of your fear; I will hold my
Hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping,
When you laugh I'll laugh with you; I will share your
Joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through

When we sing to God and heaven,
We shall find such harmony, born of all we've
known together of Christ's love and agony.

INVOCATION

Thankful are we for all the blessings of this life;
love, freedom, bounty and beauty.
The joy we know is beyond our words to speak.
We can only image the suffering and pain of human slaves,
past and present, which yearn from the depths of their souls

to know the freedom we enjoy.
We celebrate this day the heritage we have in the cause of human freedom.
We celebrate this day our spiritual ancestors
who worked for the freedom of the Mendi people on the slave ship, Amistad.
May that ship, like the cross, remind us of the ever present possibility of human evil.
And may that ship, like the cross, remind us of the power of divine love.
May we, through divine love,
shed the false, un-neighborly, covetous and dishonorable desires
of the lives we sometimes live
and keep the commandments and walk in the way that brings life. **Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

In this season of Lent we reflect on those things
that lead us away from the life we desire.
We focus on whatever we do that oppresses and enslaves others
who, like us, are created in the image of the divine.
And now we seek the grace that frees us to live in faithfulness to holy love. **Amen**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The God of who brought the Israelites out of Egypt,
is the power that frees us from our sin.
Live in the grace of God's love
as you walk in the way of Jesus
and surely you shall find mercy at the end of that road. **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

"Beneath The Cross Of Jesus"

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

John 2:13-22

SERMON

"Overturn Us!"

***HYMN NO. 72**

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be
Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me
Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above

Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love
Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside
Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER

VOCAL RESPONSE

“Be Still and Know That I am God”

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Our tokens offered here
are but symbols of our lives of sacrifice lived every day.
May we give ourselves to the world as a holy offering acceptable to you,
O God, our rock and our redeemer. **Amen.**

*OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“We Are Not Alone”

P. Chopin

*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

Reader: Receive these gifts, Holy One,
sanctify them by your Spirit.
Drive away any ill motives
and accept, we pray, our humble offering. **Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

*HYMN NO. 689

“One Bread, One Body”

One bread, one body, one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many throughout the earth
We are one body in this one Lord

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
Woman or man, no more.

One bread, one body, one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many throughout the earth
We are one body in this one Lord

Many the gifts, many the works,
One in the Lord of all.

One bread, one body, one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many throughout the earth
We are one body in this one Lord.

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
Gathered to one, for all

One bread, one body, one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many throughout the earth
We are one body in this one Lord

COMMUNION PRAYER

May God be with you
Reader: And also with you.

Lift your hearts.
Reader: We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the God we love.
Reader: We freely give God thanks and praise.

It is right and meet, beautiful and holy
that we should, in ceaseless joy
Give our thanks and praise to you,
Holy and merciful God,
Through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

And so, in grateful procession of endless praise
With the church that is, was, and shall be forever,
We glorify you, joining this unending song:

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy...

BREAKING AND POURING

Holy are you, Eternal One.
You sit above, through, within the circle of the earth
Setting light into being, casting the stars in the sky
Founding the evolving earth, and all that dwell within it.

Limitless is your power, and great is your wisdom.
You look upon the lowly, As your most cherished creatures.
You visit upon the downtrodden
With presence, grace, and the promise of eternal justice.

You sent to us your own child, Jesus,
Who reached into unexpected places,
Calling women beyond the limits of their times
Equipping men for nurturing love
Welcoming children into your holy embrace.

And so we recall that on the night of betrayal and desertion,
The light of the world took bread, broke and gave it to the disciples, saying:
“This is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”
And, in like manner, after supper,
Jesus took the cup and after giving thanks give it to them saying,

“This is the cup of the new covenant [in my blood]
poured out for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink of it, for the remembrance of me.”

Life’s greatest feast before us,
We excitedly proclaim:

**Reader: Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.**

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Dear God, you transform. You transform all that is before you
So that at the touch of your grace We are never the same.

Dear God, you illumine. You bring light to all peoples
Light to the nations, Light into our hearts, Light on your Way.

Dear God, we pray for your Spirit. Transform, illumine, bless.
Make these ordinary gifts of bread and cup
Into the extraordinary presence of Christ with us.

**Reader: In so doing, Hold us as your own
Renew us as your people. For the sake of the world you love.**

THE BLESSING

For all honor and glory are yours, O God, Through Jesus Christ,
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit in your glorious creation
Both now and forever. **Amen.**

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.**

DISTRIBUTION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us pray:

**Reader: We have been fed, Holy One, by your presence.
We have been led, Eternal One, by your light.**

May we bask in this glow, Now and forevermore. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

*BENEDICTION

May God bless and keep you. May God's face shine through yours.
And may the glorious, God protect and keep you, all the days long. Amen.

*POSTLUDE

"Jubilate, Amen"

N. Charles

Please stay muted during the Postlude and join our

Announcements

- Deacons meeting following worship.
- Senior Book Club, March 8, 10:00 AM
- Search Committee Meeting, March 10, 7:00 PM

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

VOCALISTS

Hymns: Darcy Bartsch #391 and #689
Chris Blumm & Dana Dahl #72
Anthem: Chris Blumm & Dana Dahl
Vocal Response: Dana Dahl
Gloria Patri and Doxology:
Chris Blumm and Dana Dahl

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