

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost,
November 14, 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**

(based upon Hebrews 10:22-25)

One: Come into this time of worship by the new and living way in Christ Jesus.

Many: **We come with true hearts in full assurance of our faith.**

One: Come with joyful expectation.

Many: **We gather in full confidence of the gospel's promise.**

One: Let us praise God together and open ourselves to the power of the Holy Spirit

Many: **That we may encourage and support each other to love our neighbors as ourselves and to be God's instruments of grace.**

***HYMN NO. 685**

What Gift Can We Bring"

INVOCATION

In you, O God, we find refuge from our turbulent world.
We work each day to bear witness to your justice through our ministries.
While the journey towards true peace that lies ahead is long,
our incremental steps continue to take us closer to that promised day.
Renew in us the strength, faith, and courage we need to persevere
so that the promised day will come when your will
will be done on earth as it is in heaven. **Amen.**

LITANY OF CONFESSION

The church year begins with Advent's hope,
the coming of Christ and the reign of God.
The last liturgical season, Pentecost, is a time to grow
spiritually and faithfully.
Today, we are almost at the end of the church year.
Despite our labors, individually and collectively,
Advent's hope remains far away.
Let us take this time to confess our sins
of omission and commission that keeps afar that day
when the sound of weeping across the land will be no more.
In response to the words, *We beseech you, O God*, please sing the following:



Have mer - cy up - on us

Many of the challenges we have faced have evoked fear in us.
We have let these fears at times overwhelm our faith and trust in you.
Forgive us for our lack of faith in you. *We beseech you, O God,*



Have mer - cy up - on us

We don't always recognize or acknowledge
that our reticence to embrace the stranger
comes from our own prejudices, O God.
When we do not embrace the stranger,
we lose the blessings and richness of your beloved community.
Forgive us for our biases. *We beseech you, O God,*



Have mer - cy up - on us

We see injustices all around: in the papers, on television, on the web,
or walking through our community. Yet we often cannot bring
ourselves to speak out or take action against them.
Forgive us for our silence. *We beseech you, O God,*



Have mer - cy up - on us

We know you created this world with enough for everyone.
Yet, in this land of plenty, people know deprivation.
Forgive us that we have not done enough
to sustain and support the sacredness of the common good.
We beseech you, O God,



Have mer - cy up - on us

Let us take this time to pray silently for God's forgiveness of our sins.....
We beseech you, O God,



Have mer - cy up - on us

Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

A cord of love binds us to God.
God will not allow us to enter Sheol or to see the Pit.
We are forgiven and saved by God's love for us.
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 13:1-8

As Jesus was leaving the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher! What massive stones! What magnificent buildings!" "Do you see all these great buildings?" replied Jesus. "Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down." As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John and Andrew asked him privately, "Tell us, when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are all about to be fulfilled?" Jesus said to them: "Watch out that no one deceives you. ⁶ Many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and will deceive many. When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places, and famines. These are the beginning of birth pains.

SERMON

"Don't Squander It"

*HYMN NO. 393

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Our offering is a faith statement. By offering our treasure to God, we believe that what we do here in this church does make a difference in this world and that by this offering we will hasten the day when the lame shall leap for joy, the blind shall see, and that scarcity and deprivation will exist only in our memories.

*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

(UNISON)

We return a portion of what we have received from you,
O God, in gratitude for all that you have bestowed upon us.
Bless this offering. Grant that it may continue to sustain and support
the ministries of this church to bring the light of Christ into this
community and the world beyond. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

*HYMN NO. 695

“As We Gather At Your Table”

CALL TO THE TABLE

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.

BREAKING AND POURING

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*HYMN NO. 348

“Softly and Tenderly”

GOING WITH THE WORD

*BENEDICTION

What endures is not the edifices we build,
but the work of God that we accomplish
through our ministries in the name of Christ Jesus.
Let us go forth from here empowered by the Holy Spirit
to be God's instruments of justice rooted in love
to further the work of Jesus and to move us closer to God's reign of peace.

*POSTLUDE

Praising God's glory the flowers are given by Ingrid Howard
in loving memory of the Lamminen family.

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, November 16, 7:00 PM Via Zoom
- Decorating of the Church, November 20, 10:00 AM
- Senior Book Club, November 22, 10:00 AM Via Zoom
- Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday, November 24–26
- Deacon's Meeting, November 29, 7:00 PM, Via Zoom
- Christmas Fair Set-up, December 1 -3
- Christmas Fair, December 4, 9:00 AM–2:00 PM

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

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

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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