

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Seventh Sunday After Pentecost
July 11, 2021

Second Congregational Church in Wilton,

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

United Church of Christ

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

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(based on 2 Samuel and Psalm 24)

Leader: Come, let us come into the House of the Holy One with song and dance.

People: **We have come to worship our God,
the Creator of heaven and earth, seas and rivers,
and all that dwells within.**

Leader: The Lord of the Dance beckons us
to join in this time of celebration and joy...

People: **That we might know that we are gathered in God's holy place.**

Leader: We join the psalmist with songs of the glory of the God of Hosts.

People: **We seek to know God's faithfulness and wisdom.
Let us enter God's rhythm of life
and follow in the ways of the Word.
God will bring us home where dancing and joy will never end!**

***HYMN NO. 59**

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O God, we have no life apart from you. We do not come here to eat bread that fills us for a day. Rather we come to be nourished by you and that the love you have for us fills us for a lifetime. May this food strengthen our discipleship. Grant that it will renew in us our commitment to proclaiming the gospel of peace and justice in the name of Christ Jesus. Amen

CALL TO CONFESSION

This is a moment given by God to confess our sins
against each other, all that God has created, and God.
Let us take this moment to account
for the ways in which we have not embodied
what it means to be created in the image of God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Holy God, we confess that too often we have not been open to the rhythms of life you offer to us.
We let ourselves be put off your pace
and allow ourselves to wander off into our own songs.
Too often the melodies of the world confuse us.
We have led ourselves and others to paths
that are not according to your loving pace and direction.

People: Help us pay attention with all of our senses.
Make our dancing faithful;
help us take the risks that are part of letting you lead.
Pull us back into your rhythms.
Clean our hearts, purify our hands and steady our feet
that we might know and share your blessings.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The God of Hosts assures us that if we trust God's Word, we will be led back to the songs that God would have us sing. God is eager to show us the path home. Accept the offer of the new song we have been given through Jesus the Christ.

*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

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Mark 6:14-29

SERMON

*HYMN NO. 677

"Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

When David danced rejoicing before the Arc of the Covenant, his joy was not complete until he had made an offering of thanks, and distributed gifts of food and drink to all who were in need. Perhaps the most joyful and challenging of all the commandments is to generosity and mutual care: to love one another as God loves us. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude, heartfelt commitment, and praise.

***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.

BLESSING OVER THE GIFTS

Beloved Jesus, you surprise us by naming us your friends.
Your dance of faithfulness and life, open before us a way of unexpected
justice, mutuality and joy. Take these gifts and bless them and let them
serve your people at home and throughout the world, all of us,
your cherished friends.

GOING WITH THE WORD

***BENEDICTION**

Go forth into the world in faithfulness. Join all those who have danced with the
Lord throughout the generations. Take the song and rhythm of God's Word into
the world and invite others to celebrate the joy with you. Amen.

***POSTLUDE**

Flowers placed on the altar this Sunday are given
by Ray and Lori Dick in memory of loved ones



Announcements

Pastor Kerry will be away during the month of July.
If you have a pastoral need or concern
please contact the church office (603) 654-9045 and leave a message.

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor Kerry Richardson (Interim Pastor)
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music
Guest Worship Leader, Joshua Bartsch
Ingrid Howard, Liturgist
All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

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