

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

July 25, 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**

One: We join together as hungry eaters
to be nourished by the food that you offer us.

Many: **God of sustenance, give us this day our daily bread.**

One: As you care for the wheat fields that turn into bread
and the vineyards that labor to produce sweet wine,
tend to our bodies by feeding us what we need for healthy growth.

Many: **God of abundance, give us this day our daily bread.**

One: The rich crops that you have prepared are now ready
to be harvested by our hands and our hearts.

Many: **Holy Spirit, come! Give us this day our daily bread.**

***HYMN NO. 665**

Break Now The Bread Of Life

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Holy Chef,
may we savor the dishes that you have prepared for us this day.
With each bite of your holy feast, enliven our senses so that we may delight
in the new and tantalizing flavors you have created.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Great Provider, we recognize that widespread hunger is no longer necessary.
You have given us humans the resources to feed all people,
yet we are selfish. While we overfill our bellies with food
and lay to waste the spaces needed for crops to flourish,
others are crying out for crumbs from our tables.
Living God, cultivate within our hearts reckless generosity,
and plant within us spirits of simplicity and balance in body and soul.

(Moment of silence and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Though at times we fail to be generous,
your generosity toward us is never-ending!
By sending Christ and the Spirit to your people,
you have extended generosity beyond measure.
Let us now do the same by greeting each other with a sign of peace.

*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.

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE OFFERING

ENGAGING THE WORD

ANTHEM

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

1 Thessalonians 5:12-24

SERMON

“Some Things Happen for a reason”

*HYMN NO. 669

“Jesus, Come, for We Invite You”

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

Jesus said, “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”
As we have been granted great abundance,
let us offer up those blessings in God’s name.

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.

DEDICATION

God of wonders, who enabled Jesus and Elisha to feed the multitudes,
bless these gifts and use them to fill empty stomachs and empty hearts.
May our offerings be multiplied to abundantly nourish all the people.

GOING WITH THE WORD

*BENEDICTION

God's love is overwhelming!
As we have been fed this day,
let us go and offer food and drink to others.
Grant us holy instincts of faith
as we trust in you, O God, to place the final touches
on our culinary masterpieces. **Amen.**

*POSTLUDE

Praising God's glory the flowers are given by
Kevin and Sue Jean in loving memory of Sue's father, Allen W. (Rollie) Jowders.



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, Lamar Smith
Jane Herlihy, Liturgist
All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

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