



*Second Congregational Church in Wilton,
United Church of Christ*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Easter Sunday

April 17, 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: This is the day that God has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

All: **We gather today to shout Alleluia!
Christ is risen; he is risen indeed.**

One: Out of the doom of death and despair,
Victory comes, glory appears.

All: **We gather today to shout Alleluia!
Christ is risen; he is risen indeed.**

One: We shall live, witness, and recount the deeds
Of the God whose love endures forever.

All: **We gather today to shout Alleluia!
Christ is risen; he is risen indeed.**

***HYMN** **“The Old Rugged Cross”** **NO. 260**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION **(UNISON)**

**O, Redeeming God,
Like Mary of Magdala weeping at the tomb,
we, too, have witness the wonders of your work
with our own teary eyes. In this hour, O God,
Elevate us in Christ and with the power of the**

**Holy Spirit, so that other may be awakened through
Our preaching and proclaiming the good news:
news of healing, peace, justice,
and community for all people. Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: God, you call us to step out of the tombs that aim to consume us and more intentionally into the fullness of life that abounds in your presence. In stillness and in silence, let us acknowledge the ways we have been separated from the richness of who you have called us to be.

Moment of silence

All: We admit that we have not always remembered the creative power of resurrection. In a world where dreams and joy have been entombed, and chaos is celebrated and normalized, we have not always considered the divine ingenuity at work that calls us toward the ways of peace, love, and hope. Although we may have strayed from the places where we meet you, we trust that not even death can separate us from you and the creative ways you show your love for us.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

We know that you can bring us back to life, O God—
That you will meet us in the shadows and remind us that there are no limits to this life. With the fresh breath of the Holy Spirit, we are revived. Amen.

***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

Luke 23:50-56,24:1-12

Now there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man, who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of Arimathea, and he himself was waiting for the kingdom of God. Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body. Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid. It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin. The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it. Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'" Then they remembered his words. When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

SERMON "From The Tomb Where Do We Go?"

***HYMN** "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" NO. 299

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.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

The gifts that we bring to this community compound and
create resurrection power, helping us to awaken wholeness
in the broken, strength in the weakened, and liberation for
all living in the midst of injustice. Let us share our
generosity with each other and the community.

***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**

One: For the wondrous ways this offering will bless this
community, help us nurture caring relationships
with our neighbors, and do our part to liberate all
who are experiencing oppression, we dedicate
these gifts.

All: Let this offering, and the works of our hands
and feet, be the resurrection we need to see
in the world.

***HYMN**

“In The Garden”

NO. 300

GOING WITH THE WORD

***BENEDICTION**

As we go forth, may you be reminded of the creative renewing energy of God. May you be witnesses of the wonders of God’s work in the world through Christ. May you be reminded of the possibilities of victory and glory amidst death and despair. And may God be gracious to you and give you peace. Amen.

***POSTLUDE**

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

Council Meeting, April 19, 7:00 PM Via Zoom
Missions, assemble Hygiene Kits, April 24, Following Worship
Deacons Meeting, April 25, 7:00 PM 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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