

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 2, 2021
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

“Arioso”

J.S. Bach

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: As we gather, may we open our hearts to receive newness of life.

Reader: **We come with hope for renewal.**

One: In our time of worship, may we be inspired by God’s wisdom.

Reader: **We come seeking to learn and to draw closer to God.**

One: Come, let us worship, as the beloved children of God.

***HYMN NO. 306**

“Alleluia! Jesus is Risen”

Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Trumpets
resounding in glorious light! Splendor, the Lamb,
Heaven forever! Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!
Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

Walking the way, Christ in the center Telling the
story to open our eyes; Breaking our bread,
Giving us glory: Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.
Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

INVOCATION

One: Cultivating God,
we come as your children to grow and learn,
because you are our divine vine grower.
God, we desire for you to abide within us,
and for your grace to be revealed anew daily.
As your branches, we ask you to nourish us for continued growth.
May you transform our hearts and minds
as we hear your Word, sing your praises,
and engage in holy dialogue through prayer.

Reader: **May you help us to bear good fruit through
the vine of Jesus Christ. In Whose name we pray, Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: O God, giver of life, We confess the times when we fail to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.
God, forgive us when we ignore or we fail to see our neighbors in need.
Abiding God, also forgive us when we reject love from others, and shut down completely.
As we confess the times when we did not tend to our own needs, and denied ourselves of your forgiveness and grace.
In our failures, we have refused your invitation to grow closer to you.

Reader: In our confession, O God, we pray your abiding love be shown through the ways we love more fully. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

O God, hear your beloved community as we repent and pray for your forgiveness.
Give to us your grace and restore to us your love that is forgiven and fearless.
God, we desire for your loving Spirit to renew and strengthen us daily. 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

“Communion Prayer”

P. Mock/R. Nichols

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

John 15:1-8

SERMON

“It’s Pruning Time”

*HYMN NO.

“O Come to Me the Master Said”

O come to me, the Master said, my Father knows your need;
And I shall be, the Master said, your bread of life indeed.
By faith in him we live and grow and share the broken bread,
And all his love and goodness know, for so the Master said.

Believe in me, the Master said, for I have called you friends,
And yours shall be, the master said, the life that never ends.
And so, with sin and sorrow past, when death itself is dead,
The Lord shall raise us up at last, for so the master said.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER

VOCAL RESPONSE

“Hymn of Promise”

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Today we are invited to become deeply attached, close, and loyal as branches who are connected with Jesus Christ, our vine. In other words, we are to bear fruit with a spirit of love by helping each other, reaching out to each other, and encouraging each other in our daily faith pilgrimage. As it is written in the wisdom book of Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, that

“Two are better than one, because if they fall, one will lift up the other; but for the one who is alone and falls, there is not another to lift that person up.”

So, let our offering lift up one another in God’s love that abides in times of sadness, loss and grief.
Let our offering lift up one another in God’s love that abides in times of hopelessness, brokenness and failure.
Let our offering be a thanksgiving of God’s love that abides within us times of hopefulfulness, forgiveness, unity, and peace.
And let us accept God’s invitation to be ever-present in times of deep despair, and in times of great joy.
Now, let us offer ourselves in gratitude and with generosity, as fruits representing the abiding goodness of God.

*OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“O God, Our Help, Our Hope”

M. Parks

*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

Generous God,
We offer you the fruits of our time, talents and resources in celebration of all that we have been given.
Loving God, we give you thanks for all that we have and ask a special blessing on the fruits we have given back to help meet the needs of your beloved community.
May the gifts nourish and strengthen the community to grow spiritually, emotionally, and physically.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

*HYMN NO. 701

“There’s A Quiet Understanding”

There’s a quiet understanding when we’re gathered
In the Spirit; it’s a promise that he gives us, when we
Gather in his name. There’s a love we feel in Jesus,
There’s a manna that he feeds us; it’s a promise that he gives us,
When we gather in his name.

And we know when we’re together, sharing love and understanding, that our brothers and our sisters feel the Oneness that he brings. Thank you, thank you, thank you, Jesus, for the way you love and feed us, for the many ways you lead us,
Thank you, thank you, Lord.

COMMUNION PRAYER

DIALOGUE

One: Christ is Risen!

Reader: **Christ is risen indeed!**

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit;

Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love:

We praise you for Jesus Christ, who reminds us that even in fear-filled days, cloaked with the powers of death, your eternal love arises, and never leaves us.

For we rejoice with all your people and with the angels, because life is stronger than death!

As we proclaim the glory of your name:

SANCTUS

Holy is Jesus, God Incarnate, the Risen Christ,
whose mercy gathers us together in community,
whose grace meets us in our brokenness,
and whose loving faithfulness gives us renewed hope.

STORY OF THE MEAL

In this meal, we remember Jesus, his promises,
and the price he paid for who he was, what he said,
and what he did; for our benefit.

On the night before Jesus died,
He took a loaf of bread,
Gave thanks, broke it, and said,

“Take and eat, this is my body, given for you.
Do this, in remembrance of me.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup and poured, saying,

“This is the cup of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith:

Reader: **We remember Christ’s life of love, and friendship, and teaching,
We remember Christ’s dying, and rising to life again.**

PRAYER TO THE SPIRIT

Bless this bread and this cup,
the wheat and the grape, the farmer and the harvest,
the seed and the sower.

These simple elements are shared in community,
so that we may taste and see your goodness

and become one body in Christ.

Reader: For it is through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
that all glory is yours, God most holy,
now and forevermore. 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.

BREAKING AND POURING

One: The body of Christ,
Reader: the bread of life.

One: The lifeblood of Christ,
Reader: the cup of blessing.

One: The gifts of God for the people of God.
Reader: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us pray:
O Christ, we thank you for this feast of life.
Fed by your love and strengthened by your life;
we humbly accept your call to go
into this world to live with hope, and to share your joy.

Reader: You commission us to feed as we have been fed,
forgive as we have been forgiven, and love as we have been loved.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

GOING WITH THE WORD

*BENEDICTION

Let us go forth thankful that we have come.
Let us go forth renewed in God's abiding love.
And let us go forth rejoicing in the Good News,
of Jesus Christ, whose love will never let us go. Amen.

*POSTLUDE

"Trumpet Tune"

J. Clarke

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



Announcements

Mother's Day, May 9

Senior Book Club, May 10—10:00 AM

Search Committee Meeting, May 12-7:00 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

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

VOCALISTS

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

Gloria Patri and Doxology
Chris Blumm and Dana Dahl

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

