

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost
November 7, 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 127)

Leader: Unless our GOD builds the house, its builders labor in vain.

People: **We have come into this house, built by the Holy One,
to worship the God of Creation.**

Leader: Unless our GOD watches over the city, those who watch stand guard in vain.

People: **We have come to listen to the stories of people
who throughout the generations have shown us the way
by their trust in the promises of God,
who is always watching over us.**

Leader: The widow who gives her last coin and
Naomi and Ruth who are lifelong companions for each other
remind us of the risks we are free to take
with confidence that God will take care of us
through times of plenty and times of want,
all along our journey through life.

All: **O let us celebrate this gathering which can bind us together.
Give thanks that we are no longer strangers with God's people
here or throughout the nations. Let us worship God!**

***HYMN NO. 2**

"O Worship The King"

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

All: **Ever living God, instill in us, we pray,
the trust and self-giving that your Word imparts to us.
Teach us again during this time together
that you are always with us.
Remind us that all that we have is a gift from you
and is meant to be shared.
The Holy Spirit calls and empowers us
to live beyond our own desires.
So, send your Holy Spirit, we pray,
that we might be overcome
with its liberating courage and sustenance.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

(Hebrews 9)

Christ has gone ahead to intercede for us.
Christ has entered heaven itself,
now to appear for us in God's presence.
Let us confess our sin knowing that Christ is there on our behalf.
Let us reconcile ourselves to each other and to Christ.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: O God, hear our confession of our sins.
All: **We know that we are already rich,
but refuse to see those in our midst who live on meager resources.
In fact, we find it comes natural to ignore those
who have the most to teach us.
We don't want to acknowledge
that it is often those with the least who give the most.
It embarrasses us each time we are reminded
of the examples of Ruth and the poor widow.
We are experts with prayers that make us feel important
and we assume that special recognition is due to us.
We expect special privileges.
We speak of our belief that you will provide for all that we need--
resources and partners on life's journey.
Yet, we still don't give ourselves over to your promises.
Even with our wealth, perhaps because of our wealth,
we need help to live faithfully.**

Leader: Forgive us, we pray. Lead us to live boldly as witnesses
to the strength we have in Christ Jesus.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Take heart. God gives new life, even to those who hold back
from giving fully of themselves or who think God has abandoned them.
Let yourselves be restored to God and each other,
knowing that God will provide without limit.

*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

As he taught, Jesus said, “Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. They devour widows’ houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely.” Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

SERMON

“Christian Fashion Fallacies”

*HYMN NO. 408

“I am Thine, O Lord”

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 TO THE OFFERING

God has made us stewards of the rich resources that were given in Creation and are given anew each day. On this day, we make our offerings knowing that all that we have has come from God who will continue to provide. Let us put our hearts into our offerings as signs of our trust and faithfulness.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*DOXOLOGY Tune: OLD HUNDREDDTH

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)

We lift up these offerings
 as a sign of our gratitude for your love and care, O God.
 We pledge ourselves, time, talent, and treasure.
 We pray that we may follow in the spirit of the
 poor woman who gave her all without hesitation.
 We dedicate our lives to you
 and seek to grow in our faithfulness to your Word.

*HYMN NO. 708

“Go Forth For God”

GOING WITH THE WORD

*BENEDICTION

May God the Creator prepare you for your journey.
May Jesus guide your footsteps and enlighten your way,
May the Holy Spirit strengthen your body and mind with renewed
knowledge and faith. May the three in One watch over you, so that
you return refreshed onto your path ahead and on every road that
you follow. Praise be to God. Amen.

*POSTLUDE

The flowers this Sunday are given by Kathleen Dube to celebrate two November birthdays in her family:
Her daughter Sara who will turn 21 on November 8th,
and in memory of her mother, Kazuko Beaulieu, whose birthday was November 17th.

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

- Council Meeting, Nov. 16. 7:00 PM Via Zoom

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Dana Dahl, Guest Speaker
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music
Kathleen Dube, Liturgist
All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

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