

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**Fourth Sunday Of Lent**  
March 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**

“Savior Source”

Mozart

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Beloved in Christ, why have you come to worship this morning?

Reader: **We come to celebrate the love of God  
in the form of Jesus Christ.**

One: This love reaches through the shadows of our lives to embrace us.  
Our challenge is to trust the light of God’s love  
in the midst of our struggles.

Reader: **We come to celebrate the light of God in Jesus  
who offers love and acceptance, not judgment and rejection.**

One: If only we will trust, Jesus leads us in the way of light and love.

Reader: **We come to celebrate our God who loved and loves us so much!**

**\*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

**LENTEN CENTERING FOR PRAYER**

**PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION**

O God of Comfort and God of Challenge,  
we come to you this morning the way the Israelites did,  
full of complaints and dissatisfaction.

Nothing is enough;

we do not recognize your blessing at work in our day to day lives.

Reader: **Forgive us.**

In our complaints, challenge us as you did the Israelites,  
to consider the bigger picture  
of oppression, injustice, and inequality around us.

**Reader: Forgive us when we close our eyes  
for fear of what you might show us;  
Lift up loving and compassionate leaders  
to open our eyes until we see what you see in our world.**

#### **ASSURANCE OF BLESSING**

You are blessed because God's image resides deep within each of you.  
So return God's blessing by the way you love others.

#### **\*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**

#### **ANTHEM**

"The Old Rugged Cross"

Trad. Hymn

#### **READING FROM SCRIPTURE**

John 3:14-21

#### **SERMON**

"What Light Can We Bring?"

#### **\*HYMN—NO. 562**

"We've a Story to Tell the Nations"

(Vs 3 & 4)

We've a message to give to the nations, that the Lord who  
reigns high above has sent us his Son to save us, and  
Show us that God is love, and show us that God is love.  
For the darkness shall turn to dawning,  
and the dawning to noonday bright;  
And Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth,  
the kingdom of love and light.

We've a Savior to show to the nations, who the path of  
sorrow has trod, that all of the world's great peoples might  
Come to the truth of God, might come to the truth of God.  
For the darkness shall turn to dawning,  
and the dawning to noonday bright; and  
Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth,  
the kingdom of love and light.

#### **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**

"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### \*OFFERTORY DEDICATION

Consider the steadfast love of God in every breath you breathe.  
May that steadfast love inspire you to give generously.  
so that we may live into God's Reign of peace and compassion  
through the offerings of our own church.

### \*OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"I Want Jesus To Walk With Me"

J. Raney

### \*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: O Generous One, we give thanks to you  
for your steadfast love endures forever.  
May these gifts be used to feed the hunger and satisfy the thirst  
Of all those you love throughout your creation. Amen.

## GOING WITH THE WORD

### BENEDICTION

Let us rejoice: God so loves the world!  
May God your Maker  
send you back into the world  
with creative energies refreshed.  
May Christ the Light  
illuminate your fearful moments.  
And may the Holy Spirit of steadfast love  
guide you until we worship together again.  
This day and forevermore. **Amen!**

### \*POSTLUDE

"My Heart is Ever Faithful "

Bach

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

## Announcements/Meetings via Zoom

- Missions Meeting, March 15, 10:00 AM
- Council Meeting, March 16, 7:00 PM



### **PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Pastor Kerry Richardson (Interim Pastor)  
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music  
Rebecca Kennedy, 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

### **VOCALISTS**

#### **Hymns**

Deb Degan #562, Darcy Bartsch #253

#### **Anthem & Vocal Response**

Darcy Bartsch, Dana Dahl, Deb Degan, Paul Martin,  
Loretta Smith, & Marilyn Warner

#### **Gloria Patri and Doxology**

Chris Blumm and Dana Dahl

### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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