

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost
October 17, 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**

(Mark 10:35-45)

One: We may come here for a glimpse of glory,

Many: **But Jesus asks us: “Can you drink the cup that I drink?”**

One: The cup of Jesus’ own life: struggle and joy; suffering and hope.
Fullness of life! We may come here to get close to Jesus,

Many: **And Jesus asks us: “Can you be baptized with my baptism?”**

One: Baptized into the reign of God,
where the Spirit breaks down barriers among all people
and creates new relationships! We may come here for honor or fame,

Many: **But Jesus challenges us: “To become great you must serve!”**

One: Why are we here?

Many: **To drink the cup of fullness of life;**

To immerse ourselves in Jesus’ struggle for justice and peace;

To learn how to serve so that the world may be healed.

***HYMN NO. 1**

“God Is Here!”

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

(Psalm 91:9-16; Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c)

**Holy Dwelling Place,
Your tent is wide enough to provide
shelter for all who seek you,
food for all who hunger,
and healing for all who suffer.
Meet us here today, and fill us with confidence in your presence,
that we may risk sharing Jesus’ cup and his baptism
so the world may become the place of love and justice you desire for all.
Shelter us with your light,
and clothe us with your heavenly garments.
Teach us how we may best serve ourselves and one another
on this daring adventure. Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us Confess together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(Isaiah 53:4-12)
(Unison)

Divine Shepherd, like sheep we go our own ways.
With our heads to the ground and our attention turned elsewhere,
we often fail to heed the gentle nudge of your staff and your calls for home.
With so many things to distract us—
work, school, and the general busyness of life—
we lie unresponsive to your calls to kin-dom service.

(Moment of silence and reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Protector Jesus, you came among us
in order to shelter us from the cold of night and forests of danger.
In your presence, we are in green pastures!
In you we are forgiven, and called once again to serve,
and create with you a world of justice and peace for all.

*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 10:35-45

Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do for us whatever we ask." "What do you want me to do for you?" he asked. They replied, "Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory." "You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said. "Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?" "We can," they answered. Jesus said to them, "You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared." When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

SERMON

"But What About Me?"

*HYMN NO. 391

"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant?"

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

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Jesus came not to be served but to serve.
Let us follow this example and share our gifts
so that we may also experience the joys and challenges of serving.

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 DEDICATION**

(Unison)

Parent God, may this offering assist us
in continuing Christ's work in the world
to heal the grief, transgressions, and illnesses
that oppress and harm your creation. Amen.

***HYMN NO. 559**

"Here I am, Lord"

GOING WITH THE WORD

***BENEDICTION**

(Isaiah 53:4-12)

Our lives are filled with struggles and suffering—
none of us are immune.
The key to full life in Christ is not to rise above it,
but to struggle together and help one another along the way,
knowing that God is with us in every moment.
This is service.
If we seek to serve and lift one another up,
committing to struggle together,
together we will witness Christ's glory.
So be it!

***POSTLUDE**

Praising God's glory the flowers are given by Jessie Salisbury and Verna Porter
in loving memory of their husband and father, Pat Salisbury.

Announcements

If you need or want a visit by the pastor
please contact the
church office 603-654-9045
or the pastor directly at 603-620-0235

On The Calendar

- Fall Dinner Play Rehearsal, Oct 17, 4:00 PM
- Council Meeting, Oct 19, 7:00 PM Via Zoom
- Rummage Sale, Oct 23, 9:00 AM–2:00 PM
- Fall Dinner Play Rehearsal, Oct 24, 4:00 PM
- Senior Book Club, Oct 25, 10:00 AM Via Zoom

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

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

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