

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**Eighth Sunday After Pentecost**

July 18, 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**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

*(Psalm 23, adapted)*

One: As God is our shepherd we need nothing else.

Many: **We rest in green pastures and walk by still waters,  
which renews and refreshes our spirits.**

One: God guides us along paths of righteousness

Many: **And walks with us through shadowed valleys so we are not afraid.  
The shepherd's staff comforts us.**

One: God set the banquet table for us in the presence of our enemies.  
There, we're anointed with oil and our cup overflows.

Many: **Goodness and mercy shall never depart from us  
as long as we dwell in the house of God.**

**\*HYMN NO. 625**

**All Who Love and Serve Your City**

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Caring and Gracious God, you are the shepherd who gathers us together today to celebrate with grateful thanksgiving the community in which we live. We are nourished by its diversity, brought about by the unique gifts each person contributes. Be with us in this time of worship and encourage us to never cease welcoming the strangers we meet and accepting the gifts they bring. Grant that they will enrich our lives and will be a reminder of the joy that comes when all will be one in you. Amen.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Let us confess together...

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

O God, we live in a diverse community. There are people of different colors and abilities. There are people with different sexual orientations. There are people on the left and the right, young and old, rich and poor. Yet, our church doesn't reflect this diversity. We would love others as you do, but we can't.

We've erected walls built upon our biases, fears, and insecurities that keep us apart. Forgive us that we cannot love as unconditionally as you. Help us to take down those walls so we may welcome the stranger and truly be one community together. Amen

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

We know we fall short in our discipleship. We've confessed our sins before God. We look to God to repent of our sins and transgressions. By God's overflowing steadfast love and mercy we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

## **\*GLORIA PATRI TUNE: GREATOR EX**

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 6:30-34, 53-56

### **SERMON**

A Biblical Food Event

### **\*HYMN NO. 550**

We Are The Church

### **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.

### **PRAYER RESPONSE**

### **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

Think of the beginning of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm and the words we pray every week, "Give us this day our daily bread." Taken together, God promises to provide us with what we need to live today so we may see tomorrow. When we think of what we actually have, though, we have more than enough. We give honor and thanks to God when we make our generous offering from our abundance.

### **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

### **\*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.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Thank you, God, for the ministries of the people of your church.  
Thank you, God, for the bounty of your blessings you have poured out upon us.  
We have taken a portion of our abundance and given it to you in grateful thanksgiving. Consecrate this offering. May it help to support the ministries of this church that will dismantle the walls that divide us so all people will be one in the new family gathered in Christ Jesus. Amen.

## GOING WITH THE WORD

### \*BENEDICTION

Jesus taught us that when we welcome the stranger we create a new community where all are one in God. Let us continue the work that Jesus started by welcoming the strangers who cross our paths knowing that God is with us and protects as we pursue our ministries of healing and hope. Proclaim God's glory through your work. Go in peace.

### \*POSTLUDE

Praising God's glory the altar flowers are given by Sue Warren  
in loving memory of her Mom, Frieda E. (Jowders) Warren.



## 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, Dana Dahl  
Guest Organist, Dick Boutwell  
, Liturgist  
All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

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### CONTACT INFORMATION:

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