



Second Congregational Church in Wilton,
United Church of Christ

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Fifth Sunday of Lent
April 3, 2022
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: Family of God, we gather as who we are,
and we bring what we have.

**Many: Let us encounter the new thing
God is doing among us.**

One: We bring joy and sorrow, hope and despair,
resources and need, certainty and questions.

**Many: Let us engage the new thing
God is doing among us.**

One: In this space, we meet the One who parts seas,
creates paths, and changes circumstances.

**Many: Let us encourage the new thing
God is doing among us.**

***HYMN** “What Wondrous Love Is This” NO. 257

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

(UNISON)

Holy One, we rejoice in your presence. We acknowledge that you have done great things in our history, in our present, and in our future. Our hope rests in you. We rejoice in confidence that you abide in our dry spaces and in our flowing streams. Lead us through troubling times and empower us to continue to press toward you and your way. In our worship, part our lips in praise, open our hearts in love, and quench our spirits in worship. Amen.

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION AND GROWTH

Righteous God, you made us in your divine image and yet we often turn to the gazes of others to see ourselves. We yield to the temptation of comparison and measure ourselves according to standards not made for us. You declared us good, and we question your judgment. We turn from your truth and receive the lies of the enemy of our souls that devalue and condemn even though your grace is sufficient for us. Mend the brokenness within us. Fortify us with your love, hope, and vision. Shield us from stagnation and despair. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

The God of grace sees us fully, knows us fully, and loves us fully. May our eyes be ever open to see ourselves as God sees us and restore our souls.

***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

John 12:1-8

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it. "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

SERMON "Giving Him Your Best"

*HYMN "How Great Thou Art" NO. 51

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

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.



*Praising God's glory
the flowers are given by
Violet Blake and Tedo Rocca
in memory of loved ones.*

Announcements

If you need or want a visit by the pastor
please contact the church office 603-654-9045
and leave a message or call the pastor directly at
603-620-0235
(Messages are usually returned by the next business day)

On The Calendar

Search Committee Meeting, April 6, 7:00 PM via zoom
Missions/assemble Easter Baskets, April 10, Following Worship
Maundy Thursday Service, April 14, 7:00 PM (in-person only)

Refocus for Lent

Give up complaining – focus on gratitude

Give up harsh judgements – think kind thoughts

Give up worry – trust God to provide

Give up discouragement – be full of hope

Give up bitterness – turn to forgiveness

Give up hatred – return good for evil

Give up anger – be more patient

Give up pettiness – become mature

Give up jealousy – pray for trust

Give up gossiping – control your tongue

Give up sin – turn to virtue

Give up giving up – persevere

Author unknown



PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor Kerry Richardson (Interim Pastor)
Lori Dick, Guest Speaker
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music
Dana Dahl, Liturgist
All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

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